



### Chairman's Report for 2017/18

Welcome to this year's AGM and thank you for attending.

The season has not been afflicted by power cuts, floods or other problems beyond our control. Such problems as we have had this year can be attributed to ourselves.

But first and as usual, I must congratulate the winners and runners-up in all our competitions. Boot and Shoe B won all their matches in both League and Dennis Wigham Cup and showed the rest of us the standard we must try to aspire to.

The principal problem this year has been the quality of quizzes. While most has as usual been good, and I thank the teams that set them, some did not follow the Guidelines. This is in spite of me emailing them with the letter to captains of teams due to set. After a particularly unfortunate week, Ian Gibson produced a simple checklist and I added this to the emails for the second half of the season. However, the Committee has reached the conclusion that it is counter-productive to compel teams to set a quiz when they patently do not wish to do so. The Committee is not seeking to amend the rule requiring all teams to set a quiz if asked: there may be occasions when it has to do so because of the way that the fixtures fall. Furthermore, there is also the moral question as to why a team is prepared to enjoy the quizzes set by others week after week but is unwilling to set one itself. Nevertheless, the pragmatic solution is to accept the kind offer of those teams who have indicated that they are willing to set more than one quiz a season and allow some of the reluctant setters not to set. I hope that the AGM will endorse this change which we shall evaluate again this time next year. The option of buying in quizzes has again been rejected because it would involve considerable expense and lead to an unacceptable increase in the subscription.

As last year, there have been no problems with the enveloping of quizzes at the Golden Lion at noon each Saturday and I am very grateful not only to the committee members for turning up but also to all teams that have set questions for their reliability in arriving on time. I also appreciate the speedy response to my emails that I receive from most (but not quite all) team captains.

The Facebook page has been well used by a number of quizzers and many thanks to Cherry Canovan, Jo Hardman and Di Brooksbank for maintaining it. However, there is no evidence yet that any new teams have joined the League as a result of it.

We have however managed to base the Finals Night and our Committee meetings at Lancaster Cricket and Social Club and Presentation/Social Evening at the Railway Club (despite the closure of Greyhound Bridge) and I am grateful to the management of these two clubs. The Presentation/Social Evening on 8<sup>th</sup> June will this year include a table quiz but the Pairs Quiz was moved to the Monday before Christmas and will stay there for the foreseeable future.

I am very grateful to all the committee members for their hard work and in particular the Secretary, Administrator and Treasurer for ensuring that the League continues to operate smoothly. Mal Kitchen is retiring as Treasurer and I must thank him personally for his excellent work over the last few years in looking after our finances. I hope that his retirement will not mean that I have to get more closely involved in the choice of trophies! I am very grateful to Richard Hitchings for agreeing to undertake the duties of Treasurer.

A good attendance at the AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> June would be appreciated. The agenda will be posted on the website shortly and there will be at least one motion to be debated.

Paul Legon

Chairman

23 May 2018