

**Welcome to the
Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club**



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

CONGRESS
SUCCESS

With a starting time of 10am instead of 9.30, a team of volunteers were able to set up the downstairs area. There was just enough space, but some noise from the Sporting Bar disturbed players at that end of the room.

Ruth set up a successful system for players to order Barista coffee if they did not fancy the instant available.

The hot finger-food at the end of play on Saturday was well-received. Players from beyond the Central Coast were welcomed and some of us caught up with old friends.

Of special note was a Youth player in Division 1.

Director Alan Bustany has been in disagreement/discussion with the State Masterpoint Secretary over the weighting of the two Divisions in the Pairs. This was finalised in time for the red points earned to appear on your record this month.

See Pages 2-3 for results and Pages 9 - 11 for photographs.

**MELBOURNE CUP DAY
BRIDGE - Tuesday November 7**

After a 3 year gap it is hoped to hold face-to-face bridge this year, but are awaiting an answer from the Leagues Club.

For some history and a plea for help, see Page 7 & 8.

RECENT RESULTS

MONTHLY SHIELD (7) (E) 8 tables Wed Sep 6

1st Gary Heyting & Steph Mathews 62.67%

2nd Dorothy Berzins & Di Coats 60.59%

3rd Jan Clarke & Alan Bustany 59.23%

SPRING PAIRS (R) 5.5 tables Tue Aug 15

1st Wendy Mitchell & Eunice de Vries 66.67%

2nd Terry Dyer & Tony Langmead 60.94%

3rd Margaret Regan & Kevin Hughes 59.90%

STATE OPEN PAIRS Q 1/2 (R) 9 tables Wed Aug 20/27

1st David Snow & Margaret Regan 66.41%

2nd Jan Clarke & Di Coates 62.48%

3rd Chris Williams & Sharon Mayo 62.32%

*The club will pay for 4 pairs to play in the final
but all pairs are eligible. Contact Julie Sadler.*

SEPTEMBER CONGRESS REPORT

Steph Mathews

GNOT COUNTRY REGIONAL FINAL – Eight teams representing CCBC (2), CCLCBC (4) and BWBC (2) qualified to compete in the GNOT Central Coast Regional Final on 10 September at CCLCBC. The event was directed by Peter Hume.

Anne Grayden, Julie Sadler, Martin Johnson and Chris Hasemore represented BWBC and finished first. This team, which also includes Alan Bustany and Pauline Caust, will proceed to the National Final in Brisbane, Dec 1 to 4. Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Sally Clarke, and Chris Williams placed second. CCBC claimed third place with Matt Raj Mal, Graham Williamson, Stewart Duxbury and Peter Johnman.

The other CCLCBC teams who qualified to play in this event included Adele Mills, Dorothy Berzins, Henrietta Hohnen and Wendy Mitchell; Steph Mathews, Gary Heyting, Jann Small, and Suzanne Harrison; Kath Bromley, Sue Eastman, David Snow and Austin Driscoll. David Bowerman and Dasha Brandt represented BWBC with Susan McCall and Judy Wulff.

CCLCBC CONGRESS

Our congress was very successful with 56 pairs and 24 teams playing on the 16th and 17th of September. Thank you to all who participated and to those who worked behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly. A special thank you to Alan Bustany for directing and Louis Koolen for serving as convener with trainee Marg Regan.

Swiss Pairs Division 1 – Thirty pairs played in Division 1, including 14 CCLCBC member pairs; four CCLCBC pairs finished in the top 10! Vicky and Ian Lisle claimed top honours in the Division 1 Pairs. Greg and Sharon Mayo finished second; Chris Hasemore and Martin Johnson came in third. Also in the top ten were Di Coats and Jan Clarke (6th place) and Dorothy Berzins and Henrietta Hohnen (9th place).

Swiss Pairs Division 2 – Twenty-six pairs competed in Division 2 including nine CCLCBC pairs. Richard Carter and Jay Novak claimed first place; Jodie Gudaitis and Sandy Carter finished second; and Gayle Calvert and Steve English finished third. Notably, three CCLCBC pairs finished in the top ten: Margaret Regan and Pauline Caust (fifth); Ruth Griffin and Agnes Marsh (seventh); and George Connell and Trish Dennis (tenth). Two of our own pairs took out the novice places - 1st: Gina Robertson & Eva Hartzell, 2nd: Julieanne Perceval & Kevin Hughes.

Well done also to those players who attempted their first ever Congress.

Swiss Teams – Twenty-four teams competed, and twelve were teams with CCLCBC members. Five CCLCBC teams finished in the top 10. Sharon and Greg Mayo with teammates Paul McGrath and Michael Simes finished first. Dorothy Berzins, Adele Mills, Henrietta Hohnen and Wendy Mitchell finished second. Di Coats, Jan Clarke, Sally Clarke and Chris Williams finished third. Also in the top ten were CCLCBC teams Chris Hasemore, Martin Johnson, Barry Foster and Hope Tomlinson finishing eighth, and Margaret Regan, Pauline Caust, Trish Dennis and George Connell who came in tenth.

PHOTOS ETC PAGE 9—11

COUNTRY TEAMS ZONAL FINAL at Tomaree Bridge Club

Three Central Coast Teams and five Hunter teams competed in the Country Teams Zonal Final on 24 September at the beautiful Tomaree Bridge

Club. Thank you to Tomaree for graciously hosting this event, directed by Ronnie Ng. The Hunter Region took out the first three places:

- First place went to John Stuart, Deanna Stuart, Jody Swaine and Colleen Wilson from the Hunter Region.
- In second place were Greg and Sharon Mayo representing Hunter Region along with Paul McGrath and Michael Simes.
- Third place went to Bob Cass, Sally Irwin, Ken Evans and Chris Dorn.

The best Central Coast Region team were Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa, Wendy Mitchell and Chris Hannan who finished fourth.

NEW ABF RANKINGS – September Congratulations to:

<i>Life</i>	Margaret Regan	<i>Local</i>	Tony Canavan
<i>State</i>	Suzanne Harrison		
<i>State</i>	Leonne Babinski		

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for October

John Aldersley, Bill Alexander, Gary Barwick, Ivan Cottom, Nola Daly, Gladys Donovan, Eva Hartzell, Trish Howard, Leonie Lovell, Adele Mills, Pamela Price, Judith Sherson, Jann Small, Pauline Wallace, Gwen White, Helen White.

A CHALLENGE FOR THE EXPERIENCED - SOLUTIONS

Jack Stocken (learnbridgeonline.com/jack, jack@yorkshirebridge.com) set “Mission Impossible”. Here is the link to his YouTube video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAPvTyCT8tw&utm_source=sendfox&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mission-impossible-is-this-the-most-difficult-bridge-hand-you-have-seen-jack-stocken-takes-you-through-the-hand

Here again is that impossible hand - Playing ACOL South is in 4S and receives the HK lead.



Jack's solution is to ruff the HK lead in dummy and counter-intuitively throw the HA!

After drawing trumps and cashing CA he throws West in with a H and discards a D from dummy. West has only H's to lead. On the next 2 declarer discards 2x diamonds from dummy and 2x clubs from hand.

The next H is ruffed in dummy, East throws DJ (say*) and declarer discards the last C. A D to the A, then cross-ruffing the D7 becomes a winner for declarer's 10 th trick.

* If East throws a C, declarer can set up dummy's last C for the trick to make the contract.

Two clever members found a solution:

1. Ros Dey's was very similar to the above, except that she played the DA at trick 4, followed by the CA before throwing West in with a H and discarded a C. She then threw 2 clubs from dummy and 2 diamonds from hand. After cross-ruffing a C or D comes good depending on what West has discarded.

2. Mary Colling (who plays from Melbourne on our Tuesday RealBridge) presented a different solution which also works I believe:

HK lead : Win with the HA and throw the C2 from the north hand.
 Play the Ace and Q of S, allowing E to win with the SK. Whatever E leads, a C or D, win with an A.

So, if East plays a diamond, win with the DA and come back to the south hand with the CA.

South then plays the H3 and allows West to win two tricks with the HQ & HJ. South discards 2x clubs from the north hand and 1x diamond from

the south hand. When West plays the H10, this is ruffed in the north hand with the S4 and a second diamond is discarded from the south hand.

Two clubs and two diamonds can then be cross ruffed with the remaining S's and because East has to find 3 discards to go on the HQ, J & 10, whatever combination they discard eg. 1xC and 2xD's or 0xC's and 3xD's, the 4th C or D in the north or south hand becomes the 10th trick.

So EW only win 3 tricks - the SK, and the HQ and HJ.
That was fun!

So the mission was not impossible for Mary and Ros –

Congratulations and a free game to each!

A COMEDY OF ERROR - SOLUTION

Board 10 Dir: E Vul: All	♠75 ♥QJ9862 ♦943 ♣J9	Monday Eve August 7, 2013									
♠Q842 ♥AK754 ♦AK7 ♣2		♠AK963 ♥T ♦QT52 ♣AQ7									
<table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td></td><td>4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td></td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> </table>		4		16		15		5		♠JT ♥3 ♦J86 ♣KT86543	N: S: E: 2♣7♦3♥7♠6NT W: 2♣7♦3♥7♠6NT
	4										
16		15									
	5										

Many people commented on Ros Dey's entertaining article, but nobody submitted the solution to making 12 tricks instead of 13!

Declarer won the H3 lead in dummy. With only a singleton H in hand, there appeared to be no danger, so the HK was played and a D loser discarded from hand.

Disaster! South had led a singleton and now ruffed. Down 1 and hence the comment "I guess I deserved that!"

Of course, if declarer draws trumps and ruffs 2 clubs the D loser can still be discarded later.

Morale of the story: always treat declarer's lead with respect!!

BRIDGE EDUCATION

I will be conducting the first part of the Improver's course next month. This suits Beginners who have had some play practice, players who wish to repeat the course and people want to refresh their knowledge.

Wednesday Evenings - 6.15pm for 6.30 start.

Oct 11 NT bids and declarer play; Transfers

Oct 18 Stayman; Finesses

Oct 25 Interposing - Overcalls and Doubles

On November 8 & 15 there will be supervised play on these topics.

Please contact me if you wish to attend all or some of the sessions and for more detail: 0423 388 529, wmi20245@bigpond.com

Wendy M

CCLCBC NAME BADGES

Hurry, hurry, hurry so we can put in an order!!

Place your name on the list on the pillar at the club if:

1. You have never had a name badge, and it will be free
2. If you need a replacement - cost to you will be \$14.

CCLCBC

MELBOURNE CUP

HISTORY

The Melbourne Cup competition was first played in 1995 and was won by Dorothy & Peter Berzins. They were presented with two decorated potter horseshoes which still exist. Although the competition was played on other occasions no record was kept of the winners,

However, through examining existing newsletters we have been able to collate the years shown in the table.

For the first 9 or so years the number of players was such that two or more sections were played with both North/South and East/West winners. If anyone has further information about years 1996 to 2008 please contact our Historian, Dorothy Berzins.

Year	Section A	Section B
2009	NS: Di Nichols & Sue Davis EW: Louis Koolen & Barbara Grant	NS: Colin Mitchell & Trish Bowles EW: Lorraine & Jack Lindsay
2010	NS: Bev Moran & Marie Purkiss EW: Kerry Murray & Rhonda Innes	NS: Adele Mills & Dorothy Berzins EW: Doreen & Tony Collis
	North/South	East/West
2011	Daphne Montague & Yvonne Vansteenwyck	Susan McCall & Pamela Joseph
2012	Heather Carlisle & Margot McGuinness	John & Joan Lehane
2013	Trish Bowles & Marie Purkiss	Helen McLean & Phillip Morris
	Section A	Section B
2014	NS: David Bowerman & Dasha Brandt EW: Gwen White & Bob Morris	NS: Adele Mills Nancy Joss Lyn Lynch & Lyn Baber
	North/South	East/West
2015	Wendy & Colin Mitchell	David Bowerman & Dasha Brandt
2016	Dorothy Berzins & Anne Grayden	Kerry Murray & Rhonda Innes
2017	Wendy & Colin Mitchell	Elizabeth Lawrence & Alfie Nation
2018	Marie Purkiss & Di Nichols	Stewart Duxbury & Nola Daly
2019	= Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler = Dorothy Berzins & Adele Mills	Elizabeth Lawrence & Henrietta Hohnen
2020	Not played – Club closed due to Covid-19	
2021	Barry & Sylvia Foster	One winner, played on RealBridge
2022	Lyn Lynch & Peter Hall	

SCENES FROM THE GNOT . . .



Held in the 'Room with a View'

Winners: Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler,
EW in Match 4 and below far right,
Martin Johnson & Chris Hasemore



... AND
FROM OUR CONGRESS
(a room with no view)



Celebrating regardless

Pairs Division 1: Prizes - \$300, \$200, \$100, \$100



1st: I & V Lise



2nd: G & S Mayo



3rd: M Johnson, C Hasemore with Director Louis Koolen



Best placed locals:
D Coats, J Clarke

Pairs Division 2: Prizes - \$150, \$100 Restricted & Novice



1st Novice:
E Hartzell, G Robertson



1st Restricted:
J Novak, R Carter



2nd Restricted:
Marg Regan with S
Carter, abs: J Gudaitis



2nd Novice:
JulieAnne Perceval &
Kevin Hughes →

Not pictured:
2nd Restricted Teams:
S Queree, S Boyd,
J Novak, R Carter

*Apologies for some
blurred photographs*

Open Teams: Prizes - \$600, \$400, \$200, \$200



1st: G & S Mayo, M Simes, P McGrath



2nd: W Mitchell, D Berzins, A Mills, H Hohnen



3rd: C Williams, J Clarke, S Clarke D Coats



Best unplaced local: B Foster, H Tomlinson, M Johnson, C Hasemore

Restricted & Novice Teams:

Prizes - \$300, \$200



1st Restricted: J Simmonds, S Cathcart, N Gillies, S Carter



2nd Novice: (back row) K Hughes, E Hartzell, P Mackey, G Robertson

1st Novice: D Havyatt, (back row) and J, M & P Havyatt (front row)

Inter Club Teams at the Community Bridge Club. Eighteen teams representing all four central coast registered clubs joined in the fun at the Community Bridge Club on September 7 for their first Interclub Teams day, ably directed by Peter Hume. It was wonderful to see folks from all the clubs playing together. Thank you to the Community Bridge Club for hosting this event! The Clarke team (Jan Clarke, Di Coats, Chris Williams, Sally Clarke) from CCLCBC took home top honours with the Oitmaa team (Jan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster, Karen Ody, Jim Routledge) from BWBC coming in second, and the Mitchell team (Wendy Mitchell, Eunice de Vries, Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman) from CCLCBC claiming third. Congratulations to all who played and made this a great event!

THE DUKE OF CUMBERLAND HAND

From George Connell

One of the most famous card hands was dealt to the Duke of Cumberland in Bath during the 19th century. The Duke, the son of George III, reportedly lost 20,000 Pounds on one Whist hand that was almost certainly rigged. Interestingly, Edmond Hoyle (“accordingly to Hoyle”) had detailed a similar Whist hand almost a century earlier in one of his pamphlets. Then, almost one hundred years after Cumberland’s disaster, the author Ian Fleming, restructured the hand into a Bridge game in his book *Moonraker*, featuring, of course, James Bond.

M, the head of MI6, was certain that Sir Hugo Drax was cheating while playing Bridge at their club in London. M takes Bond with him to the club and they work their way into a foursome with Drax. Bond quickly surmises that Drax is picking up the reflection of cards in his highly polished cigarette case.

When it becomes his deal, Bond switches the cards with a rigged deck. Drax, to the right of Bond, picks up his cards and holds

♠ AKQJ, ♥AKQJ, ♦ AK, ♣ KJ9

31 points! Unbelievable!

However, to his amazement, Bond (as opener) immediately bids 7 Clubs. Pass. Pass. Drax, with a suitably villainous sneer, doubles. Bond redou-

bles! Drax scornfully suggests a modest side wager. Bond, playing a semi-intoxicated ingénue, seeks a more daring figure and eventually a substantial side wager is agreed upon.

Here are the hands.	<u>N (M)</u>	
	♠10987	
	♥ 6543	
<u>W (Meyer)</u>	♦ - - -	<u>E (Drax)</u>
♠ 65432	♣ 76532	♠ AKQJ
♥ 109872		♥ AKQJ
♦ J109		♦ AK
♣ - - -	<u>S (Bond)</u>	♣ KJ9
	♠ - - -	
	♥ - - -	
	♦ Q8765432	So, perhaps you can work
	♣ AQ1084	out how Bond gets his 13
		tricks?

Try it now! *(See Page 16 for the solution)*

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Welcome back Jenny Rowe (0405 357 172) and Nola Daly (0408 683 410) and new from Ballina Maureen Baker (0402 547 631).

CAN THE SLAM BE BID?

On our Wednesday session of August 30th Board 21 was an interesting hand. All eight pairs East/West ended up in the same contract of 4 Hearts making 12 or 13, no doubt all feeling disappointed that they had not bid slam. This hand demonstrates the value of distribution.

East's hand:

♠ A97
 ♥ AK109432
 ♦ - - -
 ♣ AK6

Despite only having 18 HCP's this hand is worth so much more having 9 playing tricks or only 4 losers and it is likely that most players started off with a strong opening bid promising game.

At our table playing Precision the bidding went:

N	E	S	W
P	1C (16+)	1D	1NT (8-10 flat)
2D	2H	P	4H
P	P	P	

West could have made a different bid which may have changed things by bidding 2C instead of 1NT which would show 5 Clubs and 8+ points. Playing standard, I imagine that East would open 2C (game force) and would have an overcall by South of 2D. West would probably pass over 2D and wait to see what East bids. After 2H from East, West would raise to 4 Hearts.

This was the hand.

Despite East's desire to take this hand further it is difficult to bid on apart from taking a leap of faith. There seems no point in asking for Controls as West does not have any Aces or Kings and even if East cue bids diamonds West has nothing to say except 5 Hearts.

If West had shown the 5-card club suit East would know there was a good side suit and might be tempted, but this is not a sure thing unless West is known to have the Q of Clubs.

Recently several of our players have introduced a new response after a 2C game force bid.

2C : 2D = 0-4 or 9+ HCP

All higher bids show 5-8 HCP

2C : 2H = 5 Spades

2C : 2S shows a balanced or semi balanced, not suitable for higher bid

2C : 2NT = 6+ HCP unbalanced with Clubs

2C : 3C = 6+ HCP unbalanced with Diamonds

2C : 3D = 6+ unbalanced with hearts

When responder bids 2D opener assumes the worst that they have 0-4 HCP so responder must bid beyond game with 9+ HCP.

I am not sure if they would have got there either as even with no interference by South all they could do was bid 2NT showing 5-8 points and an unbalanced hand with clubs.

Does anyone else have a bright idea?

Dorothy Berzins

Courage or lunacy?

A brilliant lead!by David Beauchamp (Submitted by L Koolen)

This hand was against Peter Rogers (North) and Steven Burgess (South) in the 1996 Australian Playoffs. I was sitting East, playing with Ted Chadwick

Board 4 All Vul DW Dealer	♠ AK972 ♥ AQJ72 ♦ 6 ♣ Q8	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>North</td> <td>East</td> <td>South</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3♦</td> <td>4♦</td> <td>5♦</td> <td>5♠</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td>P</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	West	North	East	South	3♦	4♦	5♦	5♠	P	P	P	
West	North	East	South											
3♦	4♦	5♦	5♠											
P	P	P												
♠ 863 ♥ ♦ AKQ1098 ♣ 9764	<table border="0"> <tr> <td></td> <td>N</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>W</td> <td></td> <td>E</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>S</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ J ♥ 9853 ♦ J75 ♣ AJ53			
	N													
W		E												
	S													
	♠ Q1054 ♥ K106 ♦ 432 ♣ K102	Burgess figured that all his honours were working, so soldiered on to 5♠. What do you lead? Most people would put the A♦ on the table and the contract would make.												

Answer next month!!!

