

# Stratford St Mary Bridge Club

## Chairman's Report, March 2021

- It is now a year since the Club last met at Highwoods and it is still unclear when we will meet again. Reconvening face-to-face will happen only when it is safe to do so.
- Meanwhile, there are numerous opportunities to play bridge online, as detailed on the Club's website.
- Sadly, we have lost two members since we last met – Lynda Tibbs and Ray Watts have both passed away.
- The Committee elected in 2019 remains in place with the exception of Sheila Gibson who stood down for personal reasons. I thank her for her work for the Club and look forward to her continued support when face-to-face bridge resumes.
- The Club's Constitution requires an AGM to be held each year, in March. The 2020 AGM was not held because it was due shortly after the initial lockdown and the Committee considers that there is no value in holding an online 2021 AGM at this time.
- When the Club eventually reconvenes, which may be many months away, an EGM will be called to formalise administrative matters.
- The Club is financially sound – income from the joint online games with Colchester exceeds expenditure, which is primarily on insurance and the website. An audited financial statement for the year to end-February 2021 is being prepared and will be available to members when completed.
- Club membership is usually based on payment of an annual subscription. No subscription was collected for 2020 and none is proposed at this time. The membership list remains unchanged.
- The popularity of online bridge guarantees that post-lockdown local bridge will be a hybrid of face-to-face and online games and, as a consequence, club boundaries may become blurred. Your Committee will address these issues in considering when face-to-face bridge will restart.
- Meanwhile, I hope that you stay well and, if you are playing online, that you are enjoying your bridge.

Paul Rickard  
Chairman  
March 2021