**PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS BRIDGE CLUB**

**Hamilton Green, Hastings River Drive**

**PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444**

27 March 2017

Hello there

As President of Port Macquarie-Hastings Bridge Club, I am writing to you to let you know about two forthcoming events that we believe would be of both great interest and benefit to you and your membership.

The events are our annual **Open Day** that will be held from 11.30am on Friday 21 April and our comprehensive **New Player Lessons Program** commencing at 9.00am on Friday 28 April with both activities taking place at our air-conditioned clubhouse on Hamilton Green at 176 Hastings River Drive, Port Macquarie.

So what would your members gain from the Bridge experience?

*Playing Bridge results in a sharper brain and sharper memory.* Players train themselves to keep track of who holds what card, analyse their own hand with its strengths and weaknesses and develop winning strategies.

*Playing Bridge gives you a better chance in fighting off diseases*. Keeping the brain active and stimulated through persistent concentration, visualisation and sequencing boosts the immune system, leads to improved sleeping patterns, lightens your mood and combats melancholia.

*Bridge enhances social life.* Bridge, the world’s most popular card game, is not a solo exercise but rather requires four players. When you are playing Bridge, your communication and social skills are enhanced as well as your ability to nurture a partnership. There are many opportunities to meet and make new friends.

*Bridge is just as much fun and entertainment as it is challenging*. The combination of teasing, finessing, encouragement, side comments, praise and joking makes for a satisfying and enjoyable playing environment.

*There are no age or skill barriers.* People of all ages, backgrounds and levels of card-playing ability can take up Bridge and play it successfully.

The Open Day will showcase our Club House, facilities and equipment to potential new players and provide a broad introduction to the fascinating world of Bridge. The Lesson Program features both teaching of Bridge skills and structured card play to give beginners a sound basic understanding. In the same way that driving lessons are essential before we get behind the wheel of a car and golf lessons build our confidence and ability from tee to green, learning to play Bridge properly facilitates success, satisfaction and camaraderie with fellow players.

The lessons are conducted by Yvonne Cains (Grand Master) and Rowan Ferguson (Silver Life Master) both highly experienced and successful Bridge practitioners. With their patient and thorough teaching methods new players are assured of rapidly building their Bridge skill and confidence levels and, as importantly, their enjoyment in playing the game.

Community groups of all persuasions are the lifeblood of our society. Their memberships thrive on the spirit of camaraderie and shared interests both within individual groups and across the spectrum of formal and informal social organisations and associations.

In this spirit, it would be most appreciated if you could share this material via noticeboard and/or circulation with your members.

Yours sincerely

Peter Briscoe

PRESIDENT, PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS BRIDGE CLUB