

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



NEWSLETTER

January/February 2014

**B RIDGEMATE
ETIQUETTE**

After the East or West player checks the result entered by North or South, **ALL** players are entitled to see the summary of results at the other tables.

This can be done by passing the device to each player in turn to peruse (with the possible need to extending the display time from the current 20s).

Alternatively, when the OK button is pressed the Bridgemate can be placed in the centre of the table and the displayed scores read out to the other players.

All players were entitled to the same courtesy when we used 'travellers'. We should not need

to mandate the way this Bridgemate is to be viewed and be aware - the ABF has suggested that the scores at other tables be not displayed at all! This *would* spoil our fun.

SINCERE THANKS TO:

- Leon Babinski and Tony Ransley for all the installations
- All who have vacuumed and especially Judy Fenton who regularly cleans the Ladies toilets

VALE: Irma Heyting

24/2/25 to 8/1/14

While only an occasional player at our club, Irma was well known on the Central Coast and had a fascinating life - please see Page 8.

RECENT RESULTS

Congratulations to all

BUSHFIRE APPEAL PAIRS

11.5 tables Monday Dec 9

North-South

Helen Gulliver & Toni Dixon	58.80 %
Peter Berzins & Gary Heyting	58.30
Bruce Branthwaite & Anne Grayden	56.40

East-West

Alison Heathcote & Phillip Morris	66.80 %
Bob Morris & Vicky Morris	62.70
Jan Davis & Lorraine Lindsay	59.30

Thank you for supporting this appeal. A cheque for \$495 was written to the Salvation Army Bushfire Appeal.

NEW YEAR'S CUP (R)

22 pairs

Monday Jan 6

1st Ann Gunner & Barbara Grant	62.6 %
2nd Mei-Hua Crawford & Phillip Morris	60.8
3rd Carole Hamilton & Elizabeth Lawrence	58.6

AUSTRALIA DAY PAIRS (R) 20 pairs

Saturday Jan 25

1st Matthew Blackham & Trish Dennis	62.7 %
2nd Jack Lindsay & Lorraine Lindsay	62.0
3rd Matt Raj Mal & Mei-Hua Crawford	58.8

CHRISTMAS HAMPER THANK YOU

We are pleased to announce that we raised \$744 from the bridge club members. ***Thank You So Much*** to all generous people who donated to my Christmas hampers in the Philippines.

Each family received the following (see photos on noticeboard):

3.75 kg rice	90 g bath soap
80 g milk powder	40 g coffee
500 g brown sugar	150 g beef loaf (can)
500 g fresh bread loaf	150 g corned beef (can)

Again, thank you everyone!!! We really appreciate your generosity—it gave these families something to smile about this Christmas.

Vicky and Bob Morris

DASHING DECEMBER

The three Wednesdays in this event were well-attended with an average of 11 tables. Twenty-two pairs became eligible for outright masterpoint awards because they played at least twice (9 of these played 3 times). A further 13 pairs played on one Wednesday only.

The top half of the eligible field received masterpoints as follows:

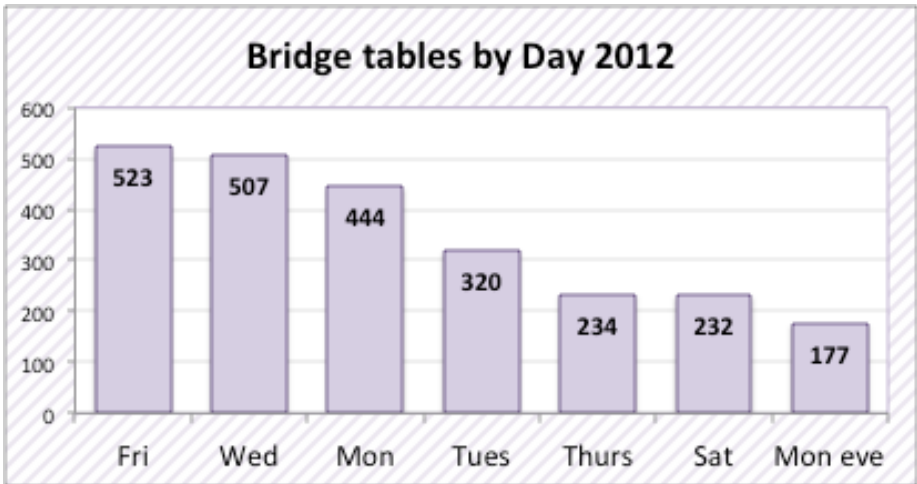
Pairs		Best Two	Masterpoints
Lawrence E	Nation A	122.60	0.75
Joss N	Mills A	122.10	0.53
Berzins P	Mitchell C	119.50	0.38
Lindsay J	Lindsay L	116.50	0.25
Blackham M	Dennis T	113.20	0.19
Lehane J	Lehane J	113.10	0.15
Holmes M	Middleton U	111.80	0.13
Dixon T	Gulliver H	111.70	0.11
Kull P	Wilson J	111.60	0.10
Hancox J	Unger Paul	109.50	0.09
Berzins D	Coats D	109.40	0.08

JUMPING JANUARY

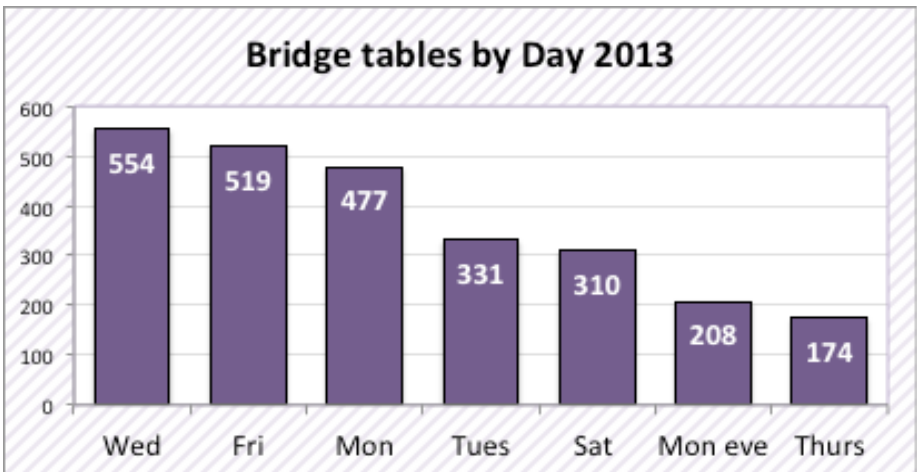
This eclectic event required pairs to play in at least 2 out of 4 Thursdays. Twenty-three different pairs played, with seven becoming eligible for outright awards. This is similar to last year when 7 out of 26 pairs qualified.

JUMPING JANUARY - 2014		BEST TWO	Outright Masterpoints	RANK
PAIRS				
Brierty J	Ellis M	115.0	0.37	1st
Alford W	Raward A	107.8	0.26	2nd
Davison C	Watkins R	107.3	0.18	3rd
Free L	Hall P	104.9		
Heathcote A	Morris P	102.5		
Lorne-Smith H	Dunstan J	100.1		
Tyrrell N	Dominguez	75.4		

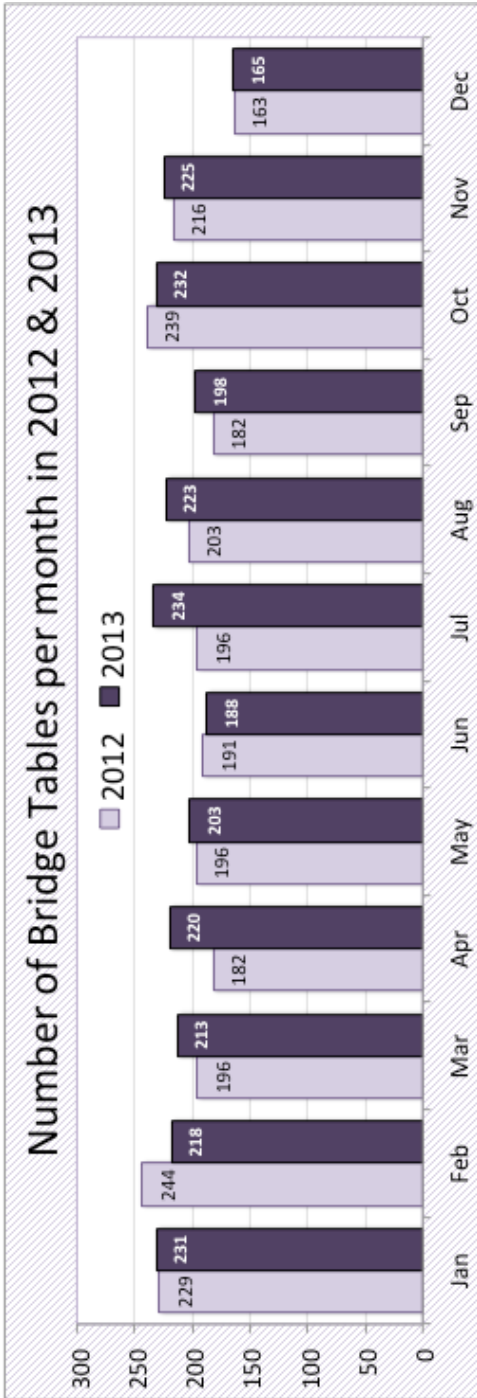
Comparing Numbers



In 2012 we played a total of 2,435 tables. That means 9,740 people played Bridge at CCLCBC. Friday was the most popular day with an average of 10 tables, followed by Wednesday with an average of 9 and then Monday afternoon with an average of 8.5 tables.



In 2013, despite the upheaval at the end of August and the move to our new premises, we played a total of 2,544 tables. Therefore 10,180 played Bridge last year. The most popular day was Wednesday with 10.5 tables.



With an overall rise of 4.5%, most months showed an increase. In 2012 February, the shortest month, had the most tables whereas in 2013 the most popular month was July.

Now for those of you that think that statistics are boring remember that the number of different hands a Bridge player can receive is more than 635 billion and the odds of receiving a Yarborough are 1 in 1,827.

But take comfort from this. The odds against both members of a partnership receiving a Yarborough are 546,000,000 to 1.

Why did the statistician drown?

Because he tried to cross a river that was one metre deep, on average.

Rosanne Ransley

MEMBER WELFARE

Get Well cards have been sent to Helen Gulliver, Jack Lindsay, Bill Thomson, June Rado, Jan Henry, Margot Williams, Teresa Jensen and Pamela De Lacey for Stuart.

A sympathy card was sent to Gary Heyting.

Do you know someone who would appreciate our thoughts? Just contact Robyn Ivers.

NEW ABF RANKINGS DECEMBER- Congratulations to:

Silver Life	Mary Stelzer	Club	Theo Chadwick
* National	Jaan Oitmaa	Graduate	David Howells

CARDS RATINGS - MOST IMPROVED - DECEMBER

TRISH DENNIS	2.33	HELEN SMITH	0.82
ELIZABETH LAWRENCE	1.99	MARION ELLIS	0.78
KEVIN DOUGALL	1.52	JOAN BRIERTY	0.75
PAMELA WACKWITZ	1.20	HELEN GULLIVER	0.73
JOHN ADAMS	1.10	TONI DIXON	0.69
JANE TYRRELL	1.08	GWEN WHITE	0.68
JANETTE KUKURA	0.96	HILARY OWEN	0.65
JIM SWINDELLS	0.91	JONATHAN FREE	0.65
GRAHAM CARSON	0.87	PETER HALL	0.64
ANGELA DOUGALL	0.84	CHERYL SHARPLES	0.64

PHONE CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS

Kerryn Murray: 0408 646 608

Marion Robey: 4365 5150

Pamela Wackwitz: 0419 214 310

2014 MEMBERSHIP

- January 31 is the last date for payment - after that visitor fees apply!
- \$30 for Home Club and \$6.50 for Associates
- Make sure you collect your 2014 Program

ABF SUMMER FESTIVAL OF BRIDGE

The teams events in Canberra this year were scored using the new International VP scale.

For example, in Round 7 of the Seniors we scored 32 IMPs to our opponents 36 IMPs. Minus 4 IMPs converted to 8.92 VPs for us and 11.08 VPs for them – note the 2 decimal places! This was still a (losing) draw because over 20 boards a team needs to average more than +0.2 IMPs per board in order to win.

Match 8, Board 8

Our opponents (never played together before this competition) bid nervously to slam. North had opened 1H on my left and bid ♦'s and ♣'s before South settled in 6NT after repeatedly bidding ♠'s.

What would you have led from

- ♠ J64
- ♥ KT5
- ♦ QT3
- ♣ Q853 ?

My thought process was: a trump does not appeal - might be giving declarer a fee finesse. A heart or diamond? Well my honours are probably finessable, but I want to make declarer work for it. So I led the ♣3, 4th best of my longest suit and the last mentioned suit on my left.

Dummy came down with

- ♠ - - -
- ♥ AJ964
- ♦ AKJ7
- ♣ AK96

Declarer called for the ♣9, partner covered with ♣10 and declarer won in hand with ♣J !! Then came 8 spade tricks and ♦A, ♦K, ♥A, ♣A.

Declarer's hand was ♠ AKQT8752 ♥ - - ♦ T64 ♣ J2, so my lead gave declarer an entry to hand, as would a spade lead or ♦3. I should have led a heart which will keep South to 10 tricks (EW eventually have to play a spade).

Luckily our partners bid the cold 7S, for a 10 IMP pickup, but 17 IMPs would have been nicer!

Wendy Mitchell

Irma Heyting - 24th February 1925 to 8th January 2014

Irma was born Irma Schumacher on 24 February 1925 at Ginneken, near Rotterdam, The Netherlands. She learned to play bridge at an early age (ACOL style) and can remember playing during the curfew hours imposed during WW11.

Irma was a feisty young lady even then (does that surprise us) and almost ran foul of the occupation forces when she would tell off the soldiers for being in Holland. This was a worry as the family hid Jewish friends in their attic and later had to billet German soldiers in their home. Irma also carried messages to and from the Resistance, through German check points, on her bicycle.

Irma has been a very big part of our bridge community since 1975 and a member of the CCLCBC for over 20 years. She was a Grand Master with over 30 trophy wins at Long Jetty and three Team championships at the Leagues Club (1991, 2001 and 2012).

She served on the Central Coast Bridge Club Committee for 21 years, 11 years as Treasurer from 1978 to 1989 and later in a variety of roles from 1994 to 1989 and then from 2000 to 2006.

Irma was renowned for being one of the first players to arrive at the CC Club (to help set up) and one of the last to leave (after helping tidy up). This was particularly important in those early years from 1978 to 1987 when we played in various venues. Irma was made a Life Member of the CCBC in 1988 for her outstanding contribution.

Perhaps less well known was that Irma was an Olympic Medallist having won two Medals in the London Olympics in 1948 and the Helsinki Olympics in 1952. As a swimmer Irma was as well known in Holland in her day (as Irma Schumacher) as Suzie O'Neill is to us. She was a two time European Champion and a World Record holder.

Irma first came to Australia in 1952 on a Swimming tour and was introduced to the Prime Minister Sir Robert Menzies at the Lodge in Canberra. She also lived for a time in Penang and trained the Malaysia Swim Team for the SEATO Games and for the Mexico Olympics in 1968.

Irma was also a great Golfer winning many trophies including Best

Individual Champion twice - albeit 30 years apart.

Irma was always a great travelling companion with the energy of someone half her age. We will miss that energy, her wonderful pate, her dry sense of humour, and we will certainly miss celebrating her birthday each year at the Gold Coast.

Irma and her son Gary played in the Senior's Teams in 2013 and came a creditable 7th. Their Team played off the eventual winners at the last round and held them to a draw.

Irma died after a short and sudden illness and will be sadly missed.

Dorothy Berzins

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Items from December 13 Committee meeting

Although progress is slow:

- A Zip heater is on the way to provide hot water in our room
- Telephone and Internet access will happen, possibly in the next fortnight. Paul Hughes, CCLC, has been in regular contact and has done everything possible to find a solution.
- Diffusers for the neon lights will be re-installed

As part of Safety Procedures, Directors will print a list of those in attendance so that in the event of evacuation members' whereabouts can be checked.

Since the Committee Meeting

You will observe that renovations downstairs are starting. The maintenance group will have moved out by next week. We may need our own working bee to remove mould from ceiling tiles and re-paint.

Ronnie and Leon have been authorised to purchase a monitor for the wall outside the office to display results. A trial is currently underway, but some technical problems have yet to be overcome.

Wendy Mitchell, President

MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS

Last year Ronnie Ng won the Novice division of the inaugural NSWBA Congress Player of the Year. This year he has repeated his success by winning the Restricted division (<300 MPs).

Kaylee Lemon has matched this performance by winning the Intermediate division (<750 MPs). Also, Kaylee was 10th in the McCutcheon Trophy (Silver Life) and achieved 94th in the National Top 100 Red point earners for 2013.

A fantastic effort - well done.

POT LUCK TEAMS Thursday January 30

TRY OUT THIS NEW EVENT

Bring a partner and go in a draw with the other pairs to form teams. Did you know that teams events are regarded as the best by the top players?

So, improve your bridge while having some fun -

Come along and try it out!

SWITCHING SINGLES Commencing: **Thursday February 6**

Playing with a different partner is frequently successful as you focus more on understanding the bidding and signals and play your own hands with greater concentration.

Either arrange to play with someone new for just one Thursday a month, or come along and let us try to arrange new partnerships.

This year the event is always on the **1st Thursday of the month**, so this should make it easier for you to plan. Your **best 4** results with different partners count towards the chance of winning outright master-point awards. (See Page 3 for the results of other recent *eclectic* events)

RECORDER

Gwen White, in her capacity of Recorder, has received some reports of incidents at the bridge table. Please do not hesitate to use this new pathway to express a complaint or a concern. Gwen will advise you if the matter is indeed one for the Recorder. Sometimes an incident should be reported to the Director also.

Your reports are confidential, but it is important you make them. If a pattern emerges, then this enables some action to be taken to try to stop unwelcome behaviour.

BEGINNERS LESSONS

These are scheduled to start on Tuesday March 4, 9.30am - 11.30am. Shortly you will be asked to display advertising leaflet in suitable locations as we did last year. We have decided not to spend money on a newspaper ad, as this produced no response last year.

If you know anyone who may be interested, please encourage them to ring the club number (4323 3456 - which is diverted to Wendy's mobile at present) or the Secretary (4340 1222)

BROWN STICKER CONVENTIONS

Does your bidding system require a brown sticker?

The following qualify, with some exceptions:

- Any opening bid of two clubs through three spades that could be weak and does not promise at least four cards in a known suit.
- An overcall of a natural opening bid of one of a suit that does not promise at least four cards in a known suit
- Any weak two-suited bid (whether it be an overcall, an opening bid or a response) at the two or three level that may by agreement be made with three cards or fewer in one of the suits.

Very soon, at least four beginning players will be claiming protection against these conventions by displaying an orange sticker. A pair with both players below *Local or a pair with one player below Graduate may claim protection.

It is recommended that you play the Beginner's system of 2C - Game Force and 2D, 2H, 2S all weak when playing these pairs.

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

State Mixed Pairs	(R/P) Q1&2 For Club Trophy	Saturday 1, all day
Monthly Shield (1)	(E)	Monday 3
Switching Singles (1)	(E)	Thursday 6
Intra-club Teams (1)	(R/P)	Thursday 13, all day
Valentine's Day Pairs	(R)	Friday 14

MARCH

Monthly Shield (2)	(E)	Monday 3
Switching Singles (2)	(E)	Thursday 6
Presentation Day Pairs	(R)	Friday 21

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for January to:

Peter Berzins, Barbara Boddington, Dasha Brandt, Mei-Hua Crawford, Jan Davis, Judith Dunstan, Les Free, Joe Griffin, Ruth Griffin, Carol Judd, Peter Molloy, Michael Newman, Matt Raj Mal, Tony Ransley, Dawn Sherriff, Barbara Thomas, Anne Whatmore

And for February to:

David Bowerman, Cheryl Davison, Sue Eastman, Pam Gowthorp, Maureen Holmes, Kathy Ivits, Julie Jessop, Joan Kook, Elizabeth Lawrence, Lynette Lynch, Kathy Mitchell, Wendy Mitchell, Leyla Moncelet, Jenny Clarke, Claire O'Connor, Margaret Penfold, Jackie Wilson, Yvonne Zammit

(Remember to tell me if I don't have you listed for your birthday month)

NEW MEMBERS: Please make the following welcome to our club and add their phone numbers to your Program book -

Judith Dunstan (4360 1868), Kathy Ivits (0405 121 627), Janette Norrie (4369 6528), Jaan Oitmaa (4339 7016).

SMILE A WHILE

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane!

Wendy Mitchell Editor