



## 2017 Skal Brisbane AGM President's Report

Thank you to all members for attending our AGM today.

It has been an honour and privilege to represent you as the Brisbane Skal Club President for the past 12 months in what has been a very busy year.

**Committee** - firstly I would like to recognise all the hard work of the Skal Committee several of whom are unable to attend today – this also includes recognising the Golf Committee. I welcome the support you have provided to me but also on behalf of all Brisbane Skal members. I need to stress these are voluntary positions & with everyone's lives both professionally & personally becoming so much busier we are lucky to have you.



I would now like to recognise and thank all my fellow Committee Members for 2016 including the Golf Committee - Sharon Cauldwell, Ross Maclean, Peter Savoff, Kayleen Allen, Gary Leung, Kenny Evans, Brett Whicker, Roy Nunes, Branka Indic, Anne Graham, Andrew Franklin, Sharon Hando, Kim Tomlinson and our Member d'Honneur Max Ellerman.

Before finishing on the topic of the Committee I am putting you on notice for each and everyone of you to give serious consideration to becoming a Skal Committee member. After all the existing Committee members won't be doing this forever so we need an injection of new committee members for this time next year.

A big thank you to Brett and the team @ Riverview who kindly host our monthly committee meetings in their boardroom not only free of charge but also includes freshly brewed coffee, tea, water, mints & always an afternoon tea surprise fresh out of the oven!!

**Membership** is vital for your Skal Club or any membership club for that matter to remain relevant and real and as important is the makeup of the members. In return for your support, the Committee always has front and centre the importance of adding value to the membership, so that each time we meet, you feel part of a Club who values the principles of industry networking, professional development and community service. May I however remind you whilst we have a Membership Co-ordinator on the Committee I believe it is everyone's job to grow the membership of your Club.

As at today your Club is the largest Skal Club in Australia!

**Financially** Skål Brisbane is in a good position and your Treasurer, Ross Maclean, will present further details in his report shortly. From this sound financial position, we have been able to pass back to our members some of the money raised through raffles and fines by subsidising the costs in attending National Assemblies, World Congresses and of course topping up the "shout @ the bar" at many of our events throughout the year. Like membership however we need to remain in a sound financial position & this year we believe it is reflected in the 2017 budget which we have created.

We were also able to support several Charities in 2016 and the beneficiaries of our fundraising efforts were: Second Chance Program; Skäl Florimond Volckaert Fund; Fiji Cyclone Appeal (our twinning Club of Suva) and Legacy Australia:

**Events after our AGM last year hosted @ Hotel Jen March** saw us gathering @ Next Hotel and due to being St Patricks Day we decided to theme it accordingly with the end result being grown people hurtling potatoes at Guinness cans!!

**April** Royal on the Park never fails to disappoint with our traditional Anzac Day lunch & we said fond farewell to Steve Underwood who departed to travel the world & is still doing so.

**June** Emporium Hotel hosted us and as has been the case each time we have had a Skäl event @ Emporium the after drinks in the beautiful bar downstairs are a highlight as is the lunch. SE Qld Combined Skäl Clubs was hosted by the Sunshine Coast Skäl Club.

**July** lunch @ Tattersalls which always is well attended together in the same month supporting the Les Clefs d'or Hospitality Ball

**August** we held not only our Membership night kindly hosted @ Watermark Hotel but also our Annual Skäl Charity Golf Day @ Virginia and thanks again to the hard work and efforts of the Golf Committee.

**September** we had a breakfast to remember @ Rydges Southbank where the newly appointed CEO of Queensland Rugby Richard Barker went head to head with Q&A from Mike Jones.

**October** we enjoyed lunch @ QC Club and the introduction of sports trivia questions brought out the competitive strain in a few people!! I also represented your Club at my first Skäl World Congress in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

**November** we had a great lunch @ The Jephson food aptly matched with fabulous Hentley Farm wines.

**December** for our final event for the year Brisbane Marriott hosted us to a great lunch. We asked those attending to bring a bottle and/or a Christmas item which allowed us to have a Monster raffle that ensured the day was a festive finale to end the year.

**January** last month as has always traditionally been the case was held at Brisbane Riverview Hotel where we enjoyed another Great Aussie Joke-Off session to commemorate Australia Day.

And here we are today and for those who joined us earlier this month enjoyed lunch & tour on board the cruise ship Legends of the Sea!!

Finally I would like to thank **you**, our members for all your support of not only me as your President but also of your Club by attending our events, assisting with raffle prizes and the many other jobs often asked of you sometimes at short notice.

Skäl International Australia is proud of what our Brisbane Club has achieved in recent years, and so I thank **all of you** for your support and friendship during my time as President and I very much look forward to the year ahead.

**THANK YOU!**

Judy Hill, President

Skäl International Brisbane