

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SEA END – JANUARY 2016

Another New Year approaches and much to the delight of your author and his darling pussy-cats Test Cricket is again on our tv screens. We happy few have no monopoly on the pleasure that the noble game provides and indeed SWMBO often doesn't have a clue (do you as well, I wonder) on how the finer details of the play bring us so much pleasure. To play snakes and ladders with our emotions over five days of refined combat between bat and ball is the elixir of life for the true followers of the beautiful game. O rapture, O bliss!

Your author is therefore in an optimistic mood and he trusts his readers will enjoy a very good 2016 and that all their finesses will win. This would normally be very good news for most bridge players but there is sometimes a flip side. Remember that if one takes a finesse in a contract bid as a sacrifice and it works that this also means that the opponent's card would not take a trick in their contract and thus your sacrifice may well be just a phantom. This is a fact to which many of us are oblivious and loses many points over the year. Accordingly, this author's wish is that your finesses win when you want them to!

The theme of my quiz set in last month's column was FILM TITLES which I had "hidden" in the text of my various articles during 2015. A list is attached of those films which had been intentionally mentioned and readers will no doubt gain an insight into this author's movie preferences which may or not be a surprise, The list is:-

Battle of Waterloo	the longest day
The towering inferno	topsy turvy
Soldier blue	the lawyer
Clash of the titans	the pyjama game
Casino royale	willow
The godfather	blade
Murphy's Law	triumph and disaster
Frozen	stagecoach
Clockwork orange	carry on cruising
Sink the Bismarck	Lawrence of Arabia
The African Queen	Svengali
Brighton rock	an affair of the heart
South Pacific	the cruel sea
The name of the rose	exodus
Amadeus	trials and tribulations
Whisky Galore	the Great Escape
Simple pleasures	Zulu
Nectarthe battle of the Bulge	

Bye for now.

Geoffrey Wolfarth, Hove