

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



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2020

B RIDGE IS
B ACK BUT
O NLINE

Dear Members,
The ABF has arranged with Bridge Base Online to host Club games, which offer masterpoints. 70% of the gross takings will go to the ABF, who will distribute this to the clubs. As it came to us via the NSWBA, Alan Bustany and Ronnie Ng have been tasked by the four clubs to set this up for the Central Coast.

We have had some meetings (via Zoom) and a number of trial sessions. Entries will be restricted to all members of the affiliated Central Coast Bridge Clubs. We will allow for seven minutes per board.

We have decided to run three sessions a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, starting at **13:20**. If the table numbers warrant it, we will introduce Novice and Restricted sessions.

The cost will be \$BB3, that is US\$. You can register on <https://www.bridgebase.com> and the best explanation how to pay can be found on <https://www.centralcoast.bridge-club.org/node/396>

It certainly was a pleasure to play against our club members although I cannot understand why some people are not using their names.

As there is no physical movement of players and boards, and bidding and playing is constrained to the permissible, the game moves a lot faster. The first time we played Colin and Wendy Mitchell, we had four minutes to spare.

You can still use the other sites, but I for one cannot load the Stepbridge app on a Samsung Galaxy Tab A.

Cheers,

Louis Koolen
President

EASTER RAFFLE

The winner of the Easter Hamper was drawn on the morning of Thursday 9th April. Ruth provided a video of herself drawing the winning ticket - won by a granddaughter of hers to her embarrassment. However, she was able to arrange delivery in time for Easter without being picked up for driving too far from home.



Obviously some happy recipients!

CHARITY DAY

As mentioned last month, the Easter Raffle proceeds will be earmarked for Charity funds, although *Charity Day* is cancelled for this year.

If anyone has been collecting items, please contact Ruth as we may be able to sell some things later in the year, for 2021.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – MAY

Margaret Campbell, Garry Clarke, Doreen Collis, Chris Hasemore, Frank Pellarini, Marie Purkiss, Jim Swindells, Paul Unger, Pamela Wackwitz.

ABF and CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Nationally 31% of clubs increased in membership but 59.3% decreased, with totals from 34 144 in 2019 to 32 572 for 2020. Local Home Club numbers:

Year	CCLC	CCoast	BWater	Commy BB
2019	113	228	171	62
2020	104	216	156	51

Peter Hall and others asked for Pam Ayres' contribution to the Covid-19 situation to be published:

Time for us girls

*I'm normally a social girl
I love to meet my mates
But lately with the virus here
We can't go out the gates.*

*You see, we are the 'oldies' now
We need to stay inside
If they haven't seen us for a while
They'll think we've upped and died.*

*They'll never know the things we did
Before we got this old
There wasn't any Facebook
So not everything was told.*

*We may seem sweet old ladies
Who would never be uncouth
But we grew up in the 60s –
If you only knew the truth!*

*There was sex and drugs and
rock 'n roll
The pill and miniskirts
We smoked, we drank, we partied
And were quite outrageous flirts.*

*Then we settled down, got married
And turned into someone's mum,
Somebody's wife, then nana,
Who on earth did we become?*

*We didn't mind the change of pace
Because our lives were full
But to bury us before we're dead
Is like a red rag to a bull!*

*So here you find me stuck inside
For 4 weeks, maybe more
I finally found myself again
Then I had to close the door!*

*It didn't really bother me
I'd while away the hour
I'd bake for all the family
But I've got no flaming flour!*

*Now Netflix is just wonderful
I like a gutsy thriller
I'm swooning over Idris
Or some random sexy killer.*

*At least I've got a stash of booze
For when I'm being idle
There's wine and whiskey, even gin
If I'm feeling suicidal!*

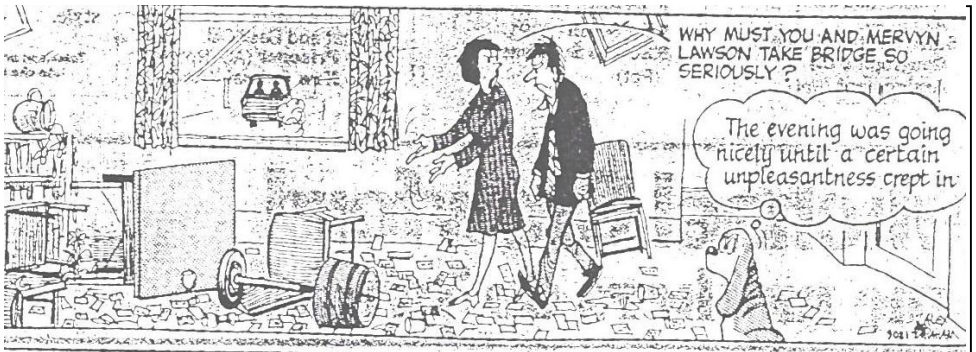
*So let's all drink to lockdown
To recovery and health
And hope this awful virus
Doesn't decimate our wealth.*

*We'll all get through the crisis
And be back to join our mates
Just hoping I'm not far too wide
To fit through the flaming gates!*

Pam Ayres

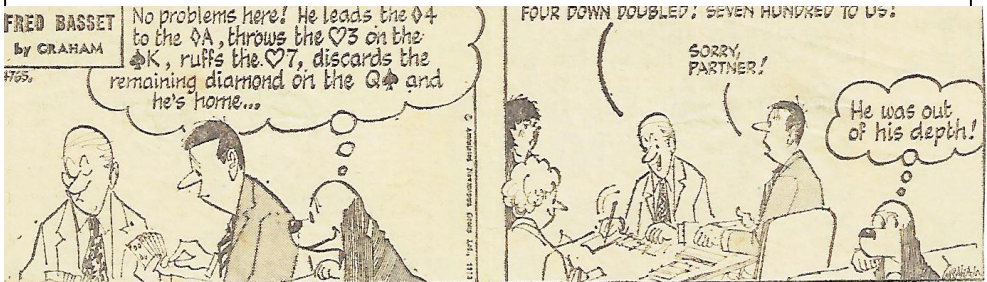
Card sense is when it's technically right to do something, the little man that sits on my shoulder or anyone else's shoulder says, "Don't do that." And you say to yourself, "Well, wait a minute, that's the right way to play." And he says, "Yeah, but you don't wanna play that way." That instinct is card sense. It's almost an ability to feel where the cards are. It's something that you can't buy, you can't find; you're born with it. The ability to do the right thing at the wrong time or really to do the wrong thing at the right time....

Barry Crane



BRIDGE HUMOUR

Tidying up in all this spare time, I found these cartoons in my files. (sorry for the quality of reproduction). Now that small gatherings are permitted, you may be playing at home - hope the above won't be you!



- Bridge is a great comfort in your old age. It also helps you get there faster.

And now for a few gems from Alfred Sheinwold (American bridge player, administrator, writer and co-developer of the Kaplan-Sheinwold bidding system):

- A player who can't defend accurately should try to be declarer
- It's not enough to win the tricks that belong to you. Try also for some that belong to the opponents.
- One advantage of bad bidding is that you get practice at playing atrocious contracts.
- The real test of a bridgeplayer isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in trouble.
- Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Colin Mitchell, Editor