

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



**NEWSLETTER**

**SEPTEMBER 2022**

**35<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY**

Come join us for a day out with a cruise and lunch. The original date had to be changed for catering reasons, it's now booked for **Monday 17th October**.

We depart Woy Woy wharf at 10am, tour the Hawkesbury River, then enjoy lunch at Davistown RSL. There will be a Courtesy bus for those who don't wish to walk the short distance. After lunch the Cruise will return to Woy Woy.

**FREE for members!**

Non-members welcome at **\$50** each.

Numbers need to be finalised by 1st October. Anyone interested please put names down in our Clubroom along with dietary requests. This is a fun day out to thank our members & celebrate 35 years of our Bridge Club. For any other information please contact Ruth on 0407 854 060.

**CCLCBC CONGRESS**

Entries are currently 27 pairs for Saturday 24/9 and 14 teams for Sunday 25/9. Our director will be Alan Bustany.

We can accommodate as many as 40 tables, and you can still enter (up to the day before)!

\$45 per day for 2 sessions with lunch. Entry is via

[myabf.com.au/events](http://myabf.com.au/events).

## RECENT RESULTS

### MONTHLY SHIELD (7) (FtoF) (E) 5.5 tables Wed Aug 3

1st	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler	65.89%
2nd	Agnes Marsh & Ruth Griffin	62.76%
3rd	Trish Dennis & George Connell	61.33 %

*(The best 4 sessions with the same partner are counted)*

After 7 sessions, there are still just 8 pairs who have played the minimum number of 4 sessions. Counting the best 4 only, the leaders are:

1st	Dorothy Berzins & Di Coats	92
2nd	Jan Clarke & Alan Bustany	78
3rd=	Brian Warburton & John King	68
3rd=	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler	68

4 other pairs have qualified. With 3 sessions remaining, 3 pairs need to play just 1 more session and 6 pairs need 2 more sessions. 15 pairs have played just 1 session and so would need to play all of the next sessions. Remember that all pairs who finish in the top half of the eligible field will be awarded *outright masterpoints*.

### SWITCHING SINGLES (7) (FtoF) (E) 3 tables MonEve Aug 15

1st	Eunice de Vries & Ronnie Ng	62.00%
2nd	Trish Howard & Margo Burnet	61.00%
3rd	Oscar Tap & Ruth Griffin	57.00%

*(The best 4 sessions with different partners are counted)*

### FOUNDATION CUP (FtoF) (R) 5.5 tables Wed Aug 17

1st	Di Coats & Dorothy Berzins	73.96 %
2nd	Jan Clarke & Alan Bustany	64.06%
3rd	Trish Dennis & George Connell	55.73%

### WINTER PAIRS (FtoF) (R) 5 tables MonEve Aug 29

1st	Gwen White & Dorothy Berzins	62.50 %
2nd	Eunice de Vries & David Bowerman	60.19%
3rd	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler	54.17%

<b>INTERCLUB TEAMS (2)</b>		<b>( R ) 7 teams</b>	<b>Thu Sep 1</b>		
		<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>VPs</b>
1st	David Bowerman, Dasha Brandt, Sylvia Foster, Jaan Oitmaa	5	0	1	86.05
2nd	Hope Tomlinson, Martin Johnson, Christine Hadaway, Chris Hasemore	4	0	2	84.38
3rd	Eunice de Vries, Roy Cotton Chris Williams, Larry Bryant	4	0	2	71.15



Only 7 teams beats the previous lowest number of 9 in 2013. Thank you to the 3 teams from Brisbane Water, 2 of which took out the first 2 places. The other 4 were CCLCBC teams. Sadly there was no representation from the other 2 registered clubs.

**1st:** Bowerman, Foster, Oitmaa, Brandt, with President Louis Koolen



**2nd:** Johnson, Tomlinson,  
Hasemore, Hadaway



**3rd:** Williams, Bryant, de Vries, Cotton

## **CCLCBC HISTORY**

Our club was founded out of a need for a central venue in Gosford. The original idea to approach the Central Coast Leagues Club was decided over a game of golf by four founding members Bill Thomson, Peter Berzins, Lionel Blunden and Geoff Van Eden.

The Central Coast Leagues Club Bridge club was formally approved by the Board of Directors of the CC Leagues Club on June 29 1987 with the following interim Committee:

President:	Colin Mitchell	Secretary:	Dorothy MacLean
Vice President:	Bill Thomson	Treasurer:	Adele Mills

The inaugural meeting of the Club was attended by 36 players and operations commenced on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 1987. The membership grew from 4 home club members in 1987 to 140 home club members in 1994. From a peak of 396 listed in the program book in 2001 (not all actually playing), total membership has generally declined, being 259 in 2012 and down to 146 in March 2022.

Over the 35 years there have been:

- 2 Patrons appointed: Mrs Zelda Overhall – 1987 to 2000 (dec.) & Colin Mitchell – 2012 to present.
- 4 Life Members appointed: Peter Berzins & Bill Thomson (dec.) in 2012, Dorothy Berzins (2016) & Colin Mitchell (2019).
- 12 different Presidents, some serving multiple terms: Colin Mitchell, Dorothy Berzins, Graham Winder, Peter Berzins, Bill Thomson, Bill Pinfold, John Lehane, Lyn Pears, Marilyn Whigham, Wendy Mitchell, Di March & Louis Koolen.

On Pages 6/7 you can read about the Bridge (and some life) History of founding and Life member Peter Berzins.

### **Pass, double or bid, with Andrew Robson**

*Extracts from an article in ‘Australian Bridge’, Volume 53, Nos, July 2022  
First published in English Bridge, the magazine of the English Bridge Union*

**Breaking the preemptor’s rule:** “When you’ve pre-empted, never bid again.”

It’s a maxim drilled in to us as soon as we take a lesson on pre-empting. And it makes perfect sense, for you have shown your hand and can leave further bidding to partner. Your pre-empt has forced the opponents to guess; you hop they've guessed wrong.

However, consider this situation (as South):

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
			2♠ <sup>1</sup>
dbler	3♠ <sup>2</sup>	4♥	?

1. Weak two, showing six decent spades and 5-10 points
2. Preemptive raise, not invitational

There is a big difference between these two Weak Twos:

Hand A

♠ AJ8532  
♥ Q7  
♦ Q32  
♣ 85

Hand B

♠ AQ9742  
♥ 4  
♦ QT92  
♣ 842

Clearly you pass 4♥ with Hand A, but what about Hand B? You rally fancy breaking discipline (“six-four, bid some more”) with all your honours in the long suits. However, what if partner has good defence to 4♥? Perhaps partner has found a tactical raise to 3♠ with jut two spades, to push the opponents about. Partner won’t thank you if you bid an undisciplined Fourth Spade and turn a plus into a minus.

The solution is to double 4♥ with Hand B. You cannot possibly have a penalty double (as a preemptor), so this double says, “I want to bid 4♠, but I’m not breaking discipline. Please bid 4♠, unless you fancy your defence to 4♥.

The sensible rule is that if your side have bid up to one level below, a preemptor’s double says, “I want to bid one more”, showing surprisingly good offense and likely profound shortage in the opposing suit. Note that a double by the preemptor’s partner is always for penalty.

Here are (2 of 3) possible hands for you to hold and my question is: pass, double or bid?

Hand A

♠ AQ97432  
♥ J2  
♦ 9843  
♣ --

Hand B

♠ AQJ9832  
♥ --  
♦ 32  
♣ J982

With Hand A, you should pass. You have a normalish 3♠, and partner has chosen to defend 4♥. Enough said.

With Hand B, you should double: “Please bid one more, partner, unless you fancy defending.” Perfect. In effect, you are saying to partner that if he has very little in the way of offense or defence, the save in 4♠ will be cheaper than the value of the opposing game. Admittedly, this is not guaranteed here, but partner needs precious little for at least eight tricks to be garnered in a spade contract.

*Thanks to Anne Grayden for pointing out this article.*

## **PETER BERZINS - BRIDGE HISTORY**

*Dorothy Berzins*

Peter learned to play bridge during his years in the Fleet Air Arm of the Australian Navy from 1957. This was, however, very different to Duplicate Bridge which Peter played for the first time in Goulburn in about 1972.

When Peter moved to Nowra in 1977 he found there was no where to play competitive bridge. He offered his services to the local Community College to provide bridge lessons and before he knew it about 30 people turned up. At the end of the lessons (about two months) he suggested forming a club and thus the Shoalhaven Bridge Club was born. Peter was the guest of honour at their celebration of 25 years of operation in 2002, though it is now called the Nowra Bridge Club.



Having moved to the Central Coast in 1979 Peter joined the Central Coast Bridge Club and served on the committee for three years from 1981 to 1983. He also directed and scored the regular sessions on the voluntary roster.

In 1987 Bill Thomson, Peter Berzins, Lionel Blunden and Geoff Van Eden had the bright idea to start a club in Gosford as the CCBC had purchased a hall at Long Jetty and could not find an affordable venue in Gosford. After discussions with the Central Coast Leagues Club the CCLCBC was formed.

Peter served on this committee for 14 years being Vice President for 9 and President for 4 during that time. He is the longest serving Director of this Club having directed continuously from 1987 until he retired from Directing in 2015, most of that time on a voluntary basis. When you count 28 years with the CCLCBC and his years at Goulburn, Nowra and Long Jetty he has provided over 40 years continuous directing for bridge clubs most of which was without any remuneration.

Peter was made a Life Member of the CCLCBC in 2012.

Peter attained his Grand Master status in 2011\*. During his years at this club Peter has won 68 trophy and other red point events\*\* making him one of the Club's leading winners and he holds the record for the most prolific partnership in the history of the CCLCBC from 1987 until 2022.

With his wife Dorothy Berzins he has won 48 championship and red point events over the years as a partnership. Peter, while still a member of the CCLCBC, has not played in events since 2021 due to illness.

### ***Editor's Notes***

\* After Peter was promoted to Grand Master we published a 'Personal Profile' in the June 2021 Newsletter. A few facts from this illustrate Peter's interesting background:

- Peter was born in Riga, Latvia in 1938. To escape the Russian takeover in 1944 he and his mother managed to get the last train out of Riga, ending up in a refugee camp in Northern Germany where they stayed for 4 years.
- Peter was eleven years old when he got his first opportunity to attend school, after the family arrived in South Australia in 1949.
- As a navigator, Peter rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He was in a Sea Venom Night Fighter about to do series of night touch and go flights on HMAS Melbourne when it collided with HMAS Voyager in 1964
- Peter met Dorothy (Maclean) at the bridge table and they married in 1993.

\*\* In his impressive list there are only 2 events in the calendar Peter has never won (not counting those for which he would not have been eligible – Restricted Teams, Graded Prs B, Zelda Overhall Cup), ie Swiss Pairs Championship and Spring Pairs.

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY for September:**

Maureen Bell, Trish Byrnes, Pauline Caust, Roy Cotton, Anne Grayden, Suzanne Harrison, John King, Peter Mackey, Tony Manea, Ursula Middleton, Rosanne Ransley.

