

TRIBUTE TO TERRY BOWN -- RIP

My first dealings with Terry came in 1977/78 when Bevans Holdings decided to put a team into the Leicester League. It was the one and only year we had 20 full divisions and the team, with Terry and such players as Stuart Jones who still plays in the league, came in to play in Division 20 of which I happened to be secretary.

It had come about when the bunch of players who enjoyed their knock-a-bout sessions during their lunch break in the mid-70s saw tv coverage of the World Table Tennis Championships being held at Birmingham in 1977. These good players make it look so easy that the Bevans' lads decided they could do that.

The team played together for around five years before it split up table tennis wise and Terry joined Leicester Gas, although he and Stuart remained life long friends and often reminded me of their table tennis beginnings.

But, of course, most people associated with local table tennis only know Terry through his crosswords that have appeared in Top Spin for a good 40 years or more. Initially in the hard copies until around 12 years ago and then in the on-line version we have now.

I don't know exactly how many crosswords he has composed for us but it can't be far off 400 over that time. In recent years he has also contributed a quiz at Christmas which was always fun to do, as many of us found despite not always getting round to sending them in.

Terry has also been a good administrative servant over the years and is listed as a Vice President of the Leicester League as well as being currently on the County Association committee dealing with the junior championships.

In many ways Terry will be sorely missed.

His funeral is at Gilroes Crematorium on Monday 7 February starting at 12-30pm
His family has indicated that his table tennis friends will be most welcome to attend.

John Bowness.