

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



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2019

**B RIGHT AND
BEAUTIFUL!**

Our Melbourne Cup Day function was held wholly in the Park-view Room this year. As usual, Ruth and team did an amazing job with the decorations and members dressed in their colourful finery to add to the atmosphere.

After a few last-minute fluctuations, the table numbers settled at a full 16. Director Matt kept things moving while we played a Mitchell movement of 13x 2 board rounds, finishing in time for a 1.30 lunch.

The buffet was excellent with choices of salmon, prawns, chicken, meats and salads & vegetables, followed by fruits.

Mackey poetry, the traditional Ransleys' quiz questions, Ruth's games and lucky number prizes all served to keep us entertained before the big

race which we could all see on the big screen. We welcomed a number of visitors; hopefully they enjoyed themselves enough to join us again!

A big thank you to

- all those who provided the morning tea delights
- the Sweeps team of Gwen, Bob, Pam and Elaine.
- June T for her very generous donation for prizes and decorations
- Pam Harris & her husband for their big effort in supplying the beautiful stre-litzias
- all those members who helped in preparations and packing up - too many to mention, but your input is much appreciated.

Please see Page 3 for full results and Pages 7 & 8 for photographs.

VALE

Members were saddened at the sudden deaths of Molly O'Neill and Pauline Evans. Our sincere condolences to their families.

RECENT RESULTS

HENRY KENDALL PAIRS (R) 6 tables Tue Oct 1

1st	Stuart Duxbury & Paul Unger	69.63%
2nd	Gwen White & Dorothy Berzins	61.11%
3rd	Marie Purkiss & Di Nicholls	58.52%

Note: Authorisation was not received in time for the Masterpoints to be uploaded in October, so these will be credited in November.

CLUB SWISS PAIRS 18 pairs Fri 11 & 18

9xboard rounds		Wins	Draws	Losses	VPs
1st	Sylvia & Barry Foster	4	1	1	83.32
2nd	Adele Mills & Chris Williams	3	2	1	76.00
3rd	Dorothy Berzins & Margo Brennan	4	1	1	75.22

SWITCHING SINGLES (9) (E) 6.5 tables Mon Eve Oct 21

1st	Wendy Mitchell & Carl Sparre	62.50%
2nd	Richard Carter & Chris Hasemore	61.98%
3rd	Wendy Everitt & Ellen Williams	53.65%

With one session remaining, Wendy is in the lead with 102 points. Her closest rival, Carl, will not be playing in November. Colin Mitchell and Eunice de Vries are equal third on 92 points. At least 5 players will receive outright awards after the next session.

GRADED PAIRS 4.5 tables Mon 21 & 28

A very small number of pairs – 4xA grade and 5xB grade contested this championship in one field.

1st	Adele Mills & Dorothy Berzins	A	61.95%
2nd	Gina Robertson & Paul Unger	B	61.21%
3rd	Agnes Marsh & Jim Havyatt	B	52.53%

STATE OPEN PAIRS (Q 1&2) 8 tables Wed 23 & 30

1st	Julie Sadler & Dorothy Berzins	121.97%
2nd	Matt Raj Mal & Roy Cotton	115.03%
3rd	Bob Morris & Gwen White	114.09%

The club will pay for the top three ‘contending’ pairs to proceed to the Final (which incorporates the Country Pairs) to be held at the NSWBA on

Nov 23 & 24. However, any pair that played in the qualifying can enter the final – please contact Julie Sadler if you want to do this.

Note: Red masterpoints earned in the qualifying sessions are submitted by NSWBA **after** the Final has been conducted.

GOSFORD PAIRS	6.5 tables	Sat Nov 2
1st	Peter & Dorothy Berzins	63.75%
2nd	Julie Sadler & Henrietta Hohnen	61.67%
3rd	Marie Purkiss & Toni Dixon	60.00%

MONTHLY SHIELD

Congratulations to Peter & Dorothy Berzins who played in all 10 sessions and won with a score of 97. This is Dorothy's 6th win, five of them with Peter. Second were Agnes Marsh & Jim Havyatt on 78, closely followed by Bob Morris & Gwen White on 76. *Full report next month.*

MELBOURNE CUP DAY **16 tables** **Tue Nov 5**

NS field

1st =	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler	58.01%
1st =	Adele Mills & Dorothy Berzins	58.01%
3rd	Judy Wulff & Marilyn Whigham	56.41%

EW field

1st	Henrietta Hohnen & Elizabeth Lawrence	62.82%
2nd	Alison Heathcote & David Bowerman	62.66%
3rd	Len Pascoe & Lyn Lynch	59.78%

Some very close results and lot of ties in both fields!!

CONGRESSES & FINALS **Best Local Players**

MUSWELLBROOK CONGRESS **Oct 12 & 13**

Pairs

In the qualifying session Sylvia & Barry were 1st NS and Hope Tomlinson & Martin Johnson 4th EW so they contested the Open Final of 10 pairs. The winners were BWBC players Noel & Shirley Crockett. There were another 12 pairs in the Plate and 14 in the Consolation.

<i>Teams</i>	6 x 9 board rounds	20 teams
5th	Barry & Sylvia Foster, Hope Tomlinson & Martin Johnson	

TOMAREE CONGRESS**Oct 26 & 27**

A large contingent of players from the Central Coast contributed to the 52 pairs in 6 categories.

<i>Swiss Pairs</i> 7 matches	Overall Position	Category & Position	Number of Pairs
Sylvia & Barry Foster	10	A – 7	18
Alan Bustany & Pauline Caust	12	B – 1	5
Jann Small & Suzanne Harrison	18	D – 1	8
Elizabeth Lawrence & Alfie Nation	22	A – 12	18
Hope Tomlinson & Martin Johnson	23	A – 13	18
Toni Dixon & Di Nicholls	24	A – 14	18

Teams 7 x 8 board rounds 34 teams
 5th Barry & Sylvia Foster, Hope Tomlinson & Martin Johnson
 7th Elizabeth Lawrence & Alfie Nation, Di Nicholls & Toni Dixon
 12th Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen, Julie Sadler & Henrietta Hohnen

MUDGEE CONGRESS**Nov 2 & 3***Open Pairs*

Final Lorraine Lindsay & Barry Foster 9th out of 10

Plate Jaan Oitmaa & Sylvia Foster 1st out of 16, Louis Koolen & Barbara Grant 5th.

There were also Intermediate and Restricted categories with finals of 10 pairs and Plates of 16 and 14 respectively.

Teams 38 Teams
 3rd Sylvia Foster & Jaan Oitmaa, Lorraine Lindsay & Barry Foster
 8th Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen, with a Mudgee pair

The Bridge Cruise Pickup*Alison Mackey*



















I was sitting having breakfast on my first day out to sea,
 When an Aussie chap sat down without an ask.
 He was pretty daggy looking and he smiled and winked at me,
 This was not my dream – to pamper was my task.
 He said “G’day and you look nice” and “What are your plans today?”
 “Oh the spa, the pool, or a cocktail or two”
 “You should learn to play Bridge – I’ll show how to play”
 But I don’t want to do this – how boring – on a Holiday!!!

Then off he started – his eyes aglow and he jumped up from his chair,
 To begin you sit North, South, East, and West,
 You sit opposite your partner and excitement fills the air,
 Now look at your hand and bid the suit that's best.
 There's Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts and Spades – you need 25 points for game,
 There's special bids with lots of points and some for a balanced hand,
 There's tricks, cues and imps but tactics are your aim,
 Defence is also vital, so play must be carefully planned.

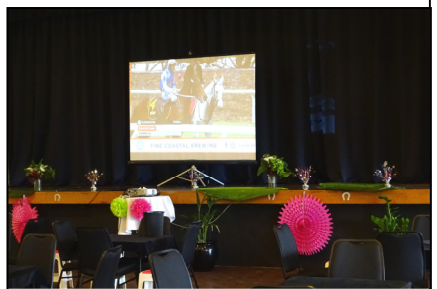
My legs had turned to jelly, my heart was pounding madly,
 I didn't want to spoil this nice man's fun.
 "Now you know about the bidding and play and that you can't play badly,
 --- If you want to play with me this very morn,
 "Don't worry about conventions like Blackwood, Gerber and Doubles,
 And 'No Trumps' means you have a real good hand,
 So I'll leave you these notes and you won't have no troubles,
 And I'll meet you in the card room like we planned".

I looked at his notes – they didn't make sense – twas all double dutch to me,
 2 over 1 and to psyche is to Lie --,
 I thought 'No Trump' was a yankee's wish and a dummy – not smart you see,
 There are voids and revokes and majors and minors,
 The deal, the bid, the play; you score and then,
 Post Mortem play the hand again,
 I'll just hide away for the rest of the cruise and he won't see me again.
 I have no card sense and no brains,
 To play this well – loved – and seemingly wonderful Game.

BOARD 16, MELBOURNE CUP DAY, NOVEMBER 5

Board 16 Dir: W Vul: E-W	 K83  AT952  AT4  A4	North (MFP) opened 1NT (15-17 HCP, balanced hand). ¹ East passed and I considered my options.
 JT972  763  982  K5	 	 A64  8  J76  JT9872 a) 4NT, quantitative, asks partner to bid 6NT with a maximum hand. In this case North would have passed with the minimum hand. b) Use Stayman to ask about majors (expecting that if partner has one it will more likely be spades).
1 5 4 6 1 5	 Q5  KQJ4  KQ53  Q63	I did the latter and was pleasantly surprised with the reply of 2H, showing a 5xheart suit. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued on Page 9</i></p>

Melbourne Cup Memories 2019





Best Dressed: Pamela & Tony Ransley with de Lacy with Ruth Griffin judge Marion Ellis

The buffet before the onslaught

Alison helping Ruth with the game

Prizes with thanks to June T



Quiz answers from Rosanne R



UNAUTHORISED INFORMATION

He who hesitates is **not** lost ... but their partner *may* be restricted.

It is completely fine to take as long as you like (within reason) before making a call at Bridge. But if you hesitate, and especially if you Pass following a hesitation, you create unauthorised information and, by Law 16B(1a), your partner **"may not choose a call or play that is demonstrably suggested over another ... if the other call or play is a logical alternative"**.

Law 16B applies to *any* extraneous information including "*remarks, questions, replies to questions, unexpected alerts or failures to alert, unmistakable hesitation, unwanted speed, special emphasis, tone, gesture, movement or mannerism*".

A logical alternative is one that 25% or more of players might choose, defined in the Laws as "an action that a significant proportion of the class of players in question, using the methods of the partnership, would seriously consider, and some might select". It is usually a Pass but it might be another call.

So you can go right ahead and bid whatever you were going to bid even if your partner unmistakably hesitated, gave an incorrect explanation of your previous bid, or expressed surprise at how many points were in the pack — *provided* that extraneous unauthorised information doesn't suggest your bid over a logical alternative.

Since you don't want to even potentially restrict your partner's options, you should:

- 1) think about potential calls before the action reaches you;
- 2) try to maintain a constant tempo for all your calls;
- 3) avoid additional gestures or mannerisms; and
- 4) if you take extra time, try to make a bid rather than passing.

If you think your opposition has communicated some unauthorised information you may:

- 1) announce at your turn to call that you reserve the right to summon the Director later — your opponents should summon the Director immediately if there is any dispute; and
- 2) summon the Director when play ends if you believe an opponent may have taken advantage of the unauthorised information.

The Director may assign an adjusted score if they consider that:

- a) a logical alternative was available; and
- b) the call made was suggested by the unauthorised information.

The Director is your friend in all matters at the Bridge table. Whilst you may

hesitate over your bids, you should not hesitate to summon the Director at any time to resolve any question you may have. Your opponents calling the Director is a fine thing — it is not an attack on you or your integrity and you should not take personal offence! It is a far better thing that the Director maintains the integrity of the game than you getting into discussions with your opponents.

Alan Bustany

Chief Director

MELBOURNE CUP SLAM HAND

Continued from Page 5

Now 4NT asked for keycards. MFP's answer was 5D², showing 0 or 3. I know our combined point count has to be at least 30, so the opposition cannot have 3 Aces (12 points).

I bid 6H and partner brought in 12 tricks on the ♠A lead. While this looks helpful, there are 12 tricks on any lead, whether played by North or South. The losing club is discarded on the 13th diamond, as there is a friendly 3-3 split. On a club lead (say), declarer must win, draw trumps, play diamonds discarding the club and then lastly lead a spade.

Analysis shows that South can make 12 tricks in NT and D's, while North can only make 11. Not a high percentage slam. Around the room the number of pairs in each contract (and tricks made) were: **3** x 6H, N (12); **6** x 4H, N (12); **1** x 4H, N (11); **1** x 3NT, N (11); **1** x 6NT, N (10); **1** x 2H, S (10).

1. There are just three balanced hand shapes: 4333, 4432 and 5332. Everyone will open 1NT with the latter shape and a 5xminor, but many worry about having a 5xmajor. This is unnecessary as even Simple Stayman can be used. Our 5xmajor Stayman efficiently finds out about 4 or 5 card majors with the first response to 2C.

Some recommend opening 1NT if the 5xmajor is weak, so may have done so on this hand.

2. If the trump suit is hearts then the 1430 version of Roman Keycard Blackwood is better if the responder has 1 keycard. For this hand the reply would be 5D (0 or 3). However, since South holds the trump Q as well as the K, there is no need to enquire further before bidding 6H.

Eddie Kantar recommends that 0314 is best (even when hearts are agreed) if Opener has shown better than a Mini hand and Responder is asking, which is what happened for us.

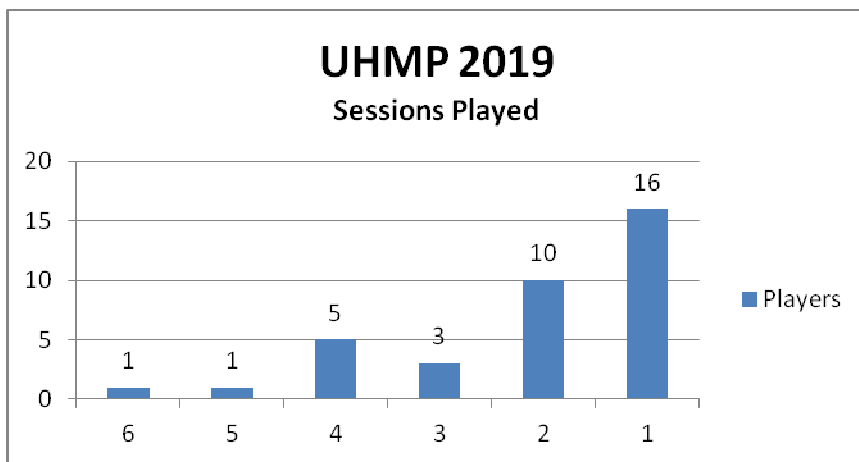
Wendy M

UHMP RESULTS

Participation was quite good, although slightly less than last year. 36 different players competed with 24 of these earning some red master-points. A total of 4.12 was issued and paid for by NSWBA.

UHMP	Date	Total Pairs	Eligible Pairs	Red MPs issued	
				Pairs	Total Points
1	Sep 10	15	8	4	1.18
2	Sep 14	9	4	2	0.40
3	Sep 23	16	7	4	0.70
4	Sep 26	10	6	3	0.44
5	Oct 8	12	7	3	0.64
6	Oct 10	12	6	3	0.76

The graph illustrates the participation – ranging from one person playing in all 6 sessions to 16 people playing in just one session.



NEW ABF RANKINGS – OCTOBER

Congratulations to:

***Local* Beryl Lowry *Local* John Aldersley

BRIDGE EDUCATION

Wendy Mitchell

• IMPROVERS

The first half of the Improvers Course will commence next Friday, *November 8, at 9.30am*. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please advise them to contact me:

0423 388 529 or wmi20245@bigpond.com

- Nov 8 The *Stayman* Convention; Unblock; Defensive Leads
Nov 15 No Trump bidding & responses; Card Play (hold up, duck)
Nov 22 Suit raises & rebids; Slams & the *Blackwood* Convention
Nov 29 Lesson 4: Review and Practice play on the above

If you are interested in specific lessons you are also welcome to attend – just let me know.

• SATURDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS – Intermediate Players

The following are being offered (pending approval by the Committee):

- Nov 16: 2-suited Overcalls (Michael's Cues and Unusual 2NT)
Nov 23: Competing over 1NT opening (DONT and others)
Jan 11: Cues and Clues for Slams (Controls and RKCB)
Jan 18: No Panic No Trump Play (Holding Up, Ducking, Danger Hand)

It is 3 years since most of these workshops have been run, but if you have done any before, you pay half price. Entries on the noticeboard please – not essential, but I need to know numbers to plan materials.

Cost: \$10 per session **Time:** 9.30am

SOCIAL SUNDAY

Sunday October 13

Nineteen people, with many different from the 22 in September, enjoyed the company, Bill's ukulele and the food! They also seemed to enjoy the bridge with a theme of weak 2's. The next theme will be "Open or Not?" illustrating the Rules of 20 and 15.

Please join us this month on *Sunday November 17* at the earlier time of *1.30pm*. No partner is required – just come along with your contribution to the food and in particular to the friendly atmosphere.

This will be our last get-together for this year, so expect some earlier-than-usual Christmas decorations. Food and clothing in a Christmas theme

(if you feel inclined) would add to Bill Alexander's Christmas music and there may be some bubbly refreshments!

For planning purposes please advise **Pamela de Lacy (0415 288 873)** if you are attending.

COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Remembrance Day Prs	R	Monday	11
<i>Social Sunday</i>	<i>1.30pm</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>17</i>
Switching Singles (10)	E	Monday Eve	18
Club Teams 1, 2, 3	C/P	Wednesdays	13, 20, 27

DECEMBER

Christmas Pairs	R	Monday	2
Dashing December	E (best 2 of 4)	Friday 6, 13, 20, 27	

Christmas Week – Cake and refreshments at each session

NO BRIDGE **Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for November:

Mei-Hua Crawford, Eunice de Vries, Julie Germein, Kath Harper, David Howells, Gina Lazzarini, Ronnie Ng, Judy Wulff.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new member Helen Matthews (0403 809 327) and add her number to your Program book.

!! URGENT !!

We need a volunteer to purchase the biscuits etc each week.

Can you help?

Please contact Ruth Griffin for details on 0407 854 060

Colin Mitchell, Editor