

MEET YOUR MEMBERS



Continuing our series of conversations with Bridge Club members

Betty Peterson - in her happy place, sitting South at Table 5 at the Buderim Bridge Club and ready to enjoy her afternoon at bridge.

Betty Peterson was born in Sydney in 1924. She began her working career as a stenographer, joining the Air Force when she was 18 working as a teleprinter operator in the signals area. She had hoped to see a bit of Australia in this role, but was disappointed to be posted to Point Piper which meant that she still lived at home. So, she applied to work in Canberra which was where she met her future husband, Jack, who was a meteorological officer. Betty worked at the Fairbairn Air Base and because of invasion fears, the base was disguised as a sheep shearing station!

Betty was discharged after the war and married Jack in 1946, settling in Coogee. Jack resumed his work in a bank and they had three daughters. Later on, Betty returned to work as a stenographer and they moved to different areas in NSW through Jack's work. In 1983, Jack was visiting family in Queensland and he liked what he saw. Betty got an unexpected phone call from Jack to say that he had bought a house in Mooloolaba! She was a little alarmed, but luckily, she liked the house and this is where she still lives. Although she was born and bred in NSW, our Betty considers herself to be a true Queenslander and a mad Lions supporter.

Betty had always enjoyed playing cards with friends and then she was introduced to the wonderful game of bridge which she has played for many decades (nineteen years in our club). She describes some happy days with friends which began with a game of golf followed by a lovely lunch and then an afternoon game of bridge. Once living in Mooloolaba, Betty would regularly cycle to the beach and swim at Main Beach. She had a few tangles with dumping waves and then began a regular routine of a walk and a swim further along the Spit with her friends.

Bridge has meant so much to Betty. She says that she loves our club and greatly appreciates the fun and friendship that it has brought to her. And would you like to know her secret to a long and healthy life? It is a daily dose of apple cider vinegar and honey!

WHO'S WHO IN THE COMMITTEE



Most of you know this team very well through afternoon bridge sessions, but do you really know them? Below is a list of facts about your committee. Can you work out who each one is?



- I was born in Brazil.
- I have flown a plane.
- In 1864 my great great grandfather, was clubbed and speared to death by indigenous people while exploring near La Grange.
- I once went to New York for a haircut.
- I was a snow skiing silversmith.
- I used to swim in a river where I could hear the bull crocodiles roaring.
- I forgot to give this newsletter any information about myself.
- I got a position singing in a church choir because my brother was an outstanding boy soprano.
- I have represented two different states of Australia in my sport.

So, can you match the story to the committee member??

SOME HINTS FROM A WISE BRIDGE PLAYER

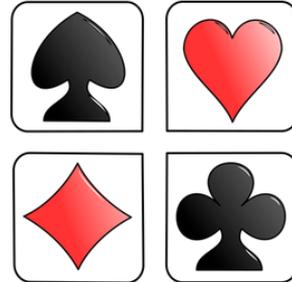
Your attitude at the table makes a difference to how you end up on the day's play.

- Think about how often you have complimented your partner casually on something from the day's play.
- If your opponents ask how you are doing, tell them positively that you are having a good day. We so often talk about the bad cards we have received that your opposition will be very surprised to hear that you are happy and doing well.
- Don't forget to encourage and congratulate your opponents when you can. If it gives them a lift, they may play better in future rounds, and that actually benefits you because they are playing against all your opponents sitting in the same direction. You want them to do well. You may be surprised just how far a little psychology takes you!!!
- Cherish your partner - if you crack a smile from time to time, you'll find everyone has a much better session.
- Don't play conventions and gadgets that you don't fully understand – less stress and more success is what you want.
- And assess the value of every contract – it's all about scoring the biggest plus score or the smallest minus score on every hand – improve awareness of when to compete, how aggressive to be, how to judge sacrifices, when to double and when to remain quiet.

A Silly Bridge Story ... a bridge too far

One day at the Buderim Bridge Club, a player got sick and had to leave. So to keep the game going, the president asked a passerby to step in and play. The substitute player said that he knew how to play the game, but did not know too much about bidding systems. He sat South and his partner said – ‘Just tell me your hand.’ and the bidding began. It went like this ...

South	West	North	East
S 1C	W pass	N 1 NT	E pass
S 2H	W pass	N 2 NT	E pass
S 3S	W pass	N 3 NT	E pass
S 7D	W pass	N pass	E pass



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|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West • S K 10 x x x • H K x x x x • D x x • C x x | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ North ○ S J ○ H J x x x ○ D x x ○ C A K Q x x x x | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> East S Q x x H A 10 D KJ C x x x |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ South ○ S A x x ○ H Q x ○ D A Q 10 9 8 7 5 ○ C J | |

And then the play began ...

West lead 2 of Diamonds and East's Jack was taken by South's Queen.

South then led the Ace of Diamonds to clear the remaining trumps. He then led his Jack of Clubs and played the dummy's clubs from the top and made his contract.

West called the director of the day to the table questioning the bidding system. The director looked with some amazement at the bidding slip and asked the visitor – ‘What did your bid mean?’

South answered: ‘My partner told me to show my hand so I did. I had 1 club, 2 hearts, 3 spades and 7 diamonds.’

