

Welcome to the
Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

4325 9854

Please record and use from now on

Bridge Clubs come
out on top

NSW Seniors week is held each year during March. It provides a platform to harness opportunities to be active, social and healthy, which is precisely what playing Bridge is all about.

The **'BE INSPIRED'** theme for 2015 is also most appropriate to Bridge Clubs. Most Clubs offer a vast array of games, events and congresses to suit all levels of expertise, from beginners to the most advanced.

Bridge is a brain boosting activity. A wonderful exercise for memory, con

centration, logic, psychology and a little basic arithmetic thrown in. It has been said it reduces the risk of Alzheimers disease by 70%plus, for those who play 4 or more times each week. It can be played actively or passively from a very young age to who knows when and we all know Bridge is a great way to meet and make new friends.

Our Club is particularly lucky to have expert teachers for Beginner lessons through to advanced stages.

A vote of gratitude and thanks should go to these teachers, our Committee and Directors. These dedicated volunteers, spend hours of their time on the many and varied tasks to ensure our Club runs smoothly.

It has often been said that volunteering is the glue that holds a community together and that certainly applies to our Bridge Club.

RECENT RESULTS

Congratulations to all

MONTHLY SHIELD (1)

8.5 tables

Monday 2 Feb

1st	Carole Hamilton & Elizabeth Lawrence	60.0%
2nd	Gary Heyting & Dorothy Berzins	59.9%
3rd	Marie Purkiss & Patricia Bowles	59.8%

SUMMER PAIRS (R)

6.5 tables

Monday 9 Feb

1st	Lorraine Lindsay & Jack Lindsay	61.3%
2nd	Lyn Baber & Jacqueline Bidel	56.7%
3rd	June Thompson & Ellen Williams	55.46%

VALENTINE'S DAY PAIRS

8 tables

Saturday 14 Feb

1st	Peter Berzins & Dorothy Berzins	68.7%
2nd	Bob Morris & Vicky Morris	63.7%
3rd	Janine Henry & Nancye Joss	59.9%

INTRA CLUB TEAMS

14 tables

Thursday 19 Feb

		<u>Wins</u>	<u>VP's</u>
1st	Sally Clarke, Jan Clarke, Gabriella Fitzgerald, Helen Eaton	4	117
2nd	Gary Heyting, Helen Milward, Angela & Kevin Dougall	4	107
3rd	Jaan Oitmaa, Sylvia Foster, Dasha Brandt, David Bowerman	4	101

GOLD COAST CONGRESS NEWS

Chris Williams & Ian Lincoln won the Monday Swiss Pairs at the Gold Coast Congress, competing against 156 other pairs.

Well done Chris & Ian

WHAT THE EXPERTS THINK

The following article consists of items taken from the presentation "MODERN EXPERT BIDDING" by Peter Gill at the Gold Coast Congress.

Bergen Raises.

One bridge pro: "I only play them because my clients insist I play them."
Another pro: "shouldn't I raise partner as high as possible as soon as possible - if I bid 3 clubs or 3 diamonds over 1S, I unnecessarily give my LHO a chance to bid 3 hearts or make other winning moves that a direct 3 spade bid prevents."

Another pro: In America, hardly anyone seems to play Bergen Raises anymore

Gerber

When I commentated on Bridge Base Online (BBO) Vugraph (in the USA) the coordinator called it the G word that we should refrain from ever praising.

Conventions

The most popular bridge book in Australia and overseas is 25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know by Barbara Seagram. The conventions in this book are the ones that most of the experts here at the Gold Coast play. The sequels, which also sell well, include quite a lot of gadgets that many of us experts are happy to omit.

What experts like to think about

Most experts play 5 card majors, not because 5 card Majors are better than 4 Card Majors, but because 5 Card Majors are easier to play. The 4-4 major fits can still be found because responder bids the 4 card major first.

Experts like to construct bidding systems so that everything fits together and doesn't take the players out of their Comfort Zone. For some people, that Comfort Zone might include a lot of conventions, but the default in non-regular partnerships should be not to overload the memory bank and thus the brain. If anyone wants to read about constructing a bidding system well, Roy Hughes' book Building a Bidding System is a useful read.

DIRECTORS COURSE

The next course will be held in Sydney on 9th May. Please advise Dorothy Berzins or Julie Sadler if you are interested in participating.

NEW ABF RANKINGS - FEBRUARY - Congratulations to:

State	Alan Bustany
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CARDS RATINGS - MOST IMPROVED - FEBRUARY

Alan Bustany	1.54
Leonard Pratt	1.20
Elizabeth Lawrence	0.99
Pam Harris	0.85
Tony Ransley	0.64

Wendy Alford	0.61
Dorothy Berzins	0.57
Gary Heyting	0.56
Angela Dougall	0.52
Jan Clarke	0.51

FIRE SAFETY REPORT

Duty Manager, Daniel visited our Club Room on Friday 13th February and advised the following:-

- The CCLC is required by Law to meet very stringent Fire Safety Standards.
- The Fire alarm is automatically connected direct to the Fire Brigade and they are bound to attend even if the alarm is accidentally tripped. Each call out cost the Club \$1250.
- Sprinkler systems are throughout the Club and will automatically work in case of fire.
- Three new smoke detectors have been installed in the Bridge room.
- A speaker system is installed in our Club Room. An announcement would be made if there was a need to evacuate.
- The Fire Safety Doors would automatically seal off any area where fire occurred. These stay shut for two hours, allowing orderly evacuation.
- All external door will automatically open if the alarm is sounded.
- Fire Brigade Officers would be on hand to assist everyone to evacuate via the stairs, particularly anyone with walking difficulties.
- A Mustering and Emergency Evacuation layout plan is on the wall toward the front entrance to our room. All Members are encouraged to read this carefully.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR DIRECTORS:-

Since the CCLC Bridge Club started in 1987 we have had at least 29 Directors.

Many of our Directors also directed at other Clubs, at the same time or for other periods of time. Indeed we have celebrated Ted Neilson's contribution since his death in 2012 with an annual Memorial Trophy Day with one of those other Clubs, The Aces.

Bill Thomson, Colin Mitchell, Adele Mills and Peer Berzins were our first Directors in 1987. Bill directed for 13 years and has been on standby since.

Colin Mitchell directed from 1987-1990 and then from 2008 until the present time. Colin also contributes to the directing scene in other ways by advising and trouble shooting. Sydney had the benefit of his expertise prior to 1987.

Peter Berzins has directed continuously at this Club since 1987 which makes it 28 years in August. He directed in various other Clubs prior to 1987 adding up to an amazing 40 years of Directing.

Adele directed from 1987-1994 and then 1997-1998 and also during that time at the Aces Bridge Club.

Lorraine Lindsay, Leyla Moncelet and George Boettiger have all made a substantial contribution over many years.

Others who have made valuable contributions include Marty Houtman, Zelda Overhall, Eunice Edwards, Les Mills, Carol McKellar, Dawn Syphers, Bill Pinfold, Randall Harkness, Joan Rubie, Lionel Sheriff, Neville Buchanan, Maxine Kernan, Jack Rushbrook, John Lehane, Lyn Pears, Anne Grayden, Tony Collis, Norm Berger, Ronnie Ng, Matt Raj Mal and Leon Babinski.

What a marvelous dedicated contribution these Directors have made, to maintain the smooth running of all our playing sessions.

Not only have we benefitted from the efforts of these players but most have also contributed hours of their time to organizations like the Rural Fire Service, Wild Life Arc, Red Cross, Rotary, Lions and Probus and many others.

Well done everyone and take a special bow during Seniors Week.



**CENTRAL COAST LEAGUES CLUB
BRIDGE CLUB:
IMPROVERS/INTERMEDIATE LESSONS
with Lorraine Lindsay
Wednesday evenings 7pm
APRIL 8th/15th/22nd**

- 1. TRANSFERS over partner's NO TRUMP (the full system)**
- 2. SLAM BIDDING — how to recognise when the partnership might have a Slam and how to bid to get there!**
- 3. GOOD DEFENCE & Opening LEADS. Learn how to find that right lead to ATTACK the opposition!**

Cost: \$10 per lesson or \$25 for all

***(includes full set of notes and hand records
and Supervised play after each lesson)***



COMMITTEE CAPERS:

Your Committee agreed to purchase 6 additional Bridgemates so that we do not have to borrow any to run our Special Events with more than 16 tables i.e. Presentation Day, Melbourne Cup, Intra Club Teams etc.

Planning is well underway for Presentation Day in the Parkview Room. Please mark it on your calendar (**Friday 27th March at 9.30am**) and put your name down for the Bridge on the Notice Board. We need to provide figures for catering purposes even though you do not have to pay for the goodies provided. This is a Red Point and the cost is \$5 for the bridge..

Julie Sadler, David Bowerman and Alan Bustany have volunteered to undertake the Directing course which will bring some fresh faces to the scene. If anyone else would like to undertake this training please let us know as soon as possible. It involves at least one day's training in Sydney as well as work by correspondence.

Wendy Mitchell will be offering lessons again at the end of May 2015 so if you know of anyone interested in learning bridge please ask them to contact Julie Sadler or myself or give us their details. We need to find out when they would be able to attend before we set the actual day and time for the lessons – possibly Saturday morning or Wednesday evening.

As you may be aware we had an alarm going off on Wednesday (in the middle of our GNOT Qualifying competition, and on Saturday towards the end of our Mixed Pairs we had a blackout.

On Friday we invited the Duty Manager to advise us about Fire Safety issues and he clarified that the alarm heard on Wednesday was the result of an external fire door being opened. Should we need to evacuate there will be an announcement which we will hear through our new speakers. We also have new smoke detectors and the live wires have been taken care of on the ceiling.

Cheers, _____ **Dorothy Berzins, President**

COMING EVENTS

MARCH

Monthly Shield (2)	E	Monday 2
Switching Singles(2)	E	Thursday 12
GNOT 1	G/P	Wednesday 11
GNOT 2	G/P	Wednesday 18
GNOT 3	G/P	Wednesday 25
State Mixed Pairs	R/P Q1&2	Saturday 14 (Club Trophy)
Presentation Day Pairs	R	Friday 27 (9.30am)

APRIL

Easter Pairs	R	Tuesday 7
Switching Singles(3)	E	Thursday 9
Monthly Shield(3)	E	Monday 13
Club Swiss Pairs 1	C/P	Monday 20
Club Swiss Pairs 2	C/P	Monday 27
Anzac Day Pairs	R	Saturday 25

There will be **NO BRIDGE** on Good Friday 3rd April

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for March to:-

June Ball, Heather Bellamy, Betty Cusack, Kevin Dougall, Jessica Dunn, Sue Ford, Sylvia Foster, Audrey Hadley, Peter Hall, Carole Hamilton, Kaylee Lemon, Ron Moller, Kerry Murray, Mary Pye, John Redfearn, Julie Sadler, Ruth Stephens, Robert Watkins.

NEW MEMBER Please make Jacqueline Griffiths (0413 335 184) very welcome and add her phone number to your program book.

RECORDER CORNER WITH GWEN

Your opponents are entitled to know as much about your system and style as your partner does....the only secret in bridge is what cards you hold.

- Provide two fully completed system cards
- Make every effort through alerts and explanations to tell your opponents what they need to know about our system

Trish Dennis Editor