

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



NEWSLETTER

May 2012

C **HARITY DAY**
TUESDAY
MAY 29

This year we are continuing our support of Pandora. The members of this very worthy charity work to help families in need across the Central Coast, in particular those who do not receive assistance through other services.

Raffle tickets are now on sale \$1 each or 3 for \$2. Take a book and sell to your friends!

First Prize -
\$200 Petrol Voucher
Other Prizes - various baskets with a theme, etc

Want a romantic date? A special raffle will have a choice of prizes - Leon Babinski ... **OR**

dinner for two at the club with a complimentary bottle of wine. Your preference!!!!

All donations for the baskets or for the trading table are most appreciated.

WELCOME

We are pleased to announce that George Boettiger has returned to our team of Directors - welcome back!

THANK YOU

Following our appeal a number of people have offered to assist the committee in various ways - thank you sincerely.

GOOD LUCK

Our representatives in the State Mixed Pairs Final on May 26 & 27 are Peter & Dorothy Berzins & Louis Koolen and Barbara Grant. Good luck!

RECENT RESULTS

Congratulations to all the following winners:

ANZAC DAY PAIRS **Wednesday April 25** *18 pairs*

1st	Christine Hadaway & Tricia Nolan	64.3%
2nd	John & Joan Lehane	63.6%
3rd	Dorothy & Peter Berzins	62.1%

MONTHLY SHIELD **First Monday of each Month**

After 3 eligible sessions, the leaders at this stage are:

	<u>Scores counted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Colin & Wendy Mitchell	3	55
Di & Peter Coats	2	32
Peter & Dorothy Berzins	2	25
Mei-Hua Crawford & Vicky Morris	1	24
Patricia Bowles & Marie Purkiss	2	23

CONGRESSES

HAWKESBURY RIVER **Teams (31)** **April 15**

10th Noel & Shirley Crockett, Sally & Gary Clarke

11th Barbara Grant, Louis Koolen, Vicky & Bob Morris

TAMWORTH **Swiss Teams (16)** **April 21, 22**

3rd Jack & Lorraine Lindsay, Ken Wilks, Rosalie Broughton

PENINSULA **Teams (26)** **April 22**

6th Noel & Shirley Crockett, Ed & Robin Vaughan

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ADVANCED WORKSHOPS

If you haven't tried these yet, there are still two more, conducted by Lorraine Lindsay on Mondays, 9.30-11.30 am:

- 7/5 Trial Bids
- 14/5 Fourth Suit Forcing

Notes and hand records are provided with each lesson.

\$10 per lesson

NEW ABF RANKINGS

Congratulations to the following who have gained promotions:

March

Kevin Carson Graduate
Maureen Carson Graduate
Joan Brierty Local
Agnes Marsh * Local
Gwen White ** National
Margo Brennan Bronze Life

April

Apologies - the masterpoints for April were dispatched after midnight on April 30, so will not appear until May

A FEW FACTS AND FIGURES

Membership

At March 31 our club had 160 Home Club members (i.e those for whom we collect and pass on the NSWBA and ABF membership fees). 10 of these were Beginning players for whom the ABF has waived affiliation fees.

Our Associate members (who are Home Club members elsewhere) numbered 102. This brings our total membership to 262.

Email addresses

We have on record email addresses for only 75 of the above members. If we have your address we would be able to inform you of any unexpected changes to the program or venue, and this newsletter could be emailed to you. Margot Williams (Secretary) will be glad to record your details.

NEW MEMBERS


Yvonne and Sam Zammit, who took beginners lessons last year have now joined our club and had their first game on Monday evening, April 30. Please make them welcome.

VALE

The chairman of the Central Coast Leagues Club, Peter Reynolds, passed away on April 30. We would like to acknowledge the support that Peter gave our club over several years and express our sincere condolences to his family.

IT'S THE QUANTITY - NOT THE QUALITY

Easter Saturday 7/4/12, Board 6

Board 6 Dir: E Vul: E-W	♠ KQ ♥ AJ652 ♦ T3 ♣ KQ76	
♠ 6 ♥ QT983 ♦ K64 ♣ 9542		♠ AJ98752 ♥ 7 ♦ AQ852 ♣
15 5 11 9	♠ T43 ♥ K4 ♦ J97 ♣ AJT83	N: 3 ♣ 1 ♥ 1NT S: 3 ♣ 1 ♥ 1NT E: 6 ♦ 4 ♠ W: 6 ♦ 4 ♠

Holding East's hand I counted playing tricks: 5,0,4,0 = 9, not enough for a Game Force, so I opened 1S.

When South and partner passed, North happily bid 2H with 15 HCP. I now bid 4D, a strong invitation to partner to choose a S game or D game. Colin chose to bid 4S with his singleton (!), knowing I must have a very shapely hand.

South led ♣A, ruffed. ♠A, then a small ♠, losing to ♠K. Now I can lose a H, but can draw the last trump with ♠J and then cash 5x♦'s as they kindly break 3-2. Scoring 620

Note that, with the combined 16 HCP, 6D makes! Suppose South leads a ♦. Win in hand, play ♠A, small ♠ and ruff. Cash ♦K, return to hand by ruffing a ♣. Draw the outstanding trumps and cash the spades. 12 tricks! So if Colin had chosen 5D we would have scored 620 also. Poor North-South - with their 24 HCP, they can make a lowly 3C for just 110!

Wendy Mitchell

WHAT IS YOUR CARDS RATING?

There have been a number of queries about this recently.

The following is reprinted from the June, 2011 Newsletter.

CARDS stands for Computer Automated Ratings Database System. It is software that implements the Alan Woods Rating System (AWRS) which the ABF is licenced to run in Australia. This arose from the horse racing system which the late Alan Woods used to amass a \$700 million fortune.

The system takes into account the strength of the partner and that of the opponents, so the rating produced is an accurate measure of the player's current standing at bridge. It also puts more weight on recent games.

Ratings are not designed to replace masterpoints. Masterpoints largely reflect **how long** a player has been playing rather than a player's **current performance** and that is quite different from ratings.

Most duplicate players want to know their result from a bridge session, but the percentage and position is only part of the story. What is more relevant to know is how good that result is when you take into account the strength of the partner and the opponents.

Every pair should aim to be 'plus' on their rating - that is, to do better than expected in a session. So it doesn't matter even if you come last, as long as you perform above your 'seeding'. This knowledge can be quite encouraging, especially for less experienced players.

Ratings range from about 30 to about 70 but the majority of players are in the range of 45 to 55, with 50 being average. You can view your monthly statements online. All the events you played in during the month are listed with their rating's impact shown for each event. All the Central Coast clubs send results to CARDS so you can see other players' rankings as well as your own. Do have a look - it's fun!

PLEASE SEE PAGE 6 FOR THE TOP TEN IMPROVERS

CARDS RATINGS - MOST IMPROVED

March

Wendy Mitchell	2.69
Colin Mitchell	2.00
Carole Hamilton	1.97
Elizabeth Lawrence	1.49
Jim Hancox	1.33
Peter Coats	1.30
Angela Dougall	1.17
Kevin Dougall	1.13
Di Coats	1.10
Les Free	1.04

April

Toni Dixon	1.67
Kaylee Lemon	1.49
Colin Mitchell	1.49
Sue Eastman	1.28
Jack Lindsay	1.22
Marilyn Whigham	1.20
Wendy Mitchell	1.14
Paul Unger	1.09
Judy Wulff	1.02
Don Holmes	1.00

MASTERPOINT PROCESSING

May and June masterpoints will not be submitted until early July. Sorry for any inconvenience. *Wendy M*

REMINDER

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■ *We will no longer have a standby for Monday night sessions.* ■
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25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY - FRIDAY JUNE 29

Don't forget to keep this day free for Bridge (Red points) in the morning, followed by lunch. See the wealth of information that Dorothy Berzins has collected about the club's history and be entertained by a presentation of member photographs.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

CCLC have advised that, due to a darts tournament, there is no venue available for bridge on Saturday June 9. So

NO BRIDGE - SATURDAY, JUNE 9

PERSONAL PROFILE

VICKY MORRIS

Vicky Galolo Morris was born in the Philippines and has a significant birthday on May 8th this year. In 1985 she left the Philippines to join her de-facto husband in PNG, where he worked as a mining engineer.

Vicky was introduced to bridge during her seven months stay by watching four Australian ladies playing. She picked up some basic system knowledge, but did not understand the whole concept of the game until she took formal lessons on arrival in Australia in 1986.

Her de-facto husband had been offered a job in SMEC, in the small town of Cooma, NSW. He met John Hilton who played bridge, and his wife Jan *, also a bridge player, who ran bridge lessons in a small community centre in town. So Vicky took a 12-week course of beginners lessons.

** Later of Brisbane Water Bridge Club*

She really enjoyed playing cards and the bridge came easily to her. They had a small bridge club run by Jan, where they played three times a week. Vicky and her partner often won, collecting a few bottles of wine as a reward, until someone said that they would have to be banned for winning all the time! (Just a joke though).

After just a year in Cooma they moved to Sydney and started playing at NSWBA, where they were members for nearly 14 years. They also played at the Lindfield Bridge club and were members there for a while.

Vicky moved to the Central Coast in 2001 and bought a house for herself and her two children after separating from their father after 14 long years. Here she met Bob. He, too, loved cards and wanted to learn to play bridge. They went together to Long Jetty (Central Coast Bridge Club) and Bob took lessons from John Redfearn. Vicky and Bob became a 'bridge couple' and were married in 2002.

Since then Vicky and Bob have enjoyed playing bridge in different clubs and have represented these frequently. They enjoy playing in congresses around NSW and hope one day to do a Bridge Cruise, as that would be a dream come true for both of them. They both contributed to others learning bridge by acting as 'Bridge Buddies' to beginners at CCLCBC last year.

Vicky loves playing bridge because she says "It gives me the opportunity to meet lovely people along the way".

COMING EVENTS

MAY

Monthly Shield (4)		Monday 7
Bridge for Brains		Wednesday 2
Grand National Pairs		Wednesday 9, 16, 23
Charity Day Pairs	Red points	Tuesday 29

JUNE

Winter Pairs	Red points	Friday 1
Monthly Shield (5)		Monday 4
Saturday Duplicate	CANCELLED	Saturday 9
Club Swiss Pairs	Pre-Entry	Monday 18, 25
<i>25 Year Anniversary</i>	<i>Red points 9.30am</i>	<i>Friday June 29</i>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH:

Pamela Bourne, Patricia Carey, Doreen Collis, David Ford, Ros Horton, Lucy Julebin, Juni North, Neville Sadler, Dot Storey-Wilson, Paul Unger— and to anyone else born in May!

If you are a Home Club member and I have missed you, please let me know your birthday day and month (the year is a secret if you wish!).

If you are an Associate member I do not have any information about your birthday. If you would like to let me know (via the Secretary Margot Williams), we would love to acknowledge it when it comes around.

SMILE AWHILE

Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now (works every time).

Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

What do you call a dinosaur with extensive vocabulary?

A thesaurus.

NEXT NEWSLETTER: will be produced in early July when Colin and I return from overseas.

Wendy Mitchell Editor