

Dear Member

Our Social Events - I would like to start this newsletter by saying what a great day we had at South Lawn. With a superb meal and some very enjoyable bridge my thanks go to my committee and all those members who came and made the event so successful. The winners of the bridge teams were:-

1st – Diana Procter, David Bradshaw, Marilyn Harwood and John Lee (+72 imps)

2nd – Jasmine Mamode, David Charlton, Thelma & Mike Price (+57 imps)

3rd – Cynthia Ecker, Udo Meinecke, Pauline McKay and Pat Carruthers (+29 imps)

All I can say is **'here's to the next time'**

We are now planning our Christmas fun evenings which will be held on Wednesday 7th and Monday 12th December. Mulled wine and mince pies will be the order of each evening plus some unusual challenges at bridge with a few small prizes to be won. So please put these dates in your diary and make sure you have a partner as there will be no hosts for these events.

Planning for the future - I know our focus at the moment is what to do about Christmas but I want to 'fast forward' and place yet another important task in your minds about next year and our A.G.M that will be held in May. I must stand down as your Chairman as will Liz Puxley our secretary so we are looking for your help to ensure we can fill these officer vacancies. As an ageing club many of our members have '*done their time*' on committee in the past and my plea is now to some of our younger and newer members of the club. You have time to consider if you can offer your help in any way and I am always available to chat to anyone who wants to know more about what being an officer or a member of the committee entails. So please don't sit on your hands. During the First World War Field Marshall Lord Kitchener pointed his finger at his citizens with a certain phrase. I am now saying those very words to you slightly modified to suit the cause and that is

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU



Electronic Scoring System - We are very close to introducing this system. Our final test will be on Tuesday 8th November and, assuming that all goes well with that, we expect to 'go live' on Monday 14th November. You will be briefed more precisely by Mike Price in the two weeks leading up to that date and we will initially only use the system on a Monday evening until we assess how well you all cope with this new way of scoring. It will slightly change our normal way of playing inasmuch as you will all be given a unique identifying number AND we would like to ask you all to be sat down ready to play by 6.15 p.m. so that the Director can be certain which movement is to be played and entered into the scoring system. I realise that this slightly earlier change to our starting time together with the current impact of all the road works in and around our area will affect your domestic arrangements. So please, if you are coming to bridge, can you tweak your timing and make extra allowance for any traffic hold up.

And after the weeks of political turmoil and the constant churn of bad news I want to encourage you all -

“To Look on the Bright side of life”

We now have yet another PM

Fully ensconced at No.10

Can we see the stress eased

Allowing us to be pleased

So 'Let us look on the bright side of life'

With summer fast on the wane

We must think about the gain

No more worry about garden harm

Just layer up to stay dry and warm

So 'Let us look on the bright side of life'

If life to you seems jolly rotten

There's something you have forgotten

Just purse your lips – that's the thing

And smile and dance and sing

'Let us look on the bright side of life'

I make no apologies for plagiarizing the song – bits and pieces just seemed appropriate.

That's all for now folks – keep smiling and singing.

Pat Carruthers (Chairman)

29th October 2022