

# Caboolture Bridge Club

## Newsletter Issue #32

March 2019

### Presidents Report 2018/2019

I feel that this past year has been a successful one and would like to thank our hard-working committee, directors and members for their support during the year, particularly while I was away for two months visiting friends and family in Europe and to South Aus. to say farewell to my much-respected father in law.

For those who have familiarised themselves with committee persons job descriptions recently provided by our Secretary Gary G, you can gauge the amount of work that is voluntarily done to enable the club to be run effectively. Thank you to all.

The year has seen changes to our Club continuing on from last year's efforts to modernize our facilities; lighting has been upgraded both inside and outside the Club House with more efficient LED lighting and a start has been made on renewing seat covers and padding.

Our Treasurer Jenny H made a submission for the Club for a grant to the Gambling Community Benefit Fund for additional upgrades to our Club House. We were partly successful which will enable replacements of carpets and a dealing machine. In addition, the remaining chairs will be progressively recovered.

Congratulations to all our Club champions and shield winners listed on honour board/ shields for all to see and to all who have played in Australia/Queensland wide events where some club members have had good results.

Also, the Club held its first larger event last year the "Stringfellows Teams" which was a great success. Thanks to those in bringing the embryo of this idea from initially a half day to the final full day event well done to those responsible in getting this off the ground.

I would like to recognise a new position within the Club as ambassadors which Gary and Debby G. have filled, travelling far and wide to play this marvellous game (mostly anyway).

To all members also that enjoy the challenge of this game thanks for your support and I hope you continue to grow in the game that is. Thursday afternoons provides a splendid opportunity to sharpen skills, thanks mainly to Jenny H, Charlene F. and Finn N.

It has been an honour to represent you and I am indeed humbled when looking at your past Presidents.

I am looking forward to the coming year, your fellowship and the continued upgrading of our facilities.

Always respect your partner even when calls sometimes go awry (this is learning). Bridge does require a partnership so enjoy "The Friendly Club", very lonely if playing by yourself on a computer.

**Peter Gruythuisen**

President Caboolture Bridge Club



## *Members Corner*

*By Robyn Smith*

**To all our travellers.  
Have a happy and safe trip.**

Lyn G. is travelling to Japan at the end of the month with a group of folk from Solo Connections. They hope to see the Cherry Blossoms plus the different landscapes of this fascinating country.

Jo-ann is travelling with her Photography group visiting Copenhagen and Iceland where they hope to see the infamous northern lights. They then travel to Italy for a two-week tour.

We look forward to some “classy” photos.

Mary is currently visiting Victoria and its’ tourist attractions including the Great Ocean Road.

David and his wife are sailing to Hawaii on a Carnival repositioning cruise. On arrival in Honolulu, they will spend a few days visiting its main attractions.

Kevin T. is back at the club after being away for about one month in which he did some house sitting for fellow members of the Motor Home club.

Maureen L. is travelling half the world on a cruise from Brisbane to the UK in May, visiting her 2 children and 3 grandchildren in London.

**Like to share something with your fellow bridge players???**

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**Welcome to the 2019/2020 Committee**

**Thank you for your dedication and commitment over the last year.**

**Congratulations for a job well done.**



## Gold Coast Congress

This year saw 8 home members from our Club compete at the Gold Coast Congress - Peter and Margie, Gary and Deb, Hugh and Nigel and Tony and Noreen.

For Hugh, Peter and Margie it was the first time that they have competed at this particular Congress and not sure about Hugh, but Peter and Margie have already confirmed they will be back next year.

This Congress attracts players from many different countries with thousands of players competing in various events and divisions throughout the week.

Congratulations to all of our players who added to their Gold Point tally and to those who reached their personal goals and beyond.

We first competed at the Gold Coast Congress 2016 in the Rookie section and didn't really know anyone back then aside from Nigel, but now we come across many friendly faces everywhere.

There are multiple social gatherings happening during the week, sadly it is difficult to attend all of them. One night we ventured to an Indian Restaurant called Saffron where we had a table of 26 (and would highly recommend the restaurant).

We also rubbed shoulders with members from other neighbouring clubs and well done to the members of the Redcliffe Bridge Club who entered the dress up theme of Sun, Sea and Surf and made their own shirts and were the overall winners of the competition. Special mention to our own Noreen and Tony, and Maree and Jennifer from Redcliffe who dressed up as Beach Bums, and to Abby who was a mermaid. They did a great job getting into the fun of it all.

Feel free to ask Gary about our Good Luck Charm which was brought back for us from a Voodoo shop in New Orleans by our daughter Rachel on a recent holiday.

We will be going again next year and always looking for more representatives from our club to join us.

**Cheers,**

**Deb & Gary**



*Caboolture  
Oí, Oí, Oí*



## Club Updates by Charlene Frederiksen

### Masterpoint Notes

Congratulations to the following players on their promotion:

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Hugh Gehrman      | promoted to **National |
| Alison Bodman     | promoted to *Local     |
| Margaret Courtney | promoted to Local      |
| Debbie Gibbards   | promoted to National   |
| Carol Mellining   | promoted to Graduate   |
| Sylvia Reynolds   | promoted to Club       |
| Lyn Gadsby        | promoted to **Local    |

### Lessons

Should you know of anyone who is interested in learning to play bridge please let them know that on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month, from 2 – 4 pm, we will run a session for people who are interested in bridge but have not had lessons.

They will be playing a game called Mini-Bridge which will introduce them to the game and teach them how to play the cards. They will not need a partner nor will they need to contact anyone to say if they are coming.

Encourage them to come along for a chance to try it out and see if they might like it.

Lessons started 4 weeks ago with 5 people. Hopefully this will see some new members join us when lessons are finished in a few weeks.

### Outside the club

We have had quite a number of people 'playing away' at various events and doing very well.

We had people at **Gold Coast Congress** – congratulations to Gary, Debbie, Hugh, Nigel Peter G, Margie, Tony and Noreen.

**Qld Senior Teams** – Tony and Noreen

**Northern Suburbs Teams event** – Gary, Debbie, Peter G and Margie Qld Teams of Three- Gary, Debbie, Di, Ann and Maureen L.

**Dalby Congress** – Noreen and Tony (2<sup>nd</sup> in the pairs)

Congratulations to all who took part in any of these events.

We recently took part in the **3-Way Challenge** at Bribie and although Redcliffe managed a win our pairs managed to acquit themselves well.

"It's not usually the first mistake that gives you a bad board, it's the second one. You often make the second mistake because you are still focusing on the first one. Don't let one mistake cause another!"

**Robert S. Todd**

## Jokes Corner

### More than ten percent of Australians have Irish blood in their veins....

On a golf tour in Ireland, Tiger Woods drives his BMW into a petrol station in a remote part of the Irish countryside.

The pump attendant obviously knows nothing about golf, greets him in a typical Irish manner completely unaware of who the golfing pro is.

Top of the mornin' to yer, sir" says the attendant.

Tiger nods a quick "hello" and bends forward to pick up the nozzle.

As he does so, two tees fall out of his shirt pocket onto the ground.

"What are those? asks the attendant.

"They're called tees" replies Tiger.

"Well, what on the god's earth are they for?" inquires the Irishman.

"They're for resting my balls on when I'm driving", says Tiger.

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An Irishman was flustered not being able to find a parking space in a large mall's parking lot.

"Lord, "he prayed, "I can't stand this. If you open a space up for me, I swear I'll give up drinking me whiskey, and I promise to go to church every Sunday."

Suddenly, the clouds parted and the sun shone on an empty parking spot.

Without hesitation, the man said, never mind, I found one."

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Two paddies were working for the city public works department. One would dig a hole and the other would follow behind him and fill the hole in.

An onlooker was amazed at their hard work but couldn't understand what they were doing. So he asked the hole digger, "I'm impressed by the effort you two are putting in to your work, but I don't get it - why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?"

The hole digger wiped his brow and sighed, "Well, I suppose it probably looks odd because we're normally a three-person team. But today the lad who plants the trees called in sick."

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Two drunks are waiting at bus stop on O'Connell Street Dublin.

Eventually, a number 13 bus pulls up and opens the door, one of the drunks leans inside and asks the bus driver:

'Will this bus take me to Temple Bar?'

The bus driver shakes his head and says, 'No, I'm sorry.'

At this the other drunk lurches inside, smiles, and slurs: 'Will it take ME?'

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### Donation - Irish Story

Father O' Malley answers the phone. 'Hello, is this Father O'Malley?'

'It is' 'This is the Inland Revenue Service, income tax department. Can you help us?'

I can.' 'Do you know a Ted Houlihan?' 'I do' 'Is he a member of your congregation?' He is'

'Did he donate \$10,000 to the church?' 'He will'.



## DID YOU KNOW??

Stayman, Blackwood, Gerber, Jacoby; names that are familiar to probably every bridge player in the world but who were they?

What do we know of the lives and bridge careers of the early giants of the game, the men whose eponymous conventions we could not possibly do without?

### Sam Stayman (1909-1993).

How often has that name passed your lips?

Sam was a successful American businessman who was regarded as one of the finest players in the world.

He played bridge with enthusiasm until only a few days before he died. In his prime he was a three-time winner of the Bermuda Bowl, the world championship of bridge, as well as many victories in all the major American tournaments.

The one thing that he did not do, however, was invent the convention that immortalises his name! That was devised, independently, by his regular partner, George Rapée and by Jack Marx, a British champion who was instrumental in developing the Acol system. The convention acquired Sam's name after he published an article in Bridge World in June 1945. Sam also had the chutzpah to give his name spelled backwards to the Namyats convention that was devised by another regular partner, Victor Mitchell.

### Easley Blackwood (1903-1992).

Unlike Sam Stayman, Blackwood was not a winner of major championships, but he was a prolific bridge writer and theorist. Also, unlike Sam he did invent the convention that bears his name, in 1933 when contract bridge was still in its infancy. Many variants have evolved since then, most notably Roman KeyCard invented by the world champion Italian team, but they all carry Blackwood's name.

### John Gerber (1906-1981).

Gerber was born in Russia but migrated to Texas and became an American citizen. He became an accomplished bridge player and won or was runner-up in most of the American championship events, and runner-up in the Bermuda Bowl. Like Stayman, however, Gerber could be regarded as a pretender. The four-club ace ask convention named after him was invented by a Swiss pair, William Konigsberger and Win Nye, who published it in 1936. Gerber introduced it to North America in 1938, when it acquired his name.

### Oswald Jacoby (1902-1984).

"Jake" Jacoby was a mathematics prodigy. He could play whist at six and bridge at ten, and at 21 was the youngest person to qualify as an actuary.

During World War 1 he joined the army at age 15 by lying about his age but spent most of his time there playing poker. His talents were put to better use in WW2 and the Korean War, in counter intelligence and cryptanalysis, when he gained the nickname the human computer.

During the twenties he became recognised as one of the world's best bridge players and was the most successful American tournament player of the 1930s. Jacoby was a prolific writer of books on bridge and other card games, and more than 10,000 newspaper articles. He pioneered many bidding ideas, including Jacoby transfers and the Jacoby 2NT bid. He was a multiple winner in just about every important American tournament and the 1935 world championships, as well as captaining two winning Bermuda Bowl teams.