

I hope you are well. This is a brief update – though it probably won't tell you anything you didn't already know; its main purpose being to stay in touch with members. You are all aware of the latest government rules which mean that F2F bridge will not be possible for many months. Meanwhile, on line bridge is still popular but it will be interesting to see whether that remains so during the winter as the months pass. However, on line bridge has dramatically helped to improve the knowledge of past students and many are now confident in their play and bidding. To those newcomers who haven't yet tried on line bridge – or are reticent about seeking out partners – I can only but encourage you to do so. You will find friendly opposition from other club members and your sessions will be enjoyable and informative.

The League is almost complete -see the PDBC web site for results. Thanks to all those who took part. Are members interested in any other VERY friendly competitions / Leagues; teams or pairs? Let me have your ideas please! They do not have to be handicapped events; there could be separate events for different standards of player or simply fully open competitions where all members can play in an event, rather as we would a normal club evening. How much interest is there in PDBC forming its own on-line club? There would have to be significant uptake from members to commit to playing at least once a week in a "normal" club event (which may include a Swiss type event) for the effort in setting it up to be worthwhile and I estimate the cost to be about \$3 per player, per event. Should members wish it, I can investigate further and firm up on detail. Currently, only a few large clubs have regular on line club events for members; and reaction to them is mixed. At some clubs they can be quite popular, especially in the short term, other clubs have a disappointing attendance considering the size of their membership and I note that at some clubs that started off with a high take up of members have seen a drop off.

Anyhow, let me know what you think! Also, please let me know if you have changed your email, phone number or address.

Finally, some things to hopefully bring a smile:-

### **UK Virus ALERT update**

**The English** are feeling the pinch in relation to recent virus threat and have therefore raised their threat level from "Miffed" to "Peeved." Soon though, level may be raised yet again to "Irritated" or even "A Bit Cross."

The English have not been "A Bit Cross" since the blitz in 1940 when tea supplies nearly ran out.

The virus has been re-categorized from "Tiresome" to "A Bloody Nuisance." The last time the British issued a "Bloody Nuisance" warning level was in 1588, when threatened by the Spanish Armada.

**The Scots** have raised their threat level from "Pissed Off" to "Let's Get the Bastard." They don't have any other levels. This is the reason they have been used on the front line of the British army for the last 300 years.

**The French** government announced yesterday that it has raised its alert level from "Run" to "Hide." The only two higher levels in France are "Collaborate" and "Surrender." The rise was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France's white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's military capability.

**Italy** has increased the alert level from "Shout Loudly and Excitedly" to "Elaborate Military

Posturing.” Two more levels remain: “Ineffective Combat Operations” and “Change Sides.”

**The Germans** have increased their alert state from “Disdainful Arrogance” to “Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs.” They also have two higher levels: “Invade a Neighbour” and “Lose.”

**Belgians** on the other hand are all on holiday as usual; the only threat they are worried about is NATO pulling out of Brussels.

**The Spanish** are all excited to see their new submarines ready to deploy. These beautifully designed subs have glass bottoms so the new Spanish navy can get a really good look at the old Spanish navy.

**Australia** meanwhile has raised its alert level from “No worries” to “She’ll be alright mate.” Two more escalation levels remain: “Crikey! I think we’ll need to cancel the barbie this weekend!” and “The barbie is cancelled.” So far, no situation has ever warranted use of the final escalation level.

**The Russians** have said “It’s not us”

### TO ALL EX TEACHERS!

**Teacher:** How old is your father?

**Kid:** He is 6 years old

**Teacher:** What? How is this possible?

**Kid:** He only became a father when I was born

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**TEACHER:** Now, Maria go to the map and find North America

**Maria:** Here it is

**TEACHER:** Correct. Anyone in the class know who discovered America?

**Class:** Maria

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**TEACHER:** Glenn, how do you spell “crocodile?”

**Glenn:** K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L

**TEACHER:** no, that’s wrong.

**Glenn:** Maybe it wrong but you asked me how I spelt it.

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**TEACHER:** Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

**Donald:** H I J K L M N O

**TEACHER:** What are you talking about?

**Donald:** Yesterday, you said it was H to O

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**TEACHER:** Clyde, your essay on "My Dog" is exactly the same as your brothers. Did you copy his?

**Clyde:** No, Sir. Its the same dog

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**TEACHER:** Harold – what do you call a person who keeps on talking when no one is interested?

**Harold:** A teacher

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Four men on the Flying Scotsman travelling from Kings Cross to Edinburgh Waverley are sat reading their newspapers. After a while one says "Look, we've got another 376 miles to go so we should at least tell one another something about ourselves."

The 1st man reading the Times says " I'm a Brigadier, married with one son and he's a top Accountant."

The 2nd man reading the Telegraph says "I'm also a Brigadier, married with one son and he's a famous lawyer."

The 3rd man reading the Guardian says " I also am a Brigadier, married with one son and he's a renowned Teacher."

The 4th man reading the Sun says " I'm a Regimental Sargeant Major, I'm not married but I do have 3 sons, and they're all Brigadiers !!

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My career in Amateur Dramatics was short lived. I was taking part in Othello when I ran into trouble with the stage instructions, one of which read "Enter Desdemona from the Rear !"

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Stay safe!