

Dear Friends,

What an unusual start for a presidency. I was away and missed the AGM, the first Committee meeting and the opening of the newly renovated premises.

It was a great joy to find that the new Committee had not missed a beat and that the renovations were really fantastic. Our honorary architect and project manager, Peter Lewis has done a magnificent job ensuring that all fittings and the tradies work were of the highest quality and within the cost estimates. We owe Peter a huge debt of gratitude for his effort.

We have been able to apply for two grants from the Sunshine Coast Council and the Gambling Community Benefit Fund. This will greatly reduce the cost to the Club of the renovations and in fact the smaller grant from the Council was received a short time ago. In breaking news we have just received the grant from the GCBF. With these two grants in the bank the Club is in great financial shape. We are very grateful to all those who participated in preparation of our submissions for the grants but in particular to Pauline Clayton who made it happen.

Numbers at our sessions seem to be back to normal after the closure and all comments on the changes have been favourable.

The President's Trophy was held over three Mondays in November and was won by Tony Walford and Wilma Hiddins. Gus Connolly and Ken Rogers were second. This event is also scored on a handicap basis and the best performed pairs on handicap were Ann Mellings and Arch Morrison winners with John and Frances Stuart second.

The Christmas party was a great success and we must thank Janice Little and John Burt for the organisation and Fay Stanton and her team of helpers for the smooth running of the kitchen and fabulous quality of the food. All contributions by all who brought a plate was really appreciated are not anywhere as good without a strong team effort.

Paul Mannion is seeking four volunteers to serve drinks at club functions. Only one is required at a time so demand on your time is not great. Please consider whether you can help in this regard and if so contact Paul on 54456608 or prmannion@bigpond.com.

Annual subs are now payable. If you are paying by direct debit don't forget show your name so that Bev can give you credit for having paid.

I hope you all have a happy Christmas and New Year.

John Stacey