



GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB

Issue No 165 - June 2020

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President's Message

During the last week there have been several communications from Kim Ellaway, Manager of QBA, passing on information from the ABF and the Government Health Department. The news is not great regarding our return to face to face bridge. However, online bridge is getting bigger and better and soon we will be offering tournaments where, for a fee, you can also earn master points. Paul Brake has also been busy developing a trial website which has been designed to facilitate uploading Bridge Base Online (BBO) results (among other things) and it also contains very useful information and links on how to play bridge on BBO. Our existing website is still available and addresses are: Existing: www.goldcoastbridgeclub.com and Trial: www.dev.goldcoastbridgeclub.com.

With confirmation from the ABF via Kim, the club will be offering some limited lessons for students. While we are in Stage 1 Restrictions, a total number of 5 (including the teacher) can attend a lesson at the club. Provided all goes well in containing Covid-19 in Stage 1, we will be able to offer a full Beginners' course for a total of 10 (including the teacher) starting on 1st July. The club will provide a Covid-safe environment complying with social distancing.

This month our Board held a meeting at the club. Despite the club being closed for two months we still found a lot of items to discuss, but mostly to do with the current pandemic crisis and how the future looks for our club. Thanks again to Tony for the recent club renovations. Thanks also to Margaret for scanning 13 years of club minutes onto a USB stick and thanks also goes to Linda's husband, Murray, for taking time out of his busy work schedule to do a thorough research of options to replace our solar panels. Replacement panels and inverter will be done over the coming weeks.

A few people have mentioned to me that quite a few members are feeling very isolated during this restrictive period. We all understand how important it is to be with our friends and, for some, the regular bridge games are the only social interaction and/or outing they have. In several previous communications I have asked members to keep in touch with others they know or believe are vulnerable. The club closure and restrictions have gone on much longer than we all imagined. Now that restrictions have eased I would like to ask for volunteers to step up and be pro-active in organising some social activities for these members. This can be as simple as arranging to meet for a coffee, going for a walk or a home visit, inviting a member to your home for lunch or arranging a picnic in a park. Please contact me if you would like to be involved in this.

As well as keeping ourselves alive we want to keep bridge alive. We'll all meet again some sunny day. **President Julie**

Stop Press

In Richard Ward's column in Courier Mail dated Saturday 30 May the following article was published:-

Dr Andrew Slutskin has recently provided a discussion paper for the ABF regarding COVID-19 and the impact it is likely to have in the medium term for bridge clubs. In it he states:- Bridge players fit the at-risk demographic in many ways:- they sit well within 1.5m of each other for significant times; bridge clubs are usually closed, air conditioned spaces; many items at bridges sessions are touched by many people – cards, pencils, bidding boxes etc. He concludes that it is unlikely club and congress bridge will resume anytime soon.

The CEO of Qld. Sport, Peter Commiskey concurs. "Until the restrictions on social distancing is lifted, bridge cannot be played in a club room."

Education

Dot Piddington will commence lessons next week as per the following schedule:-

1. Help With Play

Tuesdays from 1st June for 4 weeks. Limited to four students plus one teacher

Two classes per day - First: 9 to 11am. Second 11.30 to 1.30pm.

Allowing a half an hour either side for Dot, the club will not be available to anyone else during these times.

2. Beginners' Course

Wednesdays from 1st July for six weeks. Limited to 9 students plus one teacher.

One class per day from 9am to 11am. **(Please advise Dot if you know of anyone who would like to participate)**

Allowing a half an hour either side for Dot, the club will not be available to anyone else during these times.

GCBC Facebook Page

Come & Join the Fun and Like/Follow. Yes we have a Facebook page, not a profile as we are not a person, we are a fabulous club. Would you love to see photos and all happenings in the GCBC. Don't miss out on keeping up with the news and photos.

Our Bridge Family loves to share in the joy in our lives, if you would like to share please email me your photos & information. *Example:- A few lovelies in our Club are turning 90 Years Young this year* and I will be delighted to post photos and story for you on our page. "Life is to be Celebrated"

If you need help to Like/Follow the page please let me know and I will assist you at home if needed to join our page. Looking forward to hearing from you. Elizabeth Downer M:- 0416 244 65, E:- lizdowner@yahoo.com

June Events

All events listed in diary for June have been cancelled.

Birthdays for June

2nd – David Smith, 3rd - Wendy Browne, Carolyn Miller, John Masters, 5th - Angela Nichols, 8th - Kay Buchanan, 9th – Robyn Spooner, Lynne Allan, 10th – Judy Martin, Chris Smith (kitchen), Di Brown, Noel Watson, 11th – Beverly Jarvis, 12th – Charles McLaren, Bronwyn Scott, 14th - Sue Robinson, 15th – Neville de Mestre, Jane Burke, 16th – Lesley Riches, 17th – Victoria Cairns, 18th - Patrica Bourneville, Jennifer Hunt, Jo Wallace, 19th – Penny Grace, Estelle Fluxman, 20th – Philip Roberts, 21st – Marlene Bernau, 23rd – Kerry Wood, 24th - June Packman, 25th - Jenny Lynton, 27th - Elaine Hennig, Sally Gorman, 28th - Tom Strong, Pamela Hare, 29th - Krystyna Homik, 30th – Vere Drakeford, Desley Qusted, Jenny Williams. **Why not give your friends a ring and wish them a Happy Birthday.**

New Members

Please welcome the following new member:- Ange Kerr & Philip Kerr

Vale

Long time member Izabella Eret. Izabella has recently been in poor health.

My Journey Updates

I have added another My Journey bulletin in May which is available on the Home Page.

Enjoy Your Bridge

Neil Raward - Editor

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 please contact

Mon, Wed, Fri. Neil Raward 0402 417 584

Tue, Thu, Sat. Jim & Shelley Moodie 5591 2135 or 0402 634 013

Nights Mon & Thurs. Tom Strong 0421 106 986

Use your Pianola account if you are looking for partner (you can also see who is looking for a partner)

Welfare Officer Cheryl Millar 0409 879 081

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