



GOLD COAST BRIDGE CLUB

Issue No 163 - April 2020

Major Sponsors



President's Message

It is hard to know what to write about just now as there is only one thing dominating our lives, the news, the whole world. We resisted as long as we dared not to close our club. However, I am glad we closed when we did. It would be unthinkable for any of our members to contract Covid-19 while playing bridge at our club.

Since we closed the club on Wednesday 18th March, I have been busy tying up loose ends to do with bridge matters. Lynley, Dot, Carolyn, Linda and I held a meeting the other day to discuss our vision for the club's future education program. Linda, Marlene and Pat are still taking care of paying bills and the never-ending mission to have all financial matters entered and coded by the end of the financial year. Tony is overseeing building works that will enhance our club room. Colin and Elinor have washed and scrubbed clean all the bidding boxes ready for use when we return to play. Jan worked with Chris and Carole to clean out the fridges and cancel regular food deliveries. Odette is dealing with our sponsors as all events in the upcoming few months are either cancelled or on hold at the moment. Neil is carrying on with publishing this newsletter. Liz is working quietly behind the scenes keeping up the ads in print and media and updating our Facebook page. Margaret is taking care of incoming emails. Charlie Dacey is taking this opportunity to back up the computers. Peter Lester is continuing to maintain our beautiful garden. So far not too much has changed other than we cannot see everyone and play bridge!!

To afford some level of security to our closed and empty club we have locked the driveway gates. Of course, if someone really wants to cause damage or rob our club, this would not stop them. But it is to stop unauthorised people using our car park and to deter the less determined thief or vandal.

So what does self-isolation look like to you? How are you filling in your days? There are numerous online programs where you can play bridge. I am intending to do some long overdue jobs in our apartment. And Jeff and I have started walking on the beach again. We choose our time when there are few people around and it is both healthy and spiritually uplifting in these uncertain times. Stay well everyone and please keep in touch.

I have written a piece of poetry about the predicament we now face (P 3).

Julie Wicks (President)

Education

All lessons including the Beginner Classes (commencing 1 April) have been cancelled until further notice.

St Patrick's Day Luncheon

It was great to see 15 members enjoying our special day at D'arcy Arms on Thursday 11 March with many people dressed for the occasion.

April Events

- Tuesday Pairs Open/Restricted – Tuesday 7 & 14 April - Sponsor Carolyn Miller (Postponed)
- Thursday Pairs (<35 mps) – Thursday 2 & 9 April – Sponsor Lorraine Twyford (Postponed)
- Thursday Night Eclectic (sponsored by Rob Slobom {Decd}) - best 3 of 4 scores (Cancelled)
- Saturday Open Eclectic – best 3 of 4 scores – Sponsor D'arcy Arms (Cancelled)

- **Easter All Day Red Point Teams** - Monday 13 April - (Sponsor The Rose & Bernie Nightingale Memorial Trust) (Postponed)
- **GNOT Heat 1 at GCBC** – Wednesday 8, 15 & 22 April - (Postponed)

April Birthdays

2nd - Marlene Millar, 3rd - Rose Corocan, 4th - Lionel Nichol, 5th - Rita Kahn, Maria Cremona, 6th – Peter Lyons, 7th – Leone Harris, 8th - Margaret Pisko, Nimal Weerasinghe, 11th – Warren Johnston, 13th Sue Smith, 14th – Meredith Evans, 18th - Angeline Christie, 21st - Lou Tillotson, Carol Harris, 22nd - Doby Stepanek, Yong White, 24th - Linda Stanton, Anne Sandeman, Anita Thompson, 25th - Trevor Shaw, Sue Deaves, 26th - Bernie Nightingale, Debbie Adams, 27th - Jeff Wicks, 28th – Robyn Kirkley, 29th - Lauren Somers

Promotions

State - Maggie Gibbs, ***Local** - Kerrie Goldston, **Local** – Michael Hogan, **Club** - Joanna Reid, **Graduate** – Madelon Sutcliffe

Membership

Nine new members were approved at the March meeting.

Bridge Withdrawal Virus

The bridge withdrawal virus has been sweeping the Gold Coast and reporter Scoop Raward has been prying into the lives of GCBC members after the closure of the club to gain an insight into how they are handling the virus and to see if the symptoms are more serious than that of the corona virus. Here are a sample of the interviews.

- Trevor Fletcher – misses the bridge family, has been reading, studying bridge books and catching up with old friends that he has not seen for a couple of years.
- Julie Wicks – misses the bridge family, is catching up on long over due household chores, writing poetry and ensuring that the club is being maintained during its forced closure.
- Mrs Carole Raward – misses the bridge family, has been busy looking after her new husband, reading trash romance novels and preparing to be a nurse maid for her husband in his ongoing cancer treatment.
- Dot Piddington – misses the bridge family, has been able to catch up with friends, going for relaxing walks and studying bridge on line in preparation for forthcoming lessons.
- Kathy Johnson – misses the bridge family, is looking forward to playing on line with Eva and is spending more quality time with husband whilst observing self confinement.

This investigation has found that the risk factors associated with the outbreak of the bridge withdrawal virus is significantly less than that of being exposed to the corona virus. Consequently there is no need to put an action plan in place at the moment to treat the virus. However this will be contingent upon the length of the exposure to the virus by the bridge community and it may require urgent measures to be taken in the future.

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

Sponsors



Bridge

What do we do now, I heard it said
Playing bridge is why I get out of bed
I go to the club and meet my friends
I want to play cards and practice my defence

But this wretched disease has closed the club
This used to be my social hub
Now all you hear is Covid-19
And nothing is how it has been

I call my partner and arrange to have lunch
I think she will agree, I have a hunch
It is over a week since I last saw her
She readily accepts this offer

We are now playing bridge online
Everything seems to be going along fine
I cannot win like before
But I keep logging on for more

At least it is keeping my brain going
But to get back to the club I am longing
Once this wretched disease has died out
I will once again be out and about

Don't forget your bridge buddies
We may be old fuddy duddies
But we don't like being alone
And GCBC is our second home.

Julie Wicks