

President's Message

Don't forget Andy Hung's beginner's lessons on the 4th and 11th of February. Even if you have had lessons, these will still teach you more than you know.

By the time you will have read this, our Club's International Pairs Competition on 13 February will be fully booked at about 34 tables. There is still a lot of work to do to make this a truly memorable evening for our overseas visitors.

If you can volunteer even an hour at either 4 pm or 8 pm to help us with the set up or post game food and beverage (yes, you can have some too!) please let me or Di Hodges know as soon as possible so we can prepare a roster. Remember, this is a big deal for our Club, in more ways than one.

The exciting (and challenging) Gold Coast Congress starts on Friday 16th February and Di and I have entered to play in the Bobby Richman Pairs starting on Saturday the 17th of February. If you haven't done so yet, why not enter in one of the pairs or teams competitions. It does wonders for your game.

However, during this Congress, Neil Raward has graciously volunteered to direct on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday, in case you would prefer to play at the Club. Thus, play will be every day but none on the Monday evening the 19th and Thursday evening the 22nd of February.

Philip Roberts - President

Education

Weekly *Help with Play Sessions* with Lynley & Cecily are held every Wednesday 9.15 - 11.30 am. Suitable for newer players and also for people who've played in the past and would like to brush up their bidding, play and defence skills. Everyone is welcome!

NEW! Commencing Saturday February 17th, *Help with Play* with Lynley & Cecily will also be held every Saturday morning 9.00am - 11.30am. As with Wednesdays, these sessions are suitable for new players and for people who've played in the past and wish to brush up their bridge skills.

Table fees for all Help with Play Sessions are \$7.00 (or Ticket) for members and \$10 for visitors.

Director's Course

John Glennie and Paul Brake will be conducting a Director's Course commencing on Monday 19 March. The course is free to all club members and the syllabus has been circulated via Pianola and is displayed in the club. Please email John if you would like to attend. jglennie@onthenet.com.au

Gold Coast Congress

The Gold Coast Congress commences on Friday 16 February and closes on Saturday 24 February. Many of our members will be competing in the congress and on behalf of the club we wish them every success. There will be bridge as usual at the club with the exception of evening bridge which is cancelled on the nights of Monday 19 and Thursday 22 February. If you would like to be a standby player please contact Kim Ellaway on manager@qldbridge.com.

Handicap Winner Program Commences in February

The program in its original format was suspended for December and January. Handicap winning tickets will be won in sessions in which there are no sponsored events for that month. For sessions where there are 7 plus tables N-S and E-W handicap winners will receive winning tickets. For 5 & 6 tables/5.5 & 6.5 Howell movements the highest handicap score pair receives a winning ticket. The list of handicap sessions appears each month on the small notice board.

During 2017 free tickets to the value over \$4,600 were handed out to members of the club who were handicap winners (660 in total). Another reason how the GCBC looks after its members first and foremost.

Valentine's Day Luncheon

The luncheon will be held at D'arcy Arms our newest major sponsor on **Thursday 15** <u>February</u> at 1.00 pm (after Thursday bridge). Members and guests are most welcome to attend and order from the extensive menu at their own expense. Please place your name as an attendee on the main notice board. The D'arcy Arms is an outstanding venue with a great

atmosphere that also has off street parking and is just down the road from our club. Thank you and I hope that we have a really good roll up for this luncheon, which is the first social occasion of 2018.

St Patrick's Day Luncheon

A St Patrick's Day luncheon will be held at the D'arcy Arms (an Irish pub and restaurant) on **Thursday 15** <u>March</u>. An announcement will be placed on the main notice board so please place your names on the list to attend.

Peter Leden Birthday Handicap Pairs

The family of the late Peter Leden are proud to sponsor this event which is to be held on Saturday 24 February. The family will provide prize money to the open and restricted section together with some drinks and finger food.

February Events

- Tuesday Restricted Eclectic (best 3 of 4 scores) sponsor D'Arcy Arms
- Saturday Open Eclectic- (best 3 of 4 scores) sponsor Modern Goddess
- Novice Teams (under 100mps) Thursday 1, 8 & 15 February- sponsor Geoff and Julie Wicks
- International Invitational Pairs Tuesday 13 February (5pm start)
- Peter Leden Birthday Handicap Pairs Saturday 24 February sponsor Peter Leden Family
- Gold Coast Congress Friday Feb 16 to Saturday Feb 24.

Benowa Tavern Members Achievement Award - The two \$20 vouchers are awarded to Jan Palm and Faye Atkinson. Jan is to be congratulated for her outstanding efforts in decorating the club for our Australia Day event and Faye as her bridge partner provided *moral support*. Enjoy your meal.

February Birthdays

1st - Lol Garnett, 2nd - James Moodie, 5th - Valerie Fairlie, Roman Morawiecki, 9th - Connie Isaacs, Margaret Watson, Dale Wells, 10th - Connie Cassar, 12th - Mary Dooley, Richard Misior, 14th - Kevin Steffensen, Valerie Reuter -Buck, 15th - Beryl McGregor, Jan Palm, Bill Reynolds, 18th - Raj Limaye, Sandra Fueloep, 19th - Eduardo Besprosvan, 20th - Jennifer Finigan, 21st - Eric Thurin, 22nd - Cheryl Millar, 25th - Di Hodges, Janet Wallis, Lindell Day, Bill Corcoran, 26th - Dinah Davidson.

Promotions

**Local - Lorraine Twyford, *Local - Cheryl Millar, Local - Raj Limaye

New Members

Darryl Hennig, Ann Dean, Sandra Fueloep, Glenda Nielsen, Leonie Harris, Suzanne Spurway recently joined our club.

Sponsor's Corner

Our sponsors are very important to our club and each month messages from them will be published. If we are to maintain our sponsors it is important to advise them that you are from the GCBC when you visit them.

- 1. **AMP** Advice will be holding *free seminars* on Thursday 22 February at 1pm and Saturday 24 February at 9.30am to inform attendees of changes introduced in the 2017 budget and also important issues and the latest strategies will be discussed. Contact John Lomas on 5554 1000 if you would like to attend.
- 2. **Zeppelin Travel** has *two bridge tours* on the books one hosted by Andy Hung to Norfolk Island from 8 March and the other is a cruise hosted by Birgitt Bingham in November. Flyers for both events are available in the club.

Enjoy Your Bridge

Neil Raward Editor/Sponsorship Coordinator 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 5593 3416

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

