

Dear Members

And now to 2021 and here's wishing you all a very Happy New Year. How have you survived a festive season like no other and with the announcement this week about a further lock-down? All I can say is "here we go again". But let's hope those injections have us feeling much more hopeful and will help us to plan seeing our family and friends in the flesh rather than on 'Face time' or Zoom' or on the telephone. But what would we have done without the wonders of technology.

For my part there were just the two of us as most of the family live in Kent and Essex. Past Christmases have involved gatherings of 20+ because most of my eight grandchildren now have partners and even dogs!!! So you can imagine planning for our Christmas and New Year's Eve this year was so different and a challenge I had not bargained for.

Just the Two of us

I put the tree up to set the scene
But turkey was out as we were not keen
We chose some very special beef for meat
To make our festive lunch a treat

Just for the two of us.....

I had made the effort for gifts from me
Should I wrap or just let him see
The i-pad, book and some unmentionables
the regular types – there were no jewels

Just the two of us.....

So the 25th arrived and I did wrap the gifts
Perhaps this would get us going without a tiff
But the i-pad would be a challenge to his fears
As IT has not featured in his life these last 22 years

Just the two of us

He needed to be on message to stay in touch
But I was going to rely on my young ones as such
For they should tutor him and explain the joy
Of the Apps etc that are much more than a toy

Just the two of us.....

*So no one else but me and my limited skills
To set him up and wait for the thrills
And when Siri asked what he wanted to do
He was so shocked he told her where to go!*

Just the two of us

*When he wanted to log onto Google Maps
He was amazed to see Barton On Sea with one tap
“How does it know where we live he cried?
I am being traced and have nowhere to hide!”*

***Just the two of us
we can make it if we try
Just the two of us
building castles in the sky
Just the two of us***

I have to say I found my patience stretched but ‘bless him’ he does now log on each morning on his own, check his e:mails (if any!) and then he disappears behind the Telegraph – a habit of a life time.

So that was my excitement during the festive season.

In my last Newsletter, No.21, I attached a picture quiz with bridge very much in mind. I genuinely thought it might take you a few days to work it out and did not expect a response with the correct answers to arrive in Liz Puxley’s e:mail box almost by return. Well done Michael Broadey – a prize has made its way to you with keeping COVID restrictions in mind. So here are the answers below

**HDBC Bridge Club Christmas 2020 Quiz
ALL ANSWERS RELATE SOMEWAY TO THE WORD ‘BRIDGE’**

- 1 = AUCTION & CONTRACT (Original game formats of Bridge)
- 2 = ISAMBARD KINGDOM BRUNEL
- 3 = “GUINNESS” LOGO
- 4 = SYDNEY BRIDGE
- 5 = JOSEF STRAUSS & JOSEPH STRAUSS
- 6 = YARBOROUGH (in Lincolnshire)
- 7 = DOCTOR ZHIVAGO
- 8 = SIDNEY POITIER (Actor Oscar winner)
- 9 = TAMAR or SALTASH BRIDGE
- 10 = HAROLD S VANDERBILT
- 11 = BEAU & JEFF BRIDGES
- 12 = LONDON BRIDGE

- 13 = SIMON & GARFUNKEL
- 14 = BAD BRIDGE HAND
- 15 = LLOYD BRIDGES
- 16 = GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE
- 17 = OMAR SHARIF
- 18 = TOWER BRIDGE
- 19 = BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER
- 20 = THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI

PAIRS:

1 & 10	Auction to Contract Bridge / Contract Bridge Invented by Harold S Vanderbilt
2 & 9	Isambard K Brunel Designer Builder Tamar Bridge
3 & 20	Guinness Logo (Alex Guinness) starred in Film 'Bridge over River Kwai
4 & 8	Sydney Bridge and Sidney Poitier (Sydney/Sidney Link)
5 & 16	Josef Strauss (Musician) Joseph Strauss (USA Bridge Builder) who designed GG Bridge
6 & 14	Yarborough (Place) Also known as Bad Hand in Bridge where cards all 9 and below
7 & 17	Omar Shariff Actor but famous for high level Bridge Gambler/Player - Starred in 'Doctor Zhivago
11 & 15	Bridge family Beau & Jeff the Son of Lloyd Bridges (Famous for part in film 'Airplane')
12 & 18	= London Bridge sold to America - Tower Bridge thought to be purchased for America (Big April fool Joke published in Daily Mail)
13 & 19	Simon and Garfunkel biggest hit Bridge over Trouble Water (Picture Depicts)

And finally – after the New Year and 'just the two of us' our new year's resolution was ***to stay positive and test negative.***

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year

Pat Carruthers (Chairman)

2nd January 2021