December 2020 Blog

**RIP Brian Bestley who passed away on 18th November. The only details I have at the moment are that it will be a simple cremation with no guests, a memorial service to be held in the summer of 2021 and donations to go to St. Michaels Hospice. I know he will be sadly missed by many of you and not only for his ever generous donations of vegetables from his allotment.**

**I always enjoyed chatting with Brian about our various plant problems and we would compare the state of our different fruit and veggies and how well or badly they were doing. On the few occasions I played with Brian as the host, again I always enjoyed my games with him and we invariable did well together.**

**We also lost another former member – Richard Mockett, who also passed away on the 18th November. Many of you long-term players will remember Richard who played for many years with Ted Weare. Richard was a true gentleman (as was Ted) but could make the most outrageous bid occasionally usually accompanied by an impish grin and an occasional chuckle.**

**………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………N**ovember has brought some cheering news however in the shape of the various vaccines that will be available in the New Year.

Personally I can see no reason once the first roll out of vaccines has taken place, why Bridge Clubs should not open for F2F bridge to fully vaccinated members without the mandatory need for masks, vizors, gloves, plastic screens disinfectant etc, i.e. normality. It may well be that we will have staggered eligibility for members as probably some in the highest vulnerability category will be vaccinated before others, but **HOPE IS IN SIGHT**………………….I will be contacting The Tennis Club after Christmas to see what their views are. I’m hoping GPs will be able to offer confirmation of satisfactory vaccination even if they charge for it. But of course we will be governed by the advice of “The Scientific Experts” the EBU and whether the Tennis Club will be allowed to hire its hall out. Watch this space.

**Club Membership.** All of you who were fully paid up members as of 12th March 2020 will have their membership extended to 31st December 2021; in other words no membership fees will be due as of January 2021 unless you were not a paid up member, that also includes those of you with student membership.

**Limericks**

Amazingly I did have a few from several of you. Sadly not all of you read the instructions. I did have an amusing one from Bruce but it contained rude words.

The only one to contain a bridge theme and therefore in my opinion was the winner was from John Revell:-

An elderly gent caused great trouble

by escaping out of his bubble

he caused such a panic

the outcome was tragic:

defeat in 7 Hearts doubled

Others I also liked

There was an old man loved his dinner

That’s why he just never got thinner

He then was locked in

And thus became thin

And now he’s a Weightwatcher Winner

Keith Green

There was an old man from Cosham

Who took out his dentures to wash em

His Wife said " Jack, if you don't put them back

I'll put them in the mangle and squash em.

Nigel Allen.

There was a bridge player from Hull

Who was considerably dull

He bid far too quick

Made his partners quite sick

And then spoke a right load of bull

A printable one from Bruce Carrison

And an anonymous one

There was an old man called Bo Jo

Who caught Covid and lost his Mo Jo

He dithered and dathered

Got caught being properly lathered

And ended up dead as a Do Do

I send Christmas wishes to you all and hope you will be able to enjoy Christmas this year in a meaningful, if not normal way.