

Welcome to the
Central Coast
Leagues Club
Bridge Club



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2018

HELPING OUT IN
THE DROUGHT

\$11 000

As you will all know by now, Central Coast bridge players, community members and businesses opened their hearts and their pockets for this essential cause.

What can be said? Hopefully we have made Christmas a little easier for some.



THANK YOU ALL

Full Report starts Page 6

PRESIDENT'S PRECIS

The last four months (and the first of my presidency) have been eventful, fruitful and rewarding.

Highlights were:

- The Spring Intra Club Teams were held in our club rooms in early September. There were 14 teams so we overflowed to the foyer. Everyone seemed to have a great time and it was doubly sweet to the winners, who had lost the Summer Intra Club Teams by 0.03 Victory Points.

Continued on p.14

RECENT RESULTS

Congratulations to all

MONTHLY SHIELD (10) (E) 6 tables Mon Nov 5

1st	Bob Morris & Gwen White	58.89%
2nd	Stephen Calcroft & Paul Unger	58.15%
3rd	Wendy Mitchell & Trish Dennis	56.67%

After 10 months there were 10 pairs who had played at least 6 sessions. Six of these eligible pairs earned masterpoints for outright awards as there was a tie for 5th and 6th. Another 24 different pair combinations played less than 6 sessions.

less than 6 sessions.		Best 6 Total	Outright MPs
1st	Wendy Mitchell & Trish Dennis	120	1.57
2nd	Dorothy Berzins & Patricia Kull	110	1.10
3rd	Bob Morris & Gwen White	108	0.79

MELBOURNE CUP 16 tables Tue Nov 6

Director: Alan Bustany

North-South

1st	Marie Purkiss & Di Nichols	65.38%
2nd	Peter Hall & David Bowerman	65.13%
3rd	Dorothy & Peter Berzins	63.85%

East-West

1st	Nola Daly & Stewart Duxbury	64.49%
2nd	Christine Hadaway & Susan McCall	61.54%
3rd	Alfie Nation & Toni Dixon	58.85%

REMEMBRANCE DAY PAIRS (R) 7 tables Sat Nov 11

Director: Leon Babinski

1st	Peter & Dorothy Berzins	63.46%
2nd	Colin & Wendy Mitchell	56.41%
3rd=	George Boettiger & Matt Raj Mal	52.82%
3rd=	Jurate Laisve & Trish Byrnes	52.82%

CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP (C) Wed Nov 14, 21, 28

Director: Louis Koolen

11 teams	6 x 14 board matches	Wins	Draws	VPs
1st	Helen Eaton, Dorothy Berzins, Jan Clarke, Di Coats	5	0	91.0
	(Photo p.16)			
2nd	Chris Williams, Pauline Evans Adele Mills, Sue Morris	5	0	84.9

3rd	Marie Purkiss, Di Nicholls	5	0	83.92
	Alfie Nation, Elizabeth Lawrence			

SWITCHING SINGLES (10)(E) 7 tables Mon Eve Nov 19

1st	Di Coats & Lorraine Lindsay	61.86%
2nd	Carl Sparre & Wendy Mitchell	59.29%
3rd	Austin Driscoll & Roy Cotton	58.97%

While not as high as last year, participation was still the second highest ever, with 17 eligible pairs out of a total of 53 combinations. Monday night players certainly get into the switching singles scene!

	Best 5 Total	Outright	MPs
1st	Wendy Mitchell	106	1.09
2nd	Julie Sadler	96	0.76
3rd	Alan Bustany	94	0.55

DROUGHT RELIEF INTER-CLUB TEAMS (B4 Red) Tue Nov 20

2 sessions: 6x9 board matches

Director: Louis Koolen

Restricted	17 tables	Wins	Draws	VPs
1st	Pauline Caust, Alan Bustany, Jurate Laisve, Trish Byrnes	5	0	86.68
2nd	Pam Harris, Elaine McGorm, Mei-Hua Crawford, Marion Ellis	6	0	84.72
3rd	Colin Kleinig, Janice Crane, Jane Stephens, Pamela Townsend	3	1	75.86

Open	14 tables	Wins	Draws	VPs
1st	Kevin & Angela Dougall, Adele Mills, Sue Morris	5	0	82.89
2nd	Noel & Shirley Crockett, Pam Joseph & Susan McCall	4	1	81.49
3rd	Lorraine Lindsay, Chris Hannan, Sharon & Greg Mayo	4	0	79.55

CHRISTMAS PAIRS (R) 6.5 tables Mon Dec 3

Director: Alan Bustany

1st	Patricia Kull & Dorothy Berzins	59.92%
2nd	Anne Grayden & Julie Sadler	59.67%
3rd	Pam Harris & Elaine McGorm	58.25%

CONGRESSES

Best Local Players

MUDGEE CONGRESS *Open Swiss Pairs* 36 Pairs **Nov 3**

11th Nola Daly & Marianna Xerri, 22nd Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen

Swiss Teams 34 teams **Nov 4**

11th Barbara Grant & Louis Koolen, Marianna Xerri & Nola Daly

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS CONGRESS

Nov 10-11

Swiss Pairs: 30 Restricted and 50 Open

Christine Hadaway (with partner Donelle Foate) came 6th in the Open, and Noel and Shirley Crockett 8th. These four then played in the *Swiss Teams* coming 17th out of 40.

ILLAWARRA STATE NOVICE/RESTRICTED TEAMS **Nov 17-18**

Novice 14 teams

2nd Community Club Bateau Bay members Sharon Versteeg, Merlyn Morris, Wanda Little, Sharon Hart

Restricted 8 teams

1st Central Coast members Nola Daly, Marianna Xerri, Pamela & Forde Leathley. *See photo - page 16.*

WELL DONE!

NSWBA STATE OPEN PAIRS FINAL

Nov 24-25

Our club paid for 4 pairs to play in this prestigious event: Alan Bustany & Chris Hannan, Adele Mills & Sue Morris, Gwen White & Bob Morris, Dasha Brandt & David Bowerman. The entry fees cover the Qualifying Sessions on the Saturday and a choice on the Sunday. This may be in the Open Pairs State Final, Country Pairs Final, or Swiss Pairs for those that don't qualify for the first two. Julie Sadler and Anne Grayden paid to play independently and there were 4 other pairs from the other Central Coast clubs, so the area was well represented.

Qualifying 35.5 tables

NS field Alan & Chris (3rd), Julie & Anne (10th), Adele & Sue (12th)
Bob & Gwen (25th)

EW field Dasha & David (27th)

The fabulous result of Alan and Chris qualified them for the State Final, but they made the choice to contest the Country Pairs Final. Some pairs

qualified to play in the Country Pairs but chose not to continue on the Sunday at all. Others took advantage of their free entry and continued in the Swiss Pairs.

State Pairs Final 7 tables

This was won by Avon Wilsmore and Kim Morrison. Tony Burke (a CCLCBC Home Club member) and partner were 13th.

Country Pairs Final 7 tables

=7th Alan Bustany & Chris Hannan

9th Julie Sadler & Anne Grayden

13th Martin Johnson & Judy Wulff

Swiss Pairs 24 tables

Dasha & David, and Stephanie Matthews & Gary Heyting played, unfortunately with no great distinction.

GRAND NATIONAL OPEN TEAMS FINAL

Tweed Heads Nov 30 – Dec 3

Of the 60 teams, one represented the Central Coast Region – Di Coats & Jan Clarke, Lorraine Lindsay & Helen Milward. Unfortunately they lost in the first of five knockout rounds to Brisbane 1. Knocked out teams continue to compete in the Swiss Teams and our team finished in a very creditable 20th position: with 6 wins, 1 draw and 2 losses. Their last (satisfying) win was against our adjacent region's Hunter 3 team which had lasted 2 rounds before being knocked out.

While the Repechage and Semi-Finals are being fought out, all other players have the opportunity to play in a Swiss Pairs Competition. Out of 96 pairs, Di and Jan finished a *fabulous 3rd!!* Lorraine and Helen came a little behind on 17th. Well done our members . . .

UHMP Central Coast Local Final

Sun Dec 2

13 venues across NSW played the same boards in one session in the week of November 26 to December 2. We hosted the Local Final at 1pm, December 2. 7 tables competed with Ronnie Ng directing. Pairs participation by club was CCLCBC – 8, Central Coast BC – 3, Brisbane Water – 2, Glenbrook – 1.

All Masterpoint categories were represented, with best results in each

shown in the table.

Category	50-100	25-50	10-25	0-10
Pairs	5	4	2	3
Best	Alan Brooks & John McCaffrey – 61.86% (CCBC)	Peter & Alison Mackey – 50.00% (CCLCBC)	Marian Wallis & Lee Buckland – 60.90% (CCBC)	Suzanne Harrison & Jann Small – 42.31% (CCLCBC)

HELPING OUT IN THE DROUGHT

There were some murmurings from members in late August about whether as a club we could support drought-affected farmers in some way. So when President Louis Koolen proposed a special Inter-Club Teams day it didn't take much to get members enthused.

For our club the only suitable venue would be the Parkview Room. Negotiations with the Leagues Club secured this for Tuesday November 20 along with the very generous offer to match whatever amount we raised. The Leagues Club was already forwarding funds to Rural Aid Australia, who administers several projects, so this is where our monies would go.

Louis secured 2 major donors for a raffle before leaving for a bridge cruise. Then the 'Social Committee' took over, co-opting Committee members and any other willing victims to plan the event.

The R & R team of Ruth and Rosanne (no Rest & Recreation for them) were probably the most visible; there were too many helpers involved to mention individually as it is too easy to leave a name out. You know who you are and every single contribution is very much appreciated.

Other major donors were obtained by Ruth, Anne and Dasha and the major raffle commenced. Members sold books of 15 tickets (3 for \$5) to family, friends, strangers and themselves. A week of mornings in the League Club foyer helped to involve the general public (and profile the Bridge Club).

The creative souls worked out the farming theme decorations and entertainment while others took on more straightforward tasks, like

printing posters, collecting checked cloths and so on.

Planning and organisation for Melbourne Cup Day, normally the second and last of our two major annual events (with Presentation Day), was concurrently underway. On that day the proceeds of raffling a fruit & vegetable basket (donated by the Griffin family) with a voucher from Peking Garden Restaurant, went directly to our 'Farmers Fund'. Then, with exactly 2 weeks to go, it was all stops out!



The Parkview Room was not available for setting up until late on the Monday afternoon. So, some of the props were brought in over the weekend: ask Randall, who ferried the large bridge tables to the Leagues Club about the shock he got when he saw the Donald Trump scarecrow made by Peter Mackey.

Not willing to miss the last session of Switching Singles on Monday Evening, there was a full complement of players. However, come 10.45pm, ferrying of scarecrows, sheep, a wheelbarrow of vegetables, hay bale, chickens, farming items etc, as well as bridge equipment of tables, cloths and so on, took place. Across the carpark and through the main foyer of the Club – a few wide-eyed late night patrons wondered what they had been drinking!



Unbelievably, most of what you saw when you arrived at 9am next morning was all in place within an hour and a half, thanks to all hands on deck.



Before bridge started at 9.30am and between matches there were opportunities to spend money in the cause:

- For \$2 each, there were 160 'Lucky Door' numbers for purchase with a farm animal or scene, painstakingly made by the crafty Lyn Lynch. We were sorry that Lyn was too unwell to be present on the day to witness our appreciation of her labours.
- For 50c or 3 for \$1, the chance to guess the number of words in the partially completed anthology of poems, written by Paul Unger, in order to win the \$50 prize, kindly donated by Paul



- Items on our 'CWA' stall, or Bridge Club Women And Men:

Handmade cards, offered at a very special price by Marj McCredie of Somersby (ex-Brisbane Water player); Marmalades by Rosanne and Dasha; Beetroot by Colin; Tomato Chutney, Coconut Ice, Peanut Brittle and various biscuits by Dasha; Individual Christmas Cakes and bags of fresh herbs by Rosanne; Lemon Butter by Lyn Parry (all pre-sold in case you wonder why you didn't see them) and

- More raffle tickets!



At the end of the day, Auctioneer extraordinaire, John McGrath, was persuasive in selling off:

- Fresh fruit and vegetables used in the rural scenery, the \$100 purchase costs covered by an anonymous donor, and
- The two original windmill paintings by Alison Mackey

A hint of experience there – next time he may charge for his services.



As if teams bridge was not entertaining enough, or perhaps to relieve the stress, Janice Crane led some gentle boot-scooting in the lunch break after we had consumed the always fresh sandwiches by Leagues Club catering. The plethora of homemade goodies for morning and afternoon tea were all cooked/donated by members and the après bridge nibbles and drinks were paid for from Bridge Club funds.



So, at \$25 per person, the only expense was the sandwiches, and all agree they had excellent value from the day. The bridge itself was directed (for free of course) by Louis. Because regional allocation of Inter-club sessions had been exhausted, Louis approached NSWBA Chairman and ABF Delegate, Richard Douglas, resulting in the grant of Congress Level B4 Red points, the cost of which will be borne by the ABF.



31 teams competed for the points, divided into 2 fields of 17 tables (Restricted) and 14 tables (Open). 9xboard matches may have been ambitious, but then bridge players love the chance to earn red points! As well as CCLCBC members, players came from Central Coast BC, Community Bridge Club Bateau Bay, Brisbane Water BC (who cancelled their regular Tuesday session) and Terrigal Senior Citizens. Calls from a field of 124 bridge players kept our Director on his toes, and then technical problems and a system crash complicated the scoring. Thanks to Louis and the other directors who pitched in to help for their great efforts.

There were 12 Lucky Door prizes. Winners could choose between wine, pots of herbs, (costs covered by an anonymous donor) or pots of flowers, donated by Forresters Beach Garden Centre.

At last the Raffle prizes were drawn and the Guessing Competition winner announced. Sincere thanks to all the generous donors:

Winner

1st	Mantra Resort, Ettalong Beach, 2 nights' accommodation	<i>Pip Cooper</i>
2nd	The Cowrie Restaurant, Terrigal, \$100 voucher	<i>Joy Fogg</i>
3rd	The Dart and Feather, Davistown, \$100 voucher	<i>John Newman</i>
4th	Tandoori Dhaba, Tumby Umbi, \$60 voucher	<i>Beryl Morton</i>
5th	Peking Garden Restaurant, Gosford, Yum Cha for 2	<i>Ken Townsend</i>
6th	Boon's Thai Restaurant, Green Point, \$50 voucher	<i>Colin Mitchell</i>
7th	Central Coast Leagues Club, \$50 voucher for an eatery	<i>Elaine Hume</i>
8th	Star Buffet, Gosford, meal for 2	<i>Mr Barnes</i>
9th	Kuoch Chemist Terrigal, \$50 voucher	<i>Martin Johnson</i>

Guessing Competition - answer 20,554. Closest guess - *Pam Harris*

Just when we all felt like relaxing, a fast finish was required to clear the Parkview Room by 6.30pm to make way for the Camera Club – an amazing band of volunteers managed this in record time – THANK YOU. It took another couple of days to reorganise our bridge room, and the Ransley scarecrow, haircut by stylist Tony, has remained as a reminder and adrenalin boost for the first to open the door and see him in the corner!

Now for a summary of the monies raised:

Income

Melbourne Cup Day raffle of fruit/vegetable basket	214.00
Handmade Cards by Marjie	304.40
Lucky Door Farm tickets	320.00
Guessing Competition	47.00
Donations	46.10
CWA Stall (Preserves - \$203, Fresh food - \$221)	424.00
Auctioned items	128.70
Farmers Raffle	2 101.00
Table Fees (including donation for Standby)	3 100.00
Donated from club funds	<u>563.60</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	7 248.80

Catering (sandwiches)	1 235.00	
Catering (après bridge)	513.80	<u>1 748.80</u>
Nett raised, forwarded to Leagues Club for matching:	\$ 5 500.00	

#####

HISTORICAL 'FOURS' FOOTNOTE

Remembrance Day Pairs - has been conducted for 11 years since 2008. Dorothy and Peter won this event this year for the **4th** time and for the 3rd year running. They also won in 2013.

Henry Kendall Pairs - held last month for the 25th time continuously since 1994. In October Dorothy won this event for the **4th** consecutive year but with **four** different partners each time. 2018 – Peter Berzins, 2017 – Julie Sadler, 2016 – Gwen White, 2015 – Adele Mills. Dorothy & Peter also played together to win in 2011.

Christmas Pairs – Dorothy won this 27 year old event with Patricia Kull, but only once before, with Di Coats in 2014 – **four** years ago!

NEW ABF RANKINGS - NOVEMBER Congratulations to:

<i>Regional</i>	Kathleen Bromley	<i>*Local</i>	Robyn O'Hara
-----------------	------------------	---------------	--------------

NSWBA ZONAL COUNCILLOR

Alan Bustany has been re-appointed to this position as the representative for players in the *Outer Metropolitan* zone. Congratulations Alan - keep up the good work on our behalf.

Bridge For Brain Research Challenge 2018

Since 2004, the ABF has partnered with Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA) to raise funds for research into Alzheimer's and other dementias. NeuRA is delighted to report that the 2018 Challenge has raised \$45,349 to date with a small number of clubs still to report. This brings the total funds raised since we began the partnership to **\$603,110**. A full copy of the 2018 report can be found at http://www.abfevents.com.au/events/4brc/2018_B4BRC_Final_Results.pdf

Judy Dixon on behalf of NeuRA wrote to the ABF stating "*we once again had a wonderful response nationally. The generosity of donations, both individual and from clubs, will once again assist our vital research into Alzheimer's disease.*

Sincere thanks for the wonderful cooperation and support NeuRA receives from ABF".

| Wendy and I attended a seminar on dementia by NEURA at Mingara a few |
| weeks ago. One of the interesting facts – eating Blueberries assists in the |
prevention of dementia [for no apparent reason!]. Colin M

ASIA PACIFIC BRIDGE FEDERATION CONGRESS

Put this in your diary! The 2020 APBF Congress will be held in Perth – the dates are 15 – 22 April – at the Perth Convention Centre.

Autumn in Perth should be very pleasant with plenty to do as well as play bridge – the Mint is well worth a visit – when Wendy and I were there earlier this year I was valued at approximately \$976,234.37 [if I had been made of gold!] – also the Bell Tower where you learn how to ring a church bell.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

As per last year, you will have received one email asking you to check all details we hold with regard to address, phone number etc. and another with your renewal letter. For those without email addresses, there is a letter for you at the club and a list for you to check your details.

Fees for 2019 became due on December 1. We ask you to pay before December 31. You will be unfinancial from then, but you won't be treated as a visitor provided you pay by January 31.

Place in the special envelope: **\$32.80 (Home) or \$7 (Associate)**

PRESIDENT'S PRECIS

Continued from p. 1

- The club hosted the Central Coast Regional Final of the GNOT in late September. The winning team (Di Coats, Jan Clarke, Lorraine Lindsay, Chris Hannan, Helen Milward) represented us in Tweed as a four-person team, without Chris.
- Although they were knocked out early in the piece, they still managed to come 20th out of 60 in the Swiss Teams. Di & Jan then came 3rd in the GNOT Swiss Pairs (out of 96), with Lorraine & Helen coming 17th, a fantastic result.
- The Melbourne Cup Pairs were played in our rooms. It was well attended (16 tables) and after the session, we adjourned to the Parkview Room for lunch, the viewing of the Melbourne Cup and various other activities. (The Beefeaters stole the show.)
- The Club Teams Championship was held during November. There were 11 teams competing. The winning team were Helen Eaton, Dorothy Berzins, Di Coats and Jan Clarke.
- The Drought Relief Teams was held on 20th November to raise money for farmers. This was started as a team discussion in Taree in July and it took six weeks to get approval from the NSWBA and ABF to run it. It took a lot of planning and a lot of coaxing players to enter, but we had a field of 14 teams in the open and 17 teams in the restricted. We had some hiccups and an unrecoverable failure of the BridgeMate server (its terminals were severely corroded), so the last round had to be scored manually. Everyone enjoyed themselves, the lunch was good and wine and cheese followed the play. The club raised \$5,500 and the Central Coast Leagues Club will match this to bring the amount to \$11,000. Many thanks go to all the people who made this such a success.
- Lastly, we hosted the Central Coast Regional Final of the UHMP on 2nd December. There were 7 tables and people played the same boards state wide. Results will be known when all regional finals are in and the event is scored across the state.

My best wishes to all members for a happy, safe and healthy
Christmas and New Year.

Louis Koolen

NEW MEMBER POLICY

New members must be proposed and seconded and ratified by the
Committee. More details next newsletter.

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

Dashing December	E	<i>Best 2 of 4</i>	Fridays	7 to 28
NO BRIDGE		Christmas Day	Tuesday	25
NO BRIDGE		Boxing Day	Wednesday	26
NO BRIDGE		New Years Eve	Monday Eve	31

JANUARY

NO BRIDGE		New Year's Day	Tuesday	1
New Years' Cup	R		Wednesday	2
Jumping January	E	<i>Best 2 of 4</i>	Monday Eve	7 to 28
Australia Day Pairs	R		Saturday	26

FEBRUARY

Monthly Shield (1)	E		Monday	4
Inter-Club Teams 1	R/P	9.30am	Thursday	7
Summer Pairs	R		Wednesday	13
Valentine's Day Pairs	Green		Thursday	14
Switching Singles 1	E		Monday Eve	18

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for December to:

Joan Brierty, Alan Bustany, Heather Carlile, Sally Clarke, Diana Coats, Tony Collis, Trish Dennis, Marion Ellis, Carol Godfrey, Barbara Grant, Alison Heathcote, Nancye Joss, Greg Mayo, Kerryll McGrath, Diane Nichols, Hilary Owen, Len Pascoe, Gina Robertson, Chris Spikesman.

And for January to:

Peter Berzins, Janice Bowyer, Dasha Brandt, Jenny Buckley, Jan Davis, Austin Driscoll, Ruth Griffin, Martin Johnson, Carol Judd, Ian Lincoln, Leonard Pratt, Matt Raj Mal, Tony Ransley, Jenny Rowe, John Tagg.

NEW MEMBERS

Please make welcome: Alex Smoleniec (0415 637 774)

THINK & SMILE AWHILE

You can tell Microsoft have a monopoly because even Santa had to switch from chimneys to Windows.

Colin Mitchell, Editor

Three 'Jillaroos' for the three 'farmers' on p.1.



CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONS (L to R):
Helen Eaton, Dorothy Berzins,
Diana Coats, Jan Clarke



CHRISTMAS CAKES



Not quite
the same
as Ro's
(left), but
you can
order
Lions

Christmas products at the club.

Colin will deliver these the week before Christmas.



STATE RESTRICTED TEAMS CHAMPIONS

Pamela and Forde Leathley (left)

Nola Daly and Marianna Xerri
(right)

with Illawarra Bridge Association
President, Jill McRae (centre)

(from the NSWBA website)