



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025

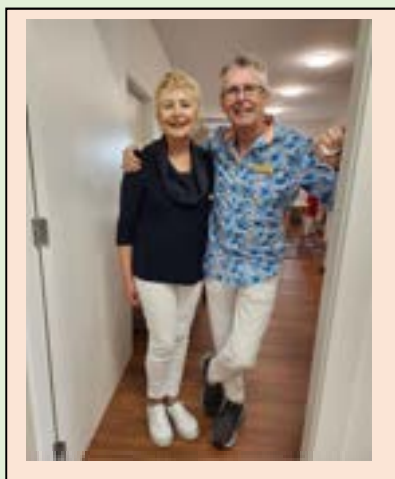
Our first club congress has just been held in our newly renovated clubhouse and we're really happy with the outcome. A lot of planning and hard work resulted in a wonderful and very successful day. So many people to thank for all their individual and combined efforts in achieving this result, but suffice to say we all stepped up to the challenge. We must however single out two members.

Maree Kelly, supported by hubby Brian (below left), accepted the massive challenge when we needed a Convenor, with no experience of either the job or even having previously attended a congress. Her background ability kicked in and Maree organised an amazingly successful event.

Sue Woodbury, supported by hubby Keith (below right), recently took on our newly minted Catering Manager position and ran with it, meticulously planning all the food, drink and support helpers.

Another very special thank you to Carolyn Dickinson (and all her crew) for creating a wonderful courtyard and garden area.

Fortunately for us John Redfearn was able to make a few appearances in the clubhouse to put together the all important boards for the congress, for which we are thankful and hopeful for him to continue on the road to recovery.



Congress results

Saturday 22 March –

Open Swiss Pairs :

- Jeanette Abrams/Helen Lowry (1st)
- Di Coats/Jan Clarke (2nd)
- Sally Clarke/Sharon Mayo

Restricted Swiss Pairs :

- Diane Thompson/Rodney McNamara
- David Hancock/Lucy Di'ambrosio
- Sandy Boyd/Shannon Queree

Sunday 23 March :

Teams :

- Mayo team (1st)
- Dawson team (2nd)
- Bodycote team (3rd)

Congratulations to all our winners and to those who came along and participated.

Regular CCBC bridge results :

Our club -

- Summer pairs (Wed 12 Feb) – 1st - Norm Berger/Lucy D'ambrosio (NS and Nola Daly/Steve Calcroft (EW)
- Individual championship (Wed 19 Feb) – Berenice Air (1st), Lewis Carey (2nd), Brian Lilley (3rd)
- BEP plate (Thursday 6, 13 and 20 March) – Colleen Milne/Gail Beverly
- March pairs (Mon 17 March) – Peter Cloughessy/Stewart Duxbury, Marilyn Scott/Norm Berger
- Club mixed pairs (Wed 26 March) – Jane Stephens/Colin Kleinig

Other clubs –

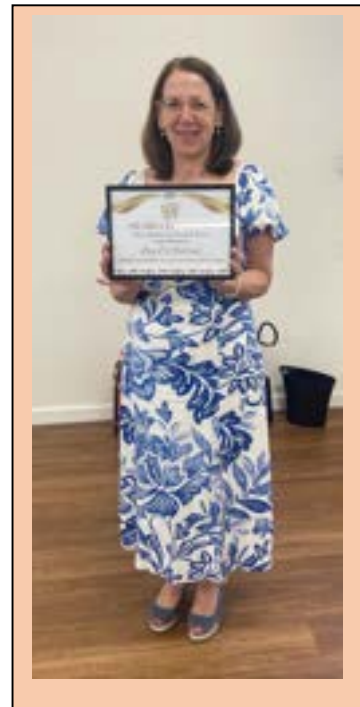
- Interclub teams (Central Coast Leagues) (Wed 27 Feb)
 - 1st – Steph Mathews/Gary Heyting/Chris Williams/Ian Lincoln
 - 2nd – Sally Clarke/Sharon Mayo/Jan Clarke/Di Coats
 - 3rd – Stewart Duxbury/Nola Daly/Colin Kleinig/Berenice Air
 - 4th – Kerrie Johnman/Peter Johnman/Norm Berger/Steve Calcroft
 - 14th – Rod Shellshear/Peter Greening/Susan Woodbury/Keith Woodbury

A special mention to ...

Lucy D'ambrosio

A big congratulations to Lucy who won the 2024 Novice McCutcheon Award for the most points scored during 2024 by all novice players in Australia.

Well done Lucy – a terrific achievement



Gail Beverly and Colleen Milne

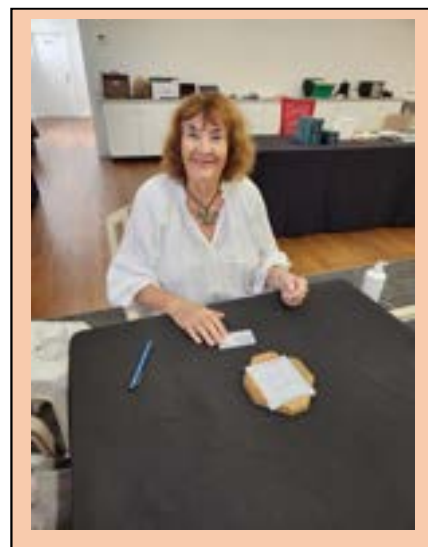
Congratulations ladies on winning the three week event – the BEP plate



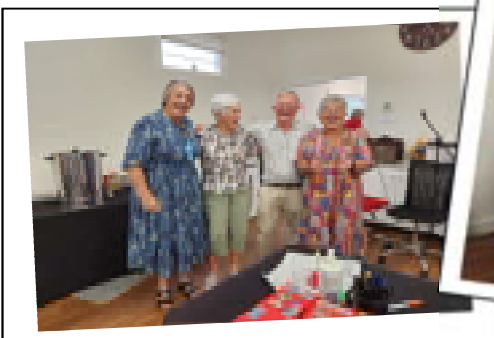
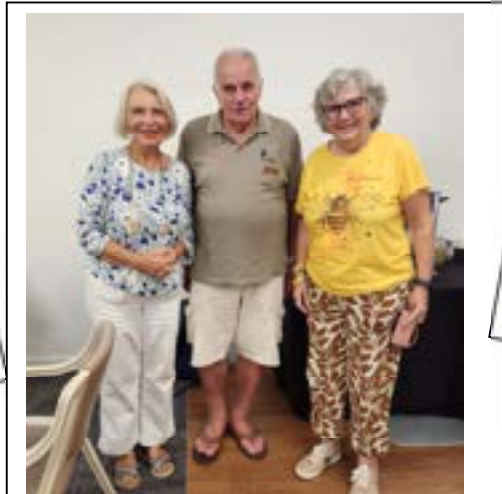
Berenice Air

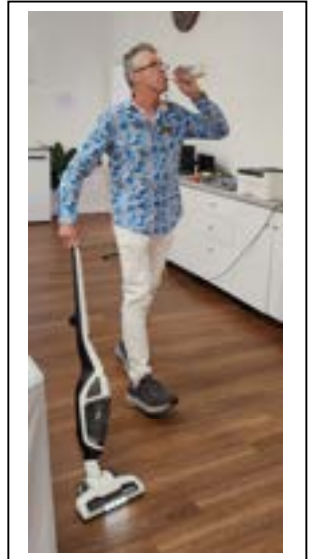
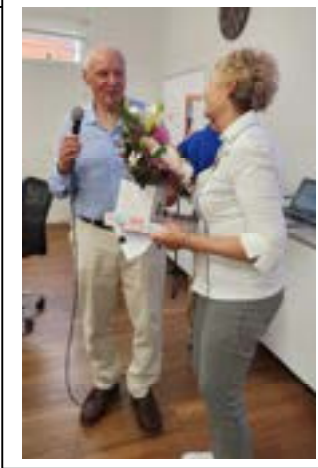
Winner of the club Individual Championship

A great achievement !



The 2025 CCBC Congress pictorial



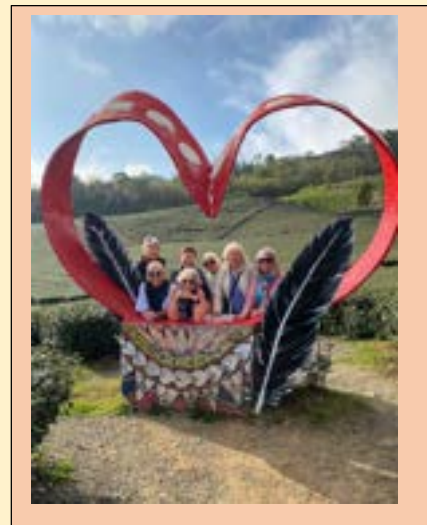


A change of pace - a member's travel tale

During February a group of six CCBC ladies and a friend set out on an 11 day tour of Taiwan, beginning with a couple of days in Taipei, exploring museums, art houses and visiting the Chang Kai-shek memorial. From Taipei we headed off on a round island tour, beginning with a high speed rail journey to the rural city of Taitung, then on to industrial Kaohsiung, Chiayi, Sun Moon Lake and then back to Taipei for a further couple of days.

We visited small mountainous villages and towns, discovered pagodas and temples, explored day and night food stalls in beautifully picturesque alleyways and streets, feasted on hot pots and other Taiwanese delicacies and had refreshments at hillside tea houses. A second rail trip took us to the quirky little town of Shifen, where we launched our own individual sky lanterns, which we had decorated with special messages. We headed into the mountainous forested area of Alishan, the home of massive ancient trees, rode another fun 'Breezy Blue' train along the southern coast of Taiwan, visited an indigenous cultural village and rode ebikes through rice paddies.

A lot of fun and hilarity but no time for bridge on this trip



Intermediate lessons

A large group of CCBCers attended Kerrie and Peter Johnman's lessons, held for the first time in our new training room, but moved into the larger area as numbers grew! We are now looking forward to the follow up sessions, hopefully beginning in late April.



Jill Borgman has moved on

Jill has made the decision to move to the Yarra Valley in Victoria to be with her family. We said goodbye in our usual style and wish her all the very best for the next stage of her adventure. We'll miss her and so will John Aldridge, who has partnered Jill over the bridge table for many years.

Cheers Jill xx

Mary McLeod, one of our gourmet members who provides delicious goodies for us has headed back to family in South Africa to be with her very ill sister. We send our wishes with Mary and thoughts in the coming weeks and look forward to welcoming her back to our tables.



Farewell Jean Tyler and Georgina Tearne, long time members of the CCBC who have both sadly passed away in the last few months. Our condolences ...

Heads up!
When you have completed your round at the table, others may not have! Please have consideration for those players who are still playing and keep your noise level to a minimum

Last thoughts

The mind is like a parachute – it doesn't work if it isn't open ...

In the end, it's not going to matter how many breaths you took, but how many moments took your breath away.

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Jill Willey - Editor