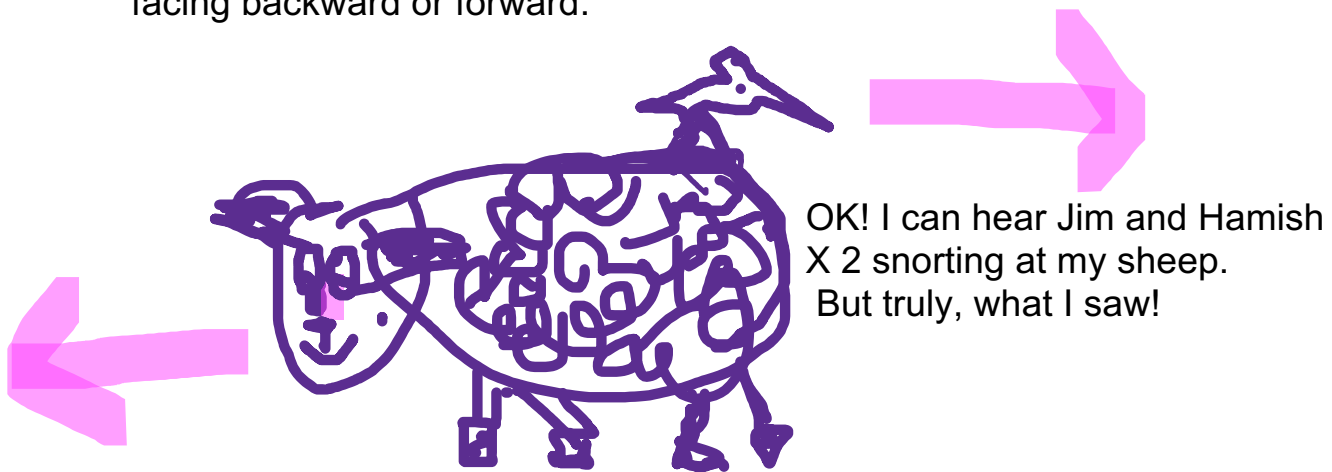


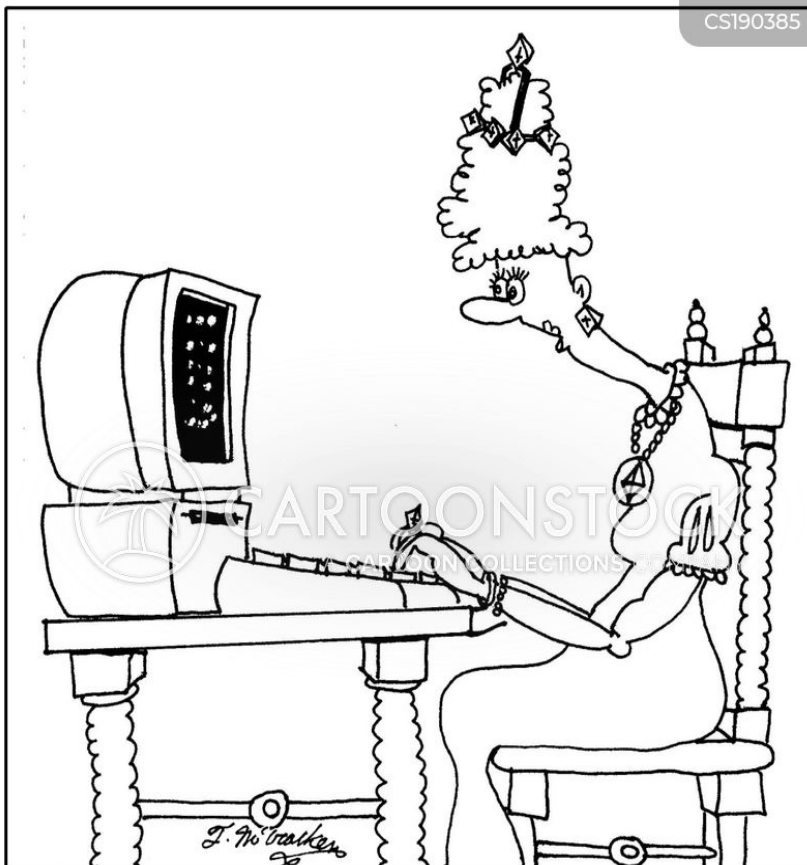
Lizzie's Monday Blog April 15

As I biked west along Wood Street, I noticed sheep wandering around with birds on their backs. Birds perched close to the tails, going along for the ride but facing backwards. It got me thinking how Mondays, I've plopped people together playing nights, series, often not having previously met. Presumably they felt they were moving forward because no one's said, "please, not again with that person." It's only Alan, who when I said I'd play with him, shouted, quite loudly, "No, no, please not, you're such a manic bidder." Damn it, I was deeply hurt, but delighted too. It shows how successful his Mentors have been, building his confidence, pointing him and the other 2023 Newbies forward into bridge independence. Timely too, because our Mentors can now lavish their attention on the 2024 Newbies, who enter the bridge room on April 29. Like all fledgling bridge players, at first they won't know whether they're facing backward or forward.



To help these new players, we've a cunning plan in place. We'll run two sets of boards for eight weeks from April 29. The **A circuit** will play 24-27 boards, briskly. "No Dithering," shouts Linda. The **B circuit** will cater for 2024 Newbies, and Mentors and any regular Monday players who'd like a slower pace, playing fewer boards. No shame in being one of the latter, you'd be doing a favour, adding rigour, swelling B circuit numbers, providing new faces to a group that's been locked in lessons with one another for weeks. C points awarded to both circuits.

The good news is that a generous Senior will be a non-playing Director, overseeing the room. All will glide along smoothly. More detail on this before the end of April, but in the mean-time, I've been finalizing partnerships for the Welcome Pairs and the Monday Pinehaven Championship Pairs. There are one or two still without partners, but all is shaping up well. And below, I've recycled my last year's response to a recent query about my competence with Excel spreadsheets. - Lizzie



Great Moments in Computer History:
Marie Antoinette's spreadsheet shows the
peasants have no bread, but lots of cake.

Equals in
the mastery
of IT