

08/05/2020 Death of Tom Evans

Tom Evans (Tom Peed)

It is my sad duty to report that club member and fellow Chess player Tom Evans (Known to everyone as 'Old Tom' to distinguish from young Thomas) passed away at 12.00 on Sunday 3rd May 2020. Having fallen in the house he was in hospital having had a successful hip operation, but contracted Covid 19 and became another victim of this awful disease. he would have been 84 next month Tom was a good 10-pin bowler as well and played for our team at Acocks Green bowl. He maintained a very good technique even into his eighties and scores around 180-190 per game were the norm.



It was while playing his beloved Bowling Tom at the age of 65 re kindled his passion for chess 40 years after first playing for Lucas, by joining the Westminster Chess club who were also using the Acocks Green Bowling venue before moving on to play for Mutual Circle then Olton.

Tom's chess strength lay mainly in the openings with a good repertoire of tricks and traps. as well as entertaining chess Puzzles....His chess was always exciting if not entirely accurate as were many of the stories and anecdotes he would reel off with considerable ease considering his age and health.

MAR 16<sup>th</sup> '63  
Harry Beesley's Darts Commentary

# TOM COULD MAKE IT LUCKY SEVEN AGAIN

IT is doubtful if any darts player has gone to the Midland Counties divisional finals with the same amount of support that Tom Peed will have on Wednesday night at the Police Assembly Hall, Little Park Street, Coventry.

Tom, a member of the Argus team, will be there as the Warwickshire individual champion, and if he succeeds again, he will go to London for the national finals on Saturday, April 27.

Is seven Peed's lucky number? That was his position on the programme for the Warwickshire area final at Rugby, and he is seven again on Wednesday's schedule.

Herbert Davies, of British Arms, Cooley Gate, will also have a strong following. Herbert, who will play for the Argus next season, will be there as the Worcestershire champion.

None of the eight who will be on view have been to London to play in the last stage. Bur. P. Bliss, of Albert Hotel, Shrewsbury, the Shropshire champion, and J. Holmes, of Nag's Head, Holland Ward, the Derbyshire champion, have reached this stage before.

The others are: T. Cooper (Bell Inn, East Langton), champion of Leicestershire; T. Doctor (Cambridge Hotel, Wellingborough), Northamptonshire; R. Hannon (Balloon Hotel, Wollaton), Nottinghamshire; and S. Pritchard (New Stag, Etwall), Staffordshire.



TOM PEED

Sports Argus, Saturday, January 26, 1963. Page 3

## S with HARRY BEESLEY



TOM PEED . . . one of the trio to represent Birmingham in the next stage of the national championship.

**'Top three'**  
**are Toolan,**  
**Peed and**  
**Handley**

JIM TOOLAN (Sailor's Return), Tom Peed (Ridgmere Social), and Dennis Handley (Britannia) are the three to go forward to the next stage of the national individual championship at Rokeby Working Men's Club, Market Street, Rugby, on Wednesday, February 13.

They should do well in representing Birmingham, for at the Morris Cars Social Club on Thursday night they each battled well for the honour.

Tom Peed, who has been to the Warwickshire area finals before, eliminated Bill Gorst and Arthur Langford. Arthur was in brilliant form, too.

### Consistent

Jim Toolan, after a real bout of consistent scoring, beat a former area champion, Bill Faragher (Gough Arms) 2-1, and then went on to beat George Bailey (Small Heath Flights) 2-0.

He continued to score brilliantly and polished off 185 in five darts to win the first game.

Dennis Handley was not in good form and makes the Rugby trip by courtesy of Frank Lewis (St. Matthias) who just could not round off good approach play. Still Dennis, a fighter all the way, could easily come off in the next stage.

Former winners Brian Vaux and Bill Faragher had mixed fortunes. Brian was beaten at his first attempt while Faragher played exceptionally well to dispose of Jim Phillips before going under on a bold "bull" finish to Toolan, who will be awarded the News of the World silver darts for the all-round performance of an excellent night's throwing.

In his younger days Tom was a Sports Argus Darts team player going back to the sixties and a mean snooker player competing in CIU national events. The pictures he showed me suggested he cut a suave figure as a young man. He and his brother practised darts by throwing six inch nails at a board in the back yard. Several Argus cuttings show that

he was in the news regularly playing for this prestigious team. Tom was also a keen collector of Comic Annuals and especially Rupert Bear of which he had many going back to 1936. He had a good correspondence with the bears artist Alfred Bestall. Although Tom only played for Olton for a few years, the chess club will not be the same again and Tom will be sadly missed.

Richard Reynolds, Olton Chess Club, with input from Alan Woollaston