

S.P.B.C. JANUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER

From The President – Pat Hobson

Our year at the club finished with lots of celebrations.

We welcomed 20 new members from the beginners' class with a morning tea. Jan Pearson has been doing a wonderful job for the club in teaching the beginners.

Our second Christmas party was for all the Saturday teachers, supervisors, and players. It was most enjoyable, they are all so enthusiastic about this game we all love.

The third was a lovely afternoon tea hosted by Edith Grunwald and the club. What a lovely occasion that was, again thanks must go there to Edith and all her helpers, who certainly have a great following for their Tuesday game.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful 2014. My hope is that the year is uneventful and runs smoothly, and we all enjoy our bridge,

Pat

Bridge Tip- An Interesting Bid

An opening bid of 4NT is regular (not RKCB) Blackwood and can be made with 28HCP or ten sure tricks. Mike Lawrence states this bid should be an ace ask where you respond with the Ace you have.

4NT 5C no ace
 5D ace of diamonds
 5H ace of hearts
 5S ace of spades
 5NT ace of clubs

An opening bid of 2C on the following hand could “let in the vultures”. Once partner has responded 5S (having the ace of spades) a bid of 7D can be made.

	10	A643
	J1087
	AKQ96543	72
	AKQ7	832
Bidding	4NT	5S
	7D	

Worth considering? Many thanks to Kaye Donaldson for this interesting example.

Membership News – from Lindsay Kubler. New members Nov/Dec

In my time of handling Membership, I have never processed so many new members in one month. Congratulations must be given to Kaye Donaldson and her team for their efforts in attracting so many new members to this club.

Total Members as at Dec 10 th 2013	763	Total Non Affiliated	152
Total Home Club	584	Total Non Financial	53
Total Life Members	24		

Progress on Strategic Plan For Upgrading The Chairs- Vere Drakeford

A sub-committee has been formed, comprising Vere Drakeford, Pat Hobson, Gaynor Rogers, and Philip Roberts.

The primary goal of the sub-committee created to purchase new chairs is to select chairs to provide:

- optimum comfort for our older demographic group when sitting for periods of 4-7 hours
- high weight capacity and stability
- long-term durability so they can be reupholstered in about 10 years, and
- a substantial warranty on the frames

Considerable market research has been undertaken and the characteristics of comfortable chairs for us have been identified. Possible products from various distributors have been considered and initial

quotations obtained.

The sub-committee is now ready to select sample chairs to be delivered in January for members to test and record their votes in a survey. The intention is then to engage a colour consultant to assist in the selection of

- the style, pattern, texture, and colour of the fabric
- the colour of the aluminium frame (if options are available), and
- a master colour plan for the interior of the clubhouse

Getting to know our new committee members .

I grew up in Brisbane and went to All Hallows School which overlooks the Storey Bridge. After leaving, I worked in the Commonwealth Bank in King George Square. When I had my 21st birthday, I took 12 months leave, and travelled overseas with some friends. On my return some time later, I met an optometrist in the Champagne Bar at Eagle Farm Racecourse.

We have two handsome sons and a wonderful daughter who are all married, and we have 4 amazing grandchildren. We retired to the Coast in 2002 and I am so happy to have joined Surfers Paradise Bridge Club. I hope my time on the committee will be of benefit to the club. Who am I?

Electricity Update - from Trevor Fletcher

Prior to the solar installation at the club the power consumption costs were in excess of \$13000 per year. Along with a \$1200 rebate per year with the sale of electricity back to the grid and the power that is produced by the system, last financial year's total consumption cost was \$6118. This year from September to November there has been a 20% increase in cost over the corresponding period last year.

By far the largest consumer of electricity is the air-conditioning, and, while the directors have been given the responsibility of controlling the fans and air-conditioning, we should all be aware that once the air-conditioning is operating below 24 degrees, a much greater load of electricity is used.

From The Editor -Jenny Sawyer

I wish to add my Happy New Year wishes to those of our President, Pat Hobson. My apologies to those contributors whose items were either not included, or shortened due to space restrictions. A reminder that it is essential that you advise of email address changes if you wish to receive the newsletter electronically, and please remember to keep those interesting items coming in.

This month's featured committee member is Di Carlton-Smith.