

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



**NEWSLETTER**

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**A** **NNUAL**  
**GENERAL**  
**MEETING**

**On-Line AGM**

*Monday, September 20*

As you have already been advised, this will operate in the same successful way as last year.

Alan Bustany will email the link for voting to all members on Monday September 13. Voting will close at midday, September 20.

**!!! PLEASE PARTICIPATE !!!**

If you experience technical problems contact Alan (0411 264 305). Apologies need to be advised to Secretary Anne Grayden (0408 434 148).

Instructions have been posted to members without email addresses.

**R** **EAL**  
**B** **BRIDGE**

As advised by email, it is hoped to establish a regular session on this platform beginning at 12.30pm on Tuesday, September 21.

The first practice session on 7/9 saw 8 pairs participate, most players for the first time. All coped well.

Contact Ronnie Ng: 0405 507 753  
Or [rng.bridge@gmail.com](mailto:rng.bridge@gmail.com)  
if you would like to join the practice on Friday 10th or Tuesday 14th.

RealBridge is the Friday link.

**VALE**

**Anne Steel**

24/2/1947 - 31/8/2021

See Pages 5-6

## RECENT RESULTS

Again no club events could be conducted in August because of lockdown, but members have been playing competitive bridge in a variety of events on different platforms as evidenced by the ABF Rank promotions, Most Improved and Masterpoint reports for Congresses etc.

To mention a few:

Sydney-based MasterBridge has been running events on Bridge-BaseOnline, but is soon moving many of these to RealBridge. Congratulations to Sally & Garry Clarke for 3rd out of 62 in their Swiss Pairs on August 1.

The Coffs Super Congress was conducted on RealBridge with 92 pairs on August 13 & 14. The Swiss Teams on August 15 & 16 attracted 52 teams. Well done to Alan Bustany, Chris Williams, Jan Clarke and Di Coats who came 14th.

90 pairs played in the Grafton Congress, jointly directed by Alan Bustany on Stepbridge. Congratulations to locals Christine Hadaway and Sue Morris for 18th position.

## FIND AN EVENT THAT SUITS YOU

Look at the NSWBA Calendar on the website ([nswba.com.au](http://nswba.com.au)) by clicking on [Calendar](#) on the right-hand side of the Home page.

### Calendar

- ▶ [Calendar](#)
- ▶ [Bridge Holidays](#)
- ▶ [Printable Calendars](#)
- ▶ [2022 Draft Calendar](#)

[Month View](#) | [Printable Calendar](#)

All Events | NSWBA | Congresses ▾ | Holidays | State | ABF | World | Oth

All  
F2F  
BBO  
RealBridge  
StepBridge

Feb | Mar | Apr | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec

2021

Now use the filter to find events on the various platforms.

## NSWBA STATE INDIVIDUAL - Saturday September 4

Except for 'party bridge' I have never played in an individual event, so I decided to try the experience, along with another 99 people, 7 of whom were Central Coast players. Conducted on BBO, the real names of one's partner and opposition were not always available - a good thing when playing badly!

I felt very rusty as this was my first bridge game since the current lockdown and the first on BBO since face-to-face resumed this year. Being a bit disoriented as my seating changed from North to East, Board 4 was my first disaster. After 2 passes, I opened 1D and South overcalled 1H. This was followed by P - 2D - P - 2H. The 2D bid by North was apparently a cue raise of hearts, but I thought my partner had raised my ♦s! So I did not recognise the lead of ♦10 as being a singleton and missed the ruffs. Making 11 instead of 8 for a very poor 8.3%.

Next round my partner was Martin Johnson. Board 5 was good as the opposition played in 2D making 11. This was 68.8% for us as they missed 6D, 6NT or 4H. However Board 6 was another 8.3% as I discarded my winning ♦s and mistakenly kept ♣s. Sincere apologies again Martin.

7	♠ AT42	Dir: S
	♥ Q987643	Vul: All
	♦ 2	
	♣ 8	
♠ Q9	♠ 87	6
♥ AT2	♥ KJ5	8 13
♦ 87654	♦ KQT3	13
♣ QT4	♣ A952	
	♠ KJ653	♠ ♦ ♥ ♠ NT
	♥	N 2 - 2 6 1
	♦ AJ9	S 2 - 2 6 1
	♣ KJ763	E - 1 - - -
		W - 1 - - -

Next came Board 7. At my table it went 1S - P - 4S, all Pass. Not unreasonable bidding; 19 other pairs were in 4S. There was one in 2S, one in 3S, one in 3D (W) and only 2 in 6S with 1 making (1S - 4C\* - 6S).

Not only was it hard to bid 6S, it was hard to find the line of play to make 12 tricks. The common number was 10 or 11 with only 2 declarers making 12. At our table declarer won the ♦7 lead, gave up a ♣ and cross-ruffed ♣s, ♥s and ♦s. We made 1x♣ and 3x♠ tricks for down 1 and 95.8% to us.

After ♦A, ♦ ruff, ♣8 towards the ♣K, losing to ♣A, can you find how to make the contract now if a ♠ is returned? The player who bid and made 6S received the ♥A lead and after losing to ♣A a ♦ was returned.

There were two 13x2 board rounds with a 30 min lunch break. With random partners I was lucky to do much better in the second half - the best local results overall were Alan Bustany (23rd), Yours Truly (28th) and Richard Carter (49th).

*Wendy Mitchell*

## SMILE A WHILE

Kerryl McGrath provided this bridge rhyme (as published by Port Douglas Bridge Club) to share. Even if you are not playing at present it may resonate with you!

### *TO BRIDGE*

I'm giving up bridge— tonight's my last night  
It's Amen to Stayman, I give up the fight  
The insults and muddles are giving me troubles  
I can't sleep a night for remembering the doubles  
What to bid, what to lead, and which cards have been played  
Did my partner's discard mean she wanted a spade?

So for now it's all over – I'm off to the backwood  
I'm bidding good riddance to Gerber and Blackwood  
I can't stand the hassle, I can't stand the pain  
I'm getting those bad cards again and again  
I'm giving up bridge – tonight's a bad night  
Declarer is horrid and nothings gone right

My partner's quite hopeless but tends to blame me  
When we go down on four and we should be in three  
And I sit there in dread when I hear her say double  
She does it a lot and it always means trouble

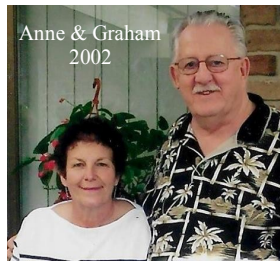
My points are not high, and I'm wondering why  
She keeps bidding on and on right up to the sky  
We're in seven hearts and my nerves are all frayed  
When wonder of wonders— the contract is made  
We've got all the tricks— the defenders look grey  
BUT I'm giving up bridge— tonight's definitely my last

Farewell to conventions— I give up the fight  
So I end with some words I know to be true  
Bridge is a game not for me but for you  
So be kind to your partners and don't mind the cheek  
For its only a game so \_\_\_\_  
See you next week!

*Anonymous Canada*

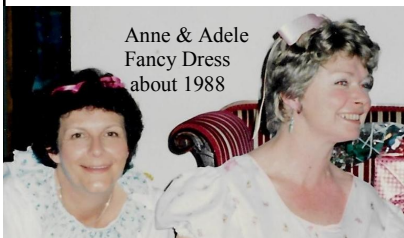
## Vale Anne Steel: 24/2/1947 - 31/8/2021

One of the nicest people I know was buried on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Anne Nash (later to become Anne Luckham and then Anne Steel) was a caring and thoughtful lady who was funny and great fun, generous of heart and always saw the best in others. Born in the UK Anne was the eldest of 4 children. The family moved to Australia and after a few years in Sydney settled in Umina.



At the age of 15 Anne met Adele Mills on Woy Woy railway and they became friends from then on. They were both attending schools in Sydney as they were in their Leaving Certificate year and did not want to change schools. Together they survived many life adventures including attending concerts, boyfriends, marriages and children. Anne was also a very clever person and came first in the State during her final year at School although Adele cannot remember the subject involved. In 1967 Anne became the proud mother of triplets, Marie, Nicole and Jamie. This was at a time when there was little support for parents of multiple births so it was not an easy time for a young mother. As Marie explained if there was any shortage during their life it was always Anne who would go without before her children would miss out. She was a wonderful, loving mother.

Anne loved card games and it did not take much for Adele to convince her to take up bridge. In 1983 Anne took lessons with Zelda and over the years played with various partners including Adele Mills, Bob Harvey, Dorothy Berzins, Irma Heyting, Gary Heyting and Graham Steel. Anne won her first trophy events at the CCBC in 1986, the Presidents Cup with Bob Harvey, the Individual Championship and the Most Improved Player Award. Anne and Dorothy won the Walk-In pairs at the 1988 Expo in Brisbane. They also played in the Blue Ribbon Finals in Canberra in the 1980's and came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Pairs at Maitland Congress in 1986.



A member of the Central Coast Bridge Club since 1983 Anne supported the purchase of the Long Jetty Hall in 1987 and helped to raise funds as well as assisting with the refurbishing of the premises. She was on the Committee in 1986 and 1987. Anne also loved taking part in Trivia events and had an exceptional memory for songs and for artists of music and of the silver screen. From memory Anne and Graham organised several trivia sessions as part of fund raising for the CCBC hall. They continued to take part in Trivia nights with various friends over the years such as Ken and Pam Townsend, Louis Koolen and Barbara Grant.

Anne also attended the inaugural meeting of the Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge Club on 11 August 1987 and was a member until 2004. She was on the CCLCBC committee in 1991/2 (replacing Phil Roche) and 1992/3.

In 1989 Anne won the CCLCBC Mixed Pairs with Graham Steel (whom she married in 1993) and in 2001 playing with Irma Heyting (and teammates Dorothy and Peter Berzins) won the CCLCBC Club Teams Championship. Anne and Graham and Dorothy and Peter Berzins won the Teams Event of the Brisbane Water Congress in about 1989.



About 1990 - L to R:  
Anne, Dorothy, Liz Kerr, Judy Hopkinson, Adele

Colin Shore (also a bridge player) officiated at Anne's funeral and gave special mention of her greatness as a player, not just because she was a clever player but because she was always a pleasure to play against. Win or lose Anne was friendly, polite and ethical.

For the past 6 years Anne suffered from dementia, and gradually she lost much of her memory of friends and family. From 14 February 2021 Anne was a resident of Nareen Gardens Hostel. Despite these difficult times Anne was able to be supported in her last days by Graham and by her daughter Marie, who was with Anne when she died peacefully at 4am on Tuesday 31 August.

*Dorothy Berzins*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY - September      *Best wishes to:***

Maureen Bell, Trish Byrnes, Richard Carter, Pauline Caust, Roy Cotton, Carolyn Fitzpatrick, Anne Grayden, Suzanne Harrison, John King, Peter Mackey, Ursula Middleton, Rosanne Ransley.

**NEW ABF RANKINGS - August      *Congratulations!***

<i>Silver Local</i>	Ivan Cottom	<i>Local</i>	Chris Spikesman
	Joan Cottom		

**COMING EVENTS CALENDAR - see our website**

Sep 18 & 19      NSW On-line Novice & Restricted Teams  
 Tue Sep 21      CCLCBC RealBridge Duplicate      12.30pm  
 Wed Oct 6      CCLCBC Pairs Congress on Stepbridge

*Colin & Wendy Mitchell      Editors*