

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



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022

I **NTER**
CLUB
TEAMS

Congratulations to the Brisbane Water Bridge Club Team of Hope Tomlinson, Martin Johnson, Barry Foster and Chris Hasemore for their win. The CCLCBC team of Adele Mills, Dorothy Berzins, Gwen White and Margo Brennan came a very close second.

(Details on Page 2 and full results on our website).

Congratulations too to all who made this day happen, especially Tournament Organiser Julie, Senior Executives Louis & Anne and the indefatigable Ruth.

As you may appreciate in the climate of Covid-19, negotiations and arrangements were longer and more difficult than normal.

Playing in the Parkview Room enabled the tables to be well spread out in an airy space. Wendy read a message from Colin (*see Page 3*) before the first 4 matches in a Round-Robin format.

The 12 teams comprised 1 from the Community Club, Bateau Bay, 4 from Brisbane Water and 7 from CCLCBC.

Players then gained their exercise by moving downstairs to Georgiana's for lunch. The half-size *Wellness bowls* were generally well received and there were no complications for the gluten-free diets.

The last 2 matches after lunch were based on a Swiss draw. Thank you Ronnie for directing in your usual professional and efficient manner. Back downstairs for drinks, nibbles and the presentation of prizes.

(See photos on Page 4)

RECENT RESULTS

NEW YEARS CUP (FtoF)	(R)	5 tables	Mon Jan 3
1st= Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler			65.74 %
1st= Chris Williams & Jan Clarke			65.74%
3rd Adele Mills & Dorothy Berzins			63.43%

AUSTRALIA DAY PRS (FtoF)	(R)	7.5 tables	Wed Jan 26
1st Eunice de Vries & Wendy Mitchell			60.42 %
2 nd Dianne March & Alison Mackey			57.99%
3rd Louis Koolen & Barbara Grant			56.94%

TUESDAY REALBRIDGE

SUMMER PAIRS	(R)	5.5 tables	Feb 1
1st Wendy Mitchell & Dorothy Berzins			61.57%
2nd Margo Brennan & Gwen White			57.81%
3rd Alfie Nation & Jacqui Wilson			55.73%

INTER CLUB TEAMS (FtoF)	(R)	12 tables	Thu Feb 3
		W D L	VPs
1st Hope Tomlinson & Martin Johnson, Barry Foster & Chris Hasemore		5 0 1	84.70
2nd Dorothy Berzins & Adele Mills, Gwen White & Margo Brennan		5 0 1	83.06
3rd Di Coats & Jan Clarke, Alan Bustany & Chris Williams		4 0 2	79.64

CONGRESSES **Best Local Players**

Canberra Festival of Bridge Jan 13 to 23

Held on RealBridge, the large number of players who participated indicates how comfortable people are now with online bridge. Our members who took part in the wide range of events included Alan Bustany, Jan Clarke, Sally & Garry Clarke, Chris Williams, Di Coats, Chris Hannan, Martin Johnson, Lorraine Lindsay, Anne Grayden, Julie Sadler, Greg & Sharon Mayo, Helen Milward, Gary Barwick.

.... *Continued on Page 6*

FROM COLIN'S HOSPITAL BED

The ABF masterpoint scheme allows for tournaments to be played between 2 or more clubs (which can be from different regions). Our first Interclub Teams event was held in February 2000 with approval given for the (then) three registered clubs in our region to participate. Now of course there are four clubs eligible to compete in these Red point events. They are classified B5i with 80% weighting of our regular B4c Red point events.

In fact CCLCBC had programmed various teams events since 1993, but these were Open events, not restricted to local club members. I recall having to send home to Sydney a none-too-happy team who thought they could participate under the new arrangement.

Our club hosts two of these events a year. The last InterClub event was held just before lockdown in 2020, so it is great to be back! Understandably numbers are down this year, but in recent times they have ranged from a low of 9 teams in September 2013 to a high of 22 in February 2019.

Most experienced players rate teams competition highly and many regard it as the best form of the game as the scoring system rewards good contracts and play, not the riskiest.

So it is not surprising that there was an even earlier competition in which CCLCBC took part – the *Northern Region Inter-Club Teams*. The B Grade was won by a Newcastle team in 1989, by the Central Coast BC in 1990 and in 1991 by the CC Leagues Club. This was the last year apparently, as we hold the trophy.

I have proposed that this handsome plate be resurrected as an Inter-Club trophy. As Patron I would have liked to be here today to present it to the winners - instead I wish you good cards and good luck; an enjoyable day and congratulations in advance.





1st place received \$60 per player, 2nd earned \$40 per player and 3rd place \$30 per player.

WHAT ARE THE ODDS?

Wendy Mitchell

On Monday January 15, I am sitting South. East passes and I take some deep breaths with this hand:

- ♠ T A 10-card suit and almost solid!
- ♥ 42 I have 10 playing tricks in clubs and 3 losers.
- ♦ Hoping partner will have either ♠A or ♥A, I bid 5C,
- ♣ AKQT986432 which, by the Rule of 2&3, promises only 9 playing tricks when vulnerable.

West passed and partner (Colin) confidently bid 6C!!

West made the obvious lead of ♠K:

Board 10 Dir: E Vul: All	♠ A2 ♥ QJT83 ♦ AKT9 ♣ 75	
♠ KQJ98543 ♥ K ♦ QJ4 ♣ J		♠ 76 ♥ A9765 ♦ 876532 ♣
14 13 4 9	♠ T ♥ 42 ♦ ♣ AKQT986432	N: 5 ♣ 3 ♥ 6NT S: 5 ♣ 3 ♥ 6NT E: 2 ♦ 3 ♠ W: 1 ♦ 3 ♠

Won with ♠A, 2xhearts discarded on the ♦A and ♦K, and trumps drawn in 1 round. Making 13!

Interestingly, the contract can be held to 11 tricks if EW can find the highly unlikely defence of ♥K lead, overtaken with ♥A, and a ♥ return ruffed by West.

Also, the best making contract is 6NT – West can lead the ♥K but then has to switch, and South can take the next 12 tricks. At the other table West overcalled 5S and was doubled – 500 to NS, but not as good as 1390!

In the 35 years since I learned to play, I don't remember ever holding a hand with a 10xcard single-suiter – no wonder because the probability is only 0.000017 and one third of this if you consider the specific 10-2-1-0 distribution. (*Last month it was also Board 10 that rated a Grand Slam mention!*)

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.... *From Page 2* **Canberra Festival of Bridge**

Some notable performances were:

Mixed Swiss Pairs	Alan Bustany & Jan Clarke	52/105
Open Matchpoint Swiss Pairs	Sally & Garry Clarke	20/86
<750 Matchpoint Swiss Pairs	Alan B & Pauline Caust	17/48

CONGRATULATIONS!

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CC LEAGUES CLUB

We have an exciting new initiative arriving at the club shortly – a Digital Connect Club. This Club will enable our most vulnerable Australians to receive free mentorship on how to get connected online.

Digital Connect is a program run by the Central Coast Community College that provides free workshops and support on all aspects of using the internet and digital devices including smartphones, tablets and iPads and laptops. The club will meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays commencing 3rd March 2022.

An Open Day will be run on **Thursday, Feb 24th, 10:30am in the Blue Water Bar.**

If anyone would like to retrieve more information – they can do so at the below contacts:

Email: cclccompclub@gmail.com

Mob: 0481 334 971

Chloe Hale - Executive Assistant
Central Coast Leagues Club

Editor's Note: Please pass this information on to your friends who do not have a computer or use email etc.

STATE MIXED PAIRS

Thursday February 17, all day

A little bit of history:

Our Club Mixed Pairs, for which there is a trophy, used to be one of the 6 Championship Events that Clubs can conduct each year. It was first won in 1988 by Dorothy (Maclean) Berzins and John White. 2021 winners were Christine Hadaway and Martin Johnson.

The State Mixed Pairs is/was an event for which Clubs run qualifying sessions. In the past we did not always conduct these, but just sent the winners of the Club Mixed Pairs or simply nominated available pairs. Since 2014 we have conducted a SMP qualifying event which attracts a higher rating of red masterpoints, and the winners of this become our Club Mixed Pairs Champions.

And now to the present:

When you play on Thursday 17, you not only have the chance of becoming a Club Champion, but also of representing us at the NSWBA over the weekend of May 28 & 29. You may then qualify for the State Final or for the Country Mixed Pairs Final.

To do this you must **PRE-ENTER!** So far there are only 3 pairs entered, so please do this soon. Contact Julie Sadler with any questions.

MEMBERSHIP

At Feb 5 this stood at 136 (87 Home and 49 Associate). This represents 82% of last years' members. About 5 or 6 are still expected to rejoin.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

At their meeting on Monday February 7, the Committee will consider a letter from Barry Foster. He refers to a link on our website to our FB page which has been unused by members for some considerable time.

Barry points out that many other clubs have very active Facebook groups and that we are being left behind. Facebook provides a different platform for communication other than emails and Newsletters.

Is there anyone with expertise and/or interest out there? If so please contact Anne Grayden!!

PAULINE EVANS MEMORIAL TROPHY

Who was Pauline Evans? A mother of 5, she managed to play bridge at the highest level, representing both Queensland and NSW many times. She also represented Australia as both a member and Captain of the National Women's team. Pauline regularly directed bridge tournaments and was regarded as an excellent teacher.

Not long after being diagnosed with multiple myeloma, Pauline and her husband Jim moved to the Central Coast and in January 2018 she joined CCLCBC.

Anyone that played against her on a Friday at our club would have been impressed with her good humour, friendliness and helpfulness – but few would have realised how famous she was!

Sadly, we were not to have her company long as she died in October 2019, aged 73.

In March, 2021, the North Shore Bridge Club held the Pauline Evans Swiss Pairs Congress at East Lindfield. Prizes and trophies were donated by the Evans family.



This year at the 60th Gold Coast Congress the Restricted Teams trophy will be dedicated to Pauline's memory. Jim Evans has sponsored this and donated prize money.

Not long after Pauline's death Jim contacted our Committee about a suitable way to remember Pauline. Because she was always so supportive of new players it was decided to create a red point event for players with under 100 masterpoints. Jim donated funds for a perpetual trophy and it was planned to conduct this new event in August last year.

Well, you know what happened.....

Now it is being conducted on **Monday, March 7, 2022**. What an honour it would be to be the first winners of this trophy!

Make your plans now. Only players with less than 100 masterpoints at January 1, 2022 can compete and there will be no side game. So if you usually play with someone who has more than 100 masterpoints, you need to politely dump them for March 7.

If you are looking for a partner, you will find a list of all our members who qualify displayed on the pillar near the Director's table. Alternatively, you can look on the ABF masterpoint site:

abfmasterpoints.com.au) Club Reports, 2-036 Central Coast Leagues Limited Bridge Club, All players.

Only current members can win a club trophy. So, if you are one of the few members who have still not renewed for 2022, you need to become financial in the next couple of weeks to avoid the delay involved with re-applying for membership.

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GOLD COAST CONGRESS

Feb 18 - 26

Good luck to local players attending this Face-to-Face event. Remember that details can be found at MyABF/congresses. Consult the event's official website for conditions of entry for face-to-face congresses.

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REAL BRIDGE PAYMENTS

Thank you again for your prompt payments. Although you may not need a receipt, I do try to acknowledge your payment as this confirms that we have received it and not someone else!

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NEW ABF RANKINGS - January

Congratulations to:

Alan Bustany	<i>Bronze Life</i>
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MONTHLY SHIELD (1) RE-RUN

As explained in the Secretary's email of Feb 5, due to a technical glitch the results were lost and have not been retrievable. It will be held again on Wednesday, February 9th. Those members who played last week will play for free.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for February:

Margaret Berriman, David Bowerman, Russel Burnet, Cheryl Davison, Kathryn Ivits, Chris Jamieson, Julie Jessop, Pam Joseph, Elizabeth Lawrence, Lyn Lynch, Agnes Marsh, Tanya Masters, Kathy Mitchell, Wendy Mitchell, Bev Sivewright, David Snow, Jackie Wilson, Yvonne Zammit.

COMING EVENTS - Online and Face-to-Face

FEBRUARY

RealBridge

Tuesdays	12.30pm	Feb 8, 15, 22
Thursdays	9.30am	Feb 10, 27

Face-to-Face

Mondays	12.30pm	Feb 7, 14 , 21, 28
Monday Evenings	7.15pm	Feb 7, 14, 21 , 28
Wednesdays	1.30pm	Feb 9, 16, 23
Fridays	12.30pm	Feb 11, 18, 25

Special Events

Valentine's Day Pairs		Monday Feb 14
State Mixed Pairs	Q, R, P	Thursday Feb 17
(Club Trophy)		all day
Switching Singles 1	E	Monday Eve Feb 21

MARCH

Special Events

Monthly Shield 2	E	Wednesday 2
Pauline Evans Novice Trophy	R, P	Monday 7
Presentation Day	R, P	Thursday 17
Switching Singles 2	E	Monday Eve 21
Country Teams	R, P	Thursday 31

SMILE AWHILE

Acceptable excuses for not leading the suit your partner had opened: having no cards in the suit and sudden death ...Alfred Scheinwold.



Wendy Mitchell

Editor

