



# CENTRAL COAST BRIDGE CLUB

## From the President

At the end of July an open letter was placed on the noticeboard without the permission of the Committee. I believed that the language used was defamatory and as such I ordered it to be removed. Following a complaint, the author made an apology. As a result members, may not post or remove any notices on the board or circulate them within the clubhouse without the prior permission of the Committee via the Secretary.

It has been the practice to put *draft* minutes on the notice board, however untrue rumours have been circulated that the minutes were being altered. In future the Committee will not release minutes of meetings until they have been fully ratified at the following Committee meeting in order to avoid any possible future misunderstanding.

Following the attendance at Committee meetings by groups of observers, the Committee has passed a motion that non-committee members may not attend Committee meetings without permission. Our Constitution is based on the Model Constitution from the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 produced by the Fair Trading Commission. In supporting notes the Commission states that *"Unless the association's constitution says otherwise, only committee members are entitled to attend committee meetings. However, the committee may permit members and other persons to attend."* Our Constitution has no clause which permits such attendance.

Despite the continual stream of emails with complaints to the Committee, (one member has managed 7 so far) and the non co-operation of some members, along with the spreading of rumours, this Committee has achieved much in its first three months. Repairs and improvements in the Clubhouse are obvious but behind the scenes, systems are being put in place to ensure our legal and financial compliance. From the word go, this Committee has been a hard-working and enthusiastic group working for the benefit of all Club members and I am tremendously proud of their commitment. I am also extremely disappointed that a small group of members feel it necessary to attempt to undermine the operation of such a positive elected committee by constantly asserting that the Committee is doing a bad job. Therefore the Committee has decided to call a **Special General Meeting** at 11.30am on Sat 7th Sept where we are asking for your vote of confidence on the Committee's management of the Club. I encourage all members to attend and support your Committee. If you have serious concerns about the operation of the Club you should attend the meeting and present your case. Let's bring the issues out in the open and find a way forward and put an end to this negativity once and for all.



## Vale - Jon Nix 1946 - 2019



I am deeply saddened to tell you that Jon Nix has lost his battle with cancer. Diagnosed with lung cancer some two years ago we all hoped that his treatment had been successful. However it was not to be, and three months ago the cancer returned. Jon was one of those quiet achievers and many people will not realise that he was Club Secretary from 2010-2012 and was instrumental in getting the computer system organised. His wife, Rhonda is Chair of House on the Committee and our thoughts are with her and their children Andrew and Lauren during this difficult time. As a personal friend I will always remember those very expressive eyebrows and his quirky sense of humour!

## Casual Vacancy Filled



The Committee is pleased to announce that Nola Daly has agreed to fill the casual vacancy caused by the death of Helen Eaton. Nola is a keen bridge player and a hard worker who will be a great asset to the Committee. She is our partner arranger and if you are looking for a long term bridge partner she is the person to contact. 0408 683 410. If she is away contact 0404 043 028

## CCBC Successes

Congratulations to team Clarke (Garry Clarke, Sally Clarke (Vice President), Gil Clarke and Pauline Erby) who won the Taree Teams event in July winning 7 out of 8 matches.

## CCBC Restricted & Novice Congress

This was held recently and was a great success. Our thanks go to all those members who baked, cleaned, moved things, cleared up and helped in a hundred different ways. Special congratulations to Marianna Xerri who had overall responsibility for the catering and did a fantastic job.

## Security Cameras

The Committee is aware that an upgrade of the CCTV system has been a cause for concern amongst members. The perceived benefit of such a system is to identify any miscreants. When the Clubhouse was broken into, the police were unable to make any identification as the images were so poor and taken from a distance. The Committee has received quotes and upon discussion we doubted the value of an investment of over \$2,000 to install more cameras and upgrade the system. We felt that the money would be better invested in tightening our security in other areas. As a result we have decided to remove the CCTV altogether as in its current state it is useless. The Committee appreciates constructive criticism and is always prepared to consider alternatives suggestions.

## New Faces

Over the coming months you will notice some new faces directing bridge sessions and you may think: "Why is this so?" In an ideal world we would have a different director and reserve for each session so that in the case of accident, illness or holidays, finding a replacement would not be difficult. The reality is that we have few directors doing a number of sessions and this presents a risk for the club. We have qualified directors in the Club who are not getting enough practise and we need to give them opportunities to hone their skills. Directing, like any other skill, needs to be practised. Not only must a director have a grasp of the laws of bridge but must also be able to set up the movements and operate the computer software. This move is part of an effort to broaden our pool of skilled directors.

## Dr. Colin Kleinig

South Australian born and with a German heritage in the wine industry, Colin moved to Tasmania as a young child, where his family had a dairy farm. He studied medicine at the University of Tasmania and during these years he honed his card playing skills with help from Wrest Point casino! He was awarded a Full Blue for AFL and was also a keen basketball player and a runner. He managed the City to Surf in under 62 minutes. Impressive!! In 1975 he moved to Sydney to do GP training at Hornsby and then onto Bathurst where he joined a large general practice. His main GP interests are in obstetrics and minor surgery. He married Jane Stephens in 2000 in Bathurst and six years later they started bridge under the tuition of David Morrow. As a proud grandfather of three he made the decision to move to Chittaway Bay on the Central Coast in 2017 to be closer to children and grandchildren. They joined CCBC and have been playing regularly ever since. Both Colin and Jane consider themselves novices but enjoy participating in the local bridge community. Colin joins the Committee for the first time and is taking responsibility for all things medical in the Club.



## Resignation

The Committee has reluctantly accepted the resignation of Toni Gorman the Club Secretary due to health issues, family commitments and time constraints. Toni has undertaken her job on the Committee with dedication and skill and her efforts have been appreciated by us all. We are pleased to announce that Roy Cotton has agreed to step in as Club Secretary and we welcome him to the Committee.