



GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB

Issue No 197 – February 2023

President's Report

We have had a great start to 2023, with all Covid restrictions now eased we can relax and enjoy the game we love.

Attendance has been great, except for the Monday afternoon open session. This has sadly been cancelled as the numbers were not economic. We do have plans to grow the Monday afternoon session with a splitting of the Rookies into 2 Masterpoint groups; details will be announced later. The hope is that we can encourage more members to advance from the improver lessons to begin playing in sessions and enjoying and learning from a little competition.



We held our first Congress of the year on Sunday 8th January, with a sell-out attendance of 120 players from around the district and from our own club. This allowed us to play 30 tables. Many thanks to our convener Paul Brake and to our Director Alan Gibson. The kitchen was superbly presented by Connie Cassar and our wonderful volunteers.



Australia Day Celebration

What a fabulous fun day we had, great food prepared by our members, in the traditional Australia Day manner. Semi-serious bridge playing with great fellowship, and we finished with a champagne bar and BBQ by Peter.



We owed this successful day courtesy of the hard work and inspired creativity of Connie Cassar and Liz Linderman, what would we do without these wonderful volunteers.

A superb image of our lovely organizers and the winners of the best dressed Noni and Liz Affleck. Carol Vogel also won a prize for her Aussie outfit.

Congratulations on a wonderful achievement

Member Daria Williams was presented with the QBA James O'Sullivan certificate for achieving the greatest increase in Life Masterpoints during 2022. **Outstanding effort, well done.**

Regards, Odette and Brian

Health and Safety

To avoid the possibility of someone tripping and injuring themselves when passing by your table, we ask that you please place handbags (especially those with looped handles) or any other bags on the lower shelf of the side tables, or conveniently by the wall. Thank you.

February Events

- Thursday 2nd, 9th February Pairs <50mps. **Sponsor Sandra Hendry**
- Thursday Evening, 2nd, 9th February Pairs. **Sponsor Rob Slobom (Trust)**
- Monday 6th February GNOT, Heat 1 Day 3 at SPBC
- Tuesday 7th, 14th February. **Red Point Pairs: Open and <300mps. Sponsor Keiser**
- Saturday 11th February Peter Leden Birthday Handicap Pairs. **Sponsor Peter Leden Family.**
- 17th to 26th February. **ABF Gold Coast Congress.** GC Convention Centre.

ABF Gold Coast Congress

The 61st Gold Coast Congress is being held from 17th to 26th February 2023 at the GC Convention Centre in Broadbeach. To enter, and for information about events and accommodation, visit the QBA MyABF page which shows the entry form and the events and pair/team lists. There are early bird discounts for entries paid before 6th February 2023.

Early Bridge Clubs in Queensland

Most Bridge Clubs the world over have interesting beginnings. The ABF has documented volumes of information on all matters concerning bridge and its history. Here are some interesting facts about Maryborough, a town that features strongly in the earliest recorded history of bridge in Queensland. Please note that raising funds for charities was often part of the agenda.

- **Finney, Isles & Co**

In 1908, Finney, Isles & Co, became the first department store in Queensland to run a progressive bridge event (combined with euchre). By 1908 bridge was well enough established to be part of the program in a party at the Oddfellows Hall involving the Maryborough, Bundaberg and Gympie Bowling Clubs.

The first appearance of programmed bridge evenings came in 1909 when the Recreation Club within the School of Arts decided to run bridge tournaments. These continued successfully through 1910 but there is no further record.

- **St Paul's Bridge Club**

The first recorded regular **evening bridge club** in Maryborough was the St Paul's Club. The club was formed in 1932 and still running in 1943 and possibly longer.

In 1954, an advertisement appeared for a Men's Bridge Club, which played in the St Paul's Memorial Hall on Monday nights. It is not clear whether this was a newly-formed club or a renaming of the original St Paul's club.

- **The Maryborough Diggers Bridge Club**

This club was formed within the Maryborough RSSAILA club in 1938. From that year, until at least 1943, the club held a regular monthly tournament against the St Paul's Club, with a cup presented to the winners each year. The RSSAILA club also hosted a weekly afternoon charity bridge club, known as the Maryborough Charity Bridge Club. The only reference to this club comes from 1939.

- **The Mimosa Bridge Club**

The aim of this club was to raise funds for the Maryborough CWA. It met on one afternoon a month from at least 1949 to 1951 at the Mimosa Café.

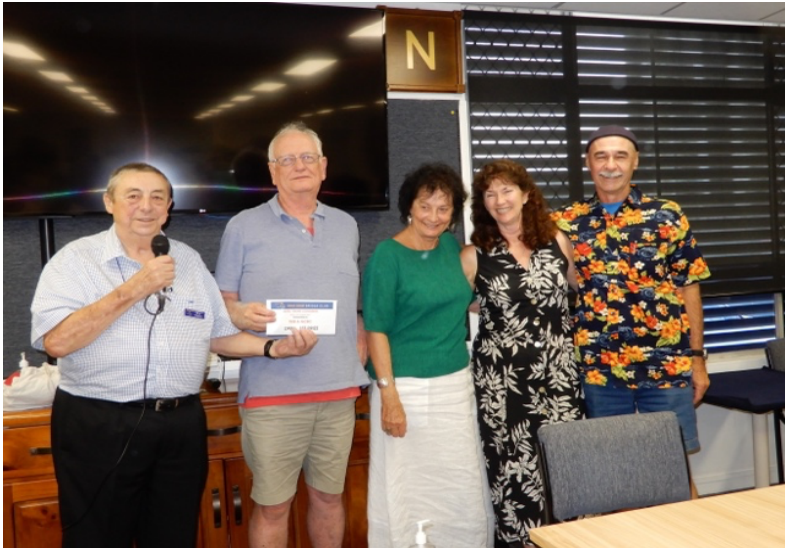
- **The Maryborough Ladies Bridge Club**

This was a private club with 12 members that met weekly at least from 1951 to 1954, rotating through members' homes. Members also paid a weekly fee, the proceeds of which were donated, at least in part, to local charities.

January Congress/Events Winners – Congratulations

President's Cup - Lois Steinwedel, Kathy Johnson

GCBC Congress – Charlie Howard, Kerry Wood, Pamela Evans, James Evans (photo below).



New Member – Welcome

Zen Olszewski

Promotions

Regional – Irene Hayward

Club – Caroline Barton

Graduate – Wayne Mitchell, Debbie Foot

February Birthdays

1st - Lol Garnett; 2nd - James Moodie; 4th - Tom Borsky; 7th - Inez Pinto; 9th - Connie Isaacs, Margaret Watson, Dale Wells; 10th - Connie Cassar; 11th - Beverley Aird; 12th - Vernia Bullivant, Mary Dooley, Richard Misor; 14th - Valerie Reuter-Buck, Kevin Steffensen; 15th - Nanette Hinsch, Janice Palm; 16th - Miryana Djilas; 17th - Gayle O'Neill; 18th - Sandra Fueloep, Carole McDonald, Shihan Zhou; 19th - Eduardo Besprosvan, Ian Sandeman; 20th - Viv Gillard, Diana McAuliffe, David Shapiro; 22nd - Cheryl Millar; 24th - Gaynor Kearney, Lance Workman; 25th - Lindell Day, Di Hodges, Janet Wallis; 26th - Deb Carroll, Mark Trussell.

Vale Wendy Clark

Wendy joined GCBC in 2013 and passed away this month after a relatively brief battle with cancer. Rest in Peace Wendy.

In The Beginning.....

I would like to invite members to share through this newsletter their experience of learning to play bridge. Some started as a child at home playing with their family, some started at university and others started much later in life. Tell us in a couple of paragraphs how and/or why you first learned bridge. What attracted you to learn bridge, what age (ballpark) were you when you started to learn and how has this experience been for you.

Please send your contribution to juliekwicks@gmail.com.

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

MAJOR SPONSORS



MINOR SPONSORS

