

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



**NEWSLETTER**

**MAY 2019**

**B** **RIDGE**  
**LINEAGE**

We hope you enjoy our lift-out about *Mothers and Daughters*. Our Club Historian - Dorothy Berzins - conceived the idea and did the research. Thank you Dorothy!

A future article will be about the sons of bridge-playing parents - please give us your story.

**PRESIDENT'S CUP: May 10**

Played since 1993, and on a Friday since 2016. The current holders are Marie Purkiss and Elizabeth Lawrence. Last year's tables (5.5) were the lowest ever - so let's do better than that!

**ZELDA OVERHALL CUP: May 16**

A list of eligible members is displayed next to the Noticeboard. This event is named after our first Patron who also taught many of our players.

**A/WIDE NOVICE PRS: May 30**

The list of our eligible players is dis-

played next to the Noticeboard. This is a great chance for masterpoints and prizes and receive professional feedback.

**CLUB PAIRS: June 5 & 12**

First won by Colin & Josie Mitchell in 1987, Barbara Grant & Paul Unger are the current title holders. *Pre-entry!*

**TEAMS OF 3: June 14**

Note that this is an *all day* event and the total points for the 3 players has been changed to 600, instead of 450. Entries are now open, so form your team.

This year we are following the NSWBA tradition of bringing lunch for your team **and** your Captain (who will be appointed on the day)!

**CHARITY DAY: June 18**

Only 5 weeks away, so start bringing in your donations for hampers, and gather items for sale.

The Management Committee will announce the charities to receive our support after their next meeting.

## RECENT RESULTS

### **MONTHLY SHIELD (3) (E) 6 tables Mon Apr 1**

1st	Alfie Nation & Jacqui Wilson	61.48%
2nd	Dorothy & Peter Berzins	58.89%
3rd	Rosalind & Philip Dey	57.78%

### **SWITCHING SINGLES (3) (E) 5.5 tables Mon Eve Apr 15**

1st	Sally & Garry Clarke	62.37%
2nd	Beryl & Bob Lowry	57.29%
3rd	Matt Raj Mal & Frank Pellarini	53.65%

### **EASTER PAIRS (R) 7.5 tables Tue Apr 23**

1st	Chris Hannan & Alan Bustany	63.19%
2nd =	Julie Sadler & Anne Grayden	61.81%
2nd =	Marie Purkiss & Di Nichols	61.81%

### **ANZAC DAY PAIRS (R) 5.5 tables Thu Apr 25**

1st	Dorothy & Peter Berzins	64.57%
2nd	Julie Sadler & Anne Grayden	58.33%
3rd	Alfie Nation & Gwen White	55.73%

### **AUTUMN PAIRS (R) 10 tables Mon Eve Apr 29**

1st	Di Coats & Lorraine Lindsay	62.59%
2nd	Barry Davies & Phil Morris	61.60%
3rd	Julie Sadler & Gwen White	61.11%

### **BWBC INTER-CLUB TEAMS Apr 15**

Our club members starred as follows:

*Open*

**14 teams**

- 1st Lorraine Harkness (& Jan Davis), Jaan Oitmaa & Sylvia Foster
- 3rd Hope Tomlinson, Barry Foster, David Snow, Martin Johnson
- 4th Alfie Nation, Gwen White, Bob Morris, Jacqui Wilson
- 5th Henrietta Hohnen, Chris Hannan, Anne Grayden, Julie Sadler

*Novice*

**6 teams**

- 2nd Suzanne Harrison & Jann Small, Wendy Byrne (& Judith Lambkin)

*(Continued Page 7)*

## As told to Dorothy Berzins by Heather Carlile

Heather's mother was Thelma MacInnes. Thelma always played card games with the whole family, playing Solo, Euchre, five hundred etc.

This was part of a family's entertainment in a world with no TV (until the middle 1950's).

Thelma was widowed young and spent much of her time playing golf and Solo. Both were played every week and taken very seriously. Others in this group were Elsie Trask and Mabel Wheeler. Elsie encouraged Thelma to learn bridge and Heather believes that her mother had lessons with Zelda Overhall in 1975/6. Elsie fostered her learning by buying the group books and trying out new systems etc.



Most of her fellow bridge partners were also golf players - a good combination of physical and mental exercise which is much the same today. Before 1975 people on the Central Coast mostly played bridge socially (some took part in the SMH Rubber Bridge Competition where people played in private homes). This changed in 1975 when the Central Coast Bridge Club was formed, quickly followed by the Brisbane Water Bridge Club later that year. Thelma became a member at Long Jetty and Brisbane Water and also joined the CCLCBC when it started in 1987. Thelma and Mabel Wheeler won the Anniversary Pairs at Long Jetty in 1980.

Thelma instilled a love of card games in Heather and the family. However, due to life circumstances, Heather did not take bridge lessons until the late 1970's in Turrumurra. Here she learned 4 card majors (Goren) but did not play regularly as she was working full time.

In 1992-94 Heather's husband was transferred to the UK so Heather experienced playing in the UK where they played Acol. After not playing very regularly Heather was somewhat perturbed when she came to the Central Coast to find most people playing American Standard. Heather has been a member with the CCLCBC since about 1994.

## **A gift to her three daughters**

### **- the challenge and enjoyment of playing bridge.**

Our mother, Rose Scowen and our father Bob, had always enjoyed their weekly card games (five hundred, crib, rummy, solo and various gambling games) with family, friends and neighbours. It was inevitable that,



after she retired from managing our father's business, Rose would progress to the classic and more demanding game of Bridge.

Our parents had been coming to the Central Coast since 1924, firstly for holidays then most weekends for years while our father built 3 cottages in Ocean Beach.

They finally retired here in 1965. Our mother was taught by Jean Pelham at the Progress Hall, Ettalong before becoming one of the first members in 1975 of the Brisbane Water BC on the Woy Woy Peninsula. She may also have had lessons before this from Les Kostomlatsky (at a private club) who later taught Pam to play. Lorraine Lindsay recalls that Rose was her first partner on Wednesday nights at BWBC in February 1981.

Rose was also a member of the Long Jetty Club (CCBC) and, in particular, a foundation member of the CCLC Bridge Club. Her name appears on the list of 22 attendees of the inaugural meeting which was called in June 1987 to set up our club . Some of her numerous partners over the 25 years that she played were Bidy Boylan, Beryl Joseph, Les Mills and Marion Jones.

Again it was also inevitable that her enthusiasm and some of her knowledge and skill would pass down to her daughters- Pam Harris, then Elaine McGorm and finally Margaret Berger.

We are grateful that our mother introduced us to the stimulation that comes from each competition, but most of all for the many friends that we have made in bridge clubs over the past years.

## **Suzanne Harrison**

My mother, Jean Wilson, first became interested in bridge after the death of my father. Two of her sisters played bridge and mum thought that if she learnt to play she would be able to join them at the table. In her working life mum was a teacher, and retired as the economics mistress at Macarthur Girls High Parramatta, so numbers and maths were her forte.

Well so she thought! I remember her being very keen to learn what she found to be a very challenging game. She played once a week at Rose Bay club with her sisters, travelling to Sydney from Point Clare where she was living at the time and once a week at Gosford Leagues Club Bridge Club. I understand her name appears in the 1995 Programme which means that she joined between March 1994 and February 1995 as the Programme and Members Contact numbers were produced in March each year at that time.

Mum was very keen for me to “take up” bridge, however working full time left no room in my life for bridge and anyway maths was NEVER my forte! That all changed recently when I did retire and moved from Sydney (back) to the Central Coast. It seemed only natural that I should also learn and play where mum had blazed a trail, so CCLCBC it was.

About a year ago Mum lost the ability to speak but her mind remains as sharp as ever, so when I told her I was learning bridge at her old club she was tickled pink. Now when I visit her I entertain her with news of recent games and our lovely bridge people. Recently I was able to relate how I played against one of the current members (Leyla Moncelet) who remembers her from her time at the club for always having perfectly groomed hair!

I am so grateful mum forged a path for me into the world of bridge, and in particular a path that led to her old bridge club door.



## Down the line: grandmother - mother - daughter

My mum's mother *genetically imprinted* her eight children with a passion for music, **cards** and fun. The fanatics would start a card game on Friday night. As one dropped off to sleep, another would wake up to fill the gap - until Monday morning!

My mum, Betty de Lacy Provis, taught me cards as a toddler. She was a singer, entertainer and artist. In her 70's she came 2<sup>nd</sup> in Italian in the NSW HSC; afterwards, her mathematician grandson-in-law hooked her on bridge. Applying her "homework", she soon was promoted to play with "*the big boys*" at the Grand Slam Bridge Centre.

After a near fatal brain bleed, we moved to East Gosford in 2002. Betty joined CCLCBC and played with an elderly retired muso, John. Unfortunately, Betty developed double vision which meant if she was aiming for a heart, she'd pick a spade - causing all sorts of problems! She'd complain that local players were "*gutless*" and would "*not go for the kill*", ie 7NT.



The Director, John Lehane, would egg me on to learn bridge. I'd respond "*I'm a 500 player, too much of a gambler!*" but I gave in so that I could play with my partner, Stewart Lee. John taught me the basics and then Lorraine Lindsay & Wendy Mitchell nurtured my game. I'll always be learning and I am still a gambler . . .

Betty would comment: "*Underbid!*" when players missed a game and "*A boy on a man's mission!*" when a small trump was beaten. She had three strict rules:

- (1) Second player plays low;
- (2) Cover an honour with an honour;
- (3) Always return your partner's lead.

Alas, her failing vision left her to play *Bridge Baron* alone in her computer cupboard. She'd swear at it saying "*Why did you bid THAT?!!*" and "*Naughty Baron!*" Later, I ended up saying the same. Despite her dementia, my mum always remembered bridge and the songs from the last 150 years. I'm so grateful for my inherited passion for cards and my mum's patience with supporting my bridge journey. Bridge is a gift for life - **so vital for my brain health, social life and sheer fun.**

**Pamela de Lacy**

(From Page 2)

## CONGRESSES

## Best Local Players

### CCBC SUPER CONGRESS

There was a very strong field as usual, with many top players from Sydney competing, so well done to the locals!

*Swiss Pairs – Open*

**46 pairs**

**Apr 6**

4th - Julie Sadler & Anne Grayden; 15th – Sylvia Foster & Jaan Oitmaa

*Swiss Pairs – Restricted & Novice*

**48 pairs**

5th - Ellen Williams & Berenice Air; 6th and best Novice Pair - Stephen Calcroft & Peter Cloughessy

*Open Teams*

**33 teams**

**Apr 7**

9th - Jan Clarke & Di Coats, Greg & Sharon Mayo

12th - Garry & Sally Clarke, Noel & Shirley Crockett

*Restricted & Novice Teams*

**22 teams**

6th - Nola Daly & Marianna Xerri, Austin Driscoll & Robin Dunlop

7th - Jurate Laisve & Trish Byrne, Alan Bustany & Pauline Caust

### TILLIGERRY SWISS PAIRS

**30 tables**

**Apr 14**

*North-South*

4th - Alan Bustany & Chris Hannan

10th - David Snow & Martin Johnson

*East-West*

1st - Virginia Dressler & Ian McKinnon (CCBC); 4th - Sharon & Greg Mayo; 5th - Marie Purkiss & Di Nichols; 7th - Elizabeth Lawrence & Alfie Nation

### TAREE TEAMS

**16 teams**

**Apr 27-28**

The only local team to make the trek to Taree came a creditable 4th: Sylvia Foster & Jaan Oitmaa, Barry Foster & Martin Johnson

### NEW ABF RANKINGS APRIL:

**Congratulations to-**

*Grand*

Louis Koolen

*State*

Trish Byrnes

*Club*

Maureen Bell

## COMING EVENTS

### MAY

Bridge for Brains Research Challenge		Friday	3
Monthly Shield (4)	E	Monday	6
Magic May	E	Best 2	Tuesdays 7 - 28
President's Cup	R	Friday	10
Zelda Overhall Cup	R	Thursday	16
Switching Singles (4)	E	Monday Eve	20
Australia Wide Novice Paris (<100 MPs)		Thursday	30

### JUNE

Monthly Shield (5)	E	Monday	3
Club Pairs	C/P	Wednesday	5 & 12
Teams of Three	C/P	Friday	14
Charity Day Pairs		Tuesday	18
Switching Singles (5)	E	Monday Eve	17

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY for May:

Margaret Campbell, Garry Clarke, Doreen Collis, Joan Dominguez, David Ford, Pramila Muthiah, Frank Pellarini, Marie Purkiss, Jim Swindells, Paul Unger, Pamela Wackwitz.

### NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome new member: Julie Germein (0498 951 821)

### CORRECTION

Please amend phone number for Jenny Rowe to 0405 357 172

### FROM THE ABF at April 1:

Club Membership Total=33,324 (corresponding total last year: 33,667)

By State: ACT=902; NSW=13074; VIC=5176; QLD=7123; SA=2137, WA=3963; TAS=823; NT=126

### SMILE AWHILE

Heard about Dummy? See below . . .

Heard about Partner? See above . . .

*Colin Mitchell, Editor*