



Newsletter, January 2014

President's Report

The AGM was well attended on February the 10th where Past President, Barbara, presented her annual report and was thanked by Richard. Ned Kelley presided over the election of the new committee. I believe we have an excellent committee of experience, and very supportive of our club's future and we look forward to a successful and enjoyable year. If members have any concerns, please contact me on 0417618921. I would particularly ask everyone to abide by the "Rules of Etiquette" sheet on the tables, especially on Noise and Post Mortem discussions.

Only Tuesday of this week we visited the Moreton Club in New Farm where we were welcomed with wonderful hospitality, lunch, and card play: the results of which reveal the hosts as convincing winners. The historic stone building with its ambience, presentation, and position on the river was outstanding.

Michael Doherty

Past President's Report

The year commenced with a major electricity breakdown for the RAS. We were very grateful that we were allowed to continue our operation using their generators for some weeks while the problem was resolved.

It has pleased me greatly to again see the club continuing to grow and prosper, particularly when many clubs are finding it difficult to maintain their membership numbers with the existing age demographic in bridge clubs. In the latter part of the year, we have seen our Friday session requiring two sections quite regularly which is most gratifying.

Our Swiss Pairs Congress was well supported considering the crowding within our zone. However, it was very disappointing to see that the Novice Congress numbers

dropped to almost half of the numbers for 2012. We have moved this date to June 1st for this year, hoping that our members will support their own congress, particularly since 70% of our membership is still eligible for novice events.

My thanks must go to Friendlies Pharmacy and Joan Butts for their generous sponsorship for both congresses; also Robbie for convening, Chris directing, and Judy and Rhondda and all their helpers for catering; and Jan for her usual lovely flowers. A job well done!

Your support for our Charity Day has made me extremely proud that this club cares for the wider community, and I do hope we will be able to continue this. Substantial donations were sent to Young Care, Neuroscience (supporting Alzheimer's research), Salvation Army and Make a Wish foundation. Hopefully you have all had the time to read the letter sent to us from Paradise Kids indicating the joy that our 2012 fundraising gave to the Halpin family.

A happy day was enjoyed by all who attended the Moreton Club visit in February last year, and we now look forward to our return visit on the 18th of this month. Thank you Roey for organizing this.

Congratulations to our club championship winners, Laurie-Marie and Byron for the pairs, and Nick, Sue, Pat and Kath for the teams.

At the last AGM, it was suggested that the committee look into upgrading some aspects of the room to make the vacating of the club easier when we have to clear it for other functions. Desley and Rhondda undertook the project and have completed it with their usual flair. We now have lovely mobile stainless steel cabinets and uniform side tables which stack more easily. The RAS approved (and Richard organized) the installation of the continuous hot water urn. I think Pauline is still smiling. Thanks Desley, Rhondda and Richard.

The club subsidized a teaching day with Joan Butts which was well attended and enjoyed by all who were present.

Ian Jesser again prepared tutorials that were well received and appreciated. He has also indicated his willingness to conduct some beginner lessons on Monday mornings provided the numbers are sufficient.

The Tournament Committee (headed by Gillian as Chairperson, Richard as Secretary, Ned as Chief Director and Roey as Zone Chairman; together with Neville, Ian, Floyd, Brian, Roy, John and Michael) have again worked very hard to try and make our bridge sessions not only enjoyable, but competitive as well. We have also seen our trainee directors blossoming as they gain some confidence in the task. You will also shortly see a directive from the committee which will appear on the tables as well as in the new programme book. I hope you will all read it and act on it accordingly. The club purchased another timing clock thanks to Brian's generous donation towards the cost. My thanks to you all. As you all know, Merna Atkins was a long time member of this committee, as well as the Management Committee. Due to failing eyesight, Merna will no longer be playing bridge. However, I would like to thank her for all the help and administrative knowledge she has endeavoured to pass on to me during my last few years as masterpoint secretary.

To Sue, Richard and Patricia, thank you for running the office and all the IT part of the club. Without you, we would have to return to the old methods. Also a special thanks to all who have given time on dealing days.

Many members have done little jobs to help, and have also produced lovely cooking during the year. My thanks to you as well.

Also I was very thrilled when Floyd consented to do the typing for our Programme Book which should be out in the next week.

To my Management Committee, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed your company and support during the last two years. Thank you Jenny as Vice President, and Jane as Treasurer. From Jane's report you will see that the club is in a very healthy financial position.

I am glad to see that Dawn and Roy are staying on committee. Desiree, Helen, Laurie-Marie and Rosemary are all not seeking re-election, so my thanks to you all. Alison and Pauline are also not seeking re-election. As I feel that they hold two of the most demanding positions in the club, I offer them my sincerest thanks for the long hours they have put in while holding these positions.

I would like to wish the incoming President and committee best wishes for the coming year, and assure them of my continued support.

Best wishes and happy bridging to you all.

Barbara Wippell

Incoming Office Bearers

Michael Doherty	President
Desley Mundell	Vice President
Jenny Newman	Secretary
Jane Lindenberg	Treasurer
Barbara Wippell	Providore

Committee Members:

Dawn Brosi
Carmel Caton
Rhondda Dean
Maurie Josie
Roy Reynolds
Majella Wilson

Tournament Committee Report

Our big problem in the club is the noise factor, and it comes up in nearly all our meetings. We would like to ask the members to try to be quieter, especially during change over time. We are a friendly happy club, but should keep the socializing for afternoon tea time.

The directors are agreed that the clock should be used at all times. We have been donated a new clock by Brian and Barbara Wippell so each side has one. The treatment of anomalies has been changed. We need to check them before the players leave. This is not always possible. A 48 hour period after the end of play allows players to contact the director to advise of an incorrect result. This can only be changed if both sides agree. It is then at the director's discretion whether or not to amend the results at the next suitable time.

Ian Jesser and Floyd Wilson are willing to be included on the director's roster, and we would like to welcome them.

The Charity Day in October supported Young Care, and "Make a Wish", was supported by a raffle on Mother's Day.

Our congresses for 2014 will be the Novice Pairs on June 1st and the Swiss Pairs on 20th July.

The Friendlies Society sponsored both our congresses in 2013, and our thanks go to Brian Wippell for that arrangement.

The attendance at the Novice Congress in 2013 was disappointing, especially from club members. Therefore, the date has been changed as previously stated.

Psyche bids have been discussed this year and they have to be recorded in the book, and the director called when they are detected. (A psyche bid has been defined as to be more than 2 points away from partner's understanding of the bid.) If the opposing pair claim to have been disadvantaged by this bid, the director rules accordingly.

We are getting a number of fouled boards during play. This is becoming quite a problem, so Ned Kelly is to write a procedural table slip, and Barbara Wippell will mention the problem before play. We ask you all to be very careful when returning the cards to the boards to get them in the right place.

Floyd Wilson has agreed to type up the Programme Book for 2014 in conjunction with Barbara Wippell, who is coordinating the programme. We would like to thank both of these people as the book is a big undertaking. Please see your book for all coming events.

We are changing the information on the Bridge Mates as at present it leads to much table talk that adds to the noise. Only the rank will be shown on the last round; your own contract is highlighted with an arrow.

Due to complaints regarding behaviour at the tables, the Chief Director (Ned Kelley) is composing a "Table Etiquette Document" with important points highlighted. This will be on the tables for members to read. The handicap scoring was discussed, and it was decided to stay with the default system as programmed by Comscore, which is the computer programme we use for scoring.

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work during the past year, and to all the directors for giving their time at what can be a fairly demanding job.

All our thanks also go to Sue Crooke for her untiring dedication to our computer needs.

Gillian Whitehouse (Chair Person)

Masterpoint Secretary's Report 2014

Masterpoint ranking and promotion reports are issued and displayed on the notice board each quarter for you to peruse at leisure. The latest promotions include:

C. Caton (Local)	D. Henderson (Local)
R. Lavers (Local)	P. Lutton (Regional)
R. Newman (Local**)	P. Proud (State)
R. Reader (Local*)	S. Walker (Local)
E. Willis (Life)	B. Wippell (National*)

Carol Wilson has helped me during the year, and did a great job with the Championship Pairs in August while I was away, for which I thank her most sincerely.

With the introduction of computer scoring and easy link to the national masterpoint web site, the tasks no longer requires any manual mathematical calculations, but the process of formation of reports and transfer to the national secretary.

In 2013 the club played 13 red point sessions, seven of which were played in our honour board events. The number of such sessions is determined by the number of

green points awarded during the year between 1st October, and 30th September. These sessions are then played in the following calendar year.

Those of you who are interested in finding out more about the process, go to the ABF website; click on masterpoint manual, and then look under Clause 2.6.

The masterpoint secretary also helps the directors to balance fields where necessary so that the various rankings of players are distributed evenly through the field. I am hoping some of you will show interest in learning the process this year.

Thank you Carol for your help last year.

Have a happy year at the bride table.

Barbara Wippell

Providore's Report

Here we are well into the New Year with most members back into their usual routines after the holiday season, and our club about to embark on another year.

From my view, I feel the two congresses that we hosted were well received thanks to Judy Reynolds and Rhondda Dean, who very ably convened them along with their support staff.

I was delighted that our Club has been able to support several charities again this year. These events were well supported by members, both with attendance and donations of food and goods for raffles, trading tables, etc.

On a weekly basis, the attendances have increased and the afternoon and morning teas provided usually disappear without a trace! For this, it is impossible to thank everyone who has contributed so generously, but it would be remiss of me not to mention the unfailing support I have had from our President Barbara Wippell and Committee Member, Dawn Brosi. Joyce Ziesemer and Carmel Caton are 'Treasures', and Joan Harms and Helen Holmes have both donated beautiful cakes regularly. My sincerest thanks.

I absolutely love our continuous hot water urn which has made the job much easier. I did think I was going to persuade the club to purchase an industrial dishwasher, but thanks to Richard Newman's handyman expertise, he has saved the club the expense by fixing the present one.

This report brings an end to my tenure as providore which I have enjoyed. I wish the incoming Providore every success, and I am sure you will give him/her as much support as I have received.

I look forward to seeing you all at the bridge table in a more relaxed capacity.

Happy bridging in 2014.

Pauline Lutton

Library News

The Darling Downs Bridge Club Library has been re-catalogued.

The books have been catalogued by Author from A to Z.

Each book has a corresponding card that we ask you to fill in with the date borrowed and your name.

On returning the book, please leave it on the shelf marked "returned books", and mark the current date on the corresponding card.

There are many helpful books available to members including the ever popular Ron Klinger and Audrey Grant.

This is a free service. Have a look today.

TABLE ETIQUETTE

The aim of this club is to have a pleasant playing environment, well controlled and fair to all players.

Players should take their places promptly 15 mins before the start of play so that the directors can determine the movement/s. This is very important now that our numbers are increasing.

Where the directors need to move players to arrange the fields. Please move promptly and without complaint. Movements may be necessary if a field appears too unbalanced.

Also when the move is called during play, move as soon as requested.

Greet your opposition when they come to your table.

Do not criticise the play of your partner or the opposition.

DO NOT DISCUSS THE HANDS AFTER PLAY– this gives information to adjacent tables and is unfair to the field.

THE BOARD. N/S ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PLACING THE BOARD IN THE CORRECT ORIENTATION FLAT ON THE TABLE. IT SHOULD STAY THERE UNTIL THE CARDS ARE RETURNED (AFTER COUNTING) TO THEIR CORRECT POCKETS AFTER PLAY OF THE HAND.

Cards should not be removed from the board other than to play a hand. This applies to any sit-out pair

Fouled boards have become a regular problem and the above rules will help to obviate this.

BRIDGEMATES. N/S are responsible for entering the score and E/W must check this before pressing the accept button. If a score is incorrectly entered and not noticed it may skew the results for the whole session do not read out the scores for your pair or any preceding play. This information is readily overheard and disadvantages the field.

DECLARER WHEN CALLING FOR A CARD FROM DUMMY SHOULD DO SO QUIETLY, otherwise other players know what cards are in a specific hand in a specific board and this may alter the bidding and play at other tables.

Call the director for any irregularities in the bidding and play and accept the directors ruling without argument at the table. If you consider a ruling to be wrong, then notify the intention to lodge an appeal and do so promptly at the end of play. Rule interpretations can be difficult and review of the ruling by an appeal committee (usually three directors or senior players) is the proper process.

NOISE. This is a considerable problem always. The Director, plus the North player at each table is responsible for controlling this. It is embarrassing if specific players have to be named but this may be preferable to having the field disadvantaged.

The clock is normally used for all sessions. At the warning alarm, players without an opening lead card tabled may be asked not to play that board.

Adjustments can be made for any untoward hold-ups, including for a playing director who has several or a prolonged call during the round. Players should notify the director during the round if they feel they are being disadvantaged.



Beautiful Moreton Bay Club

