

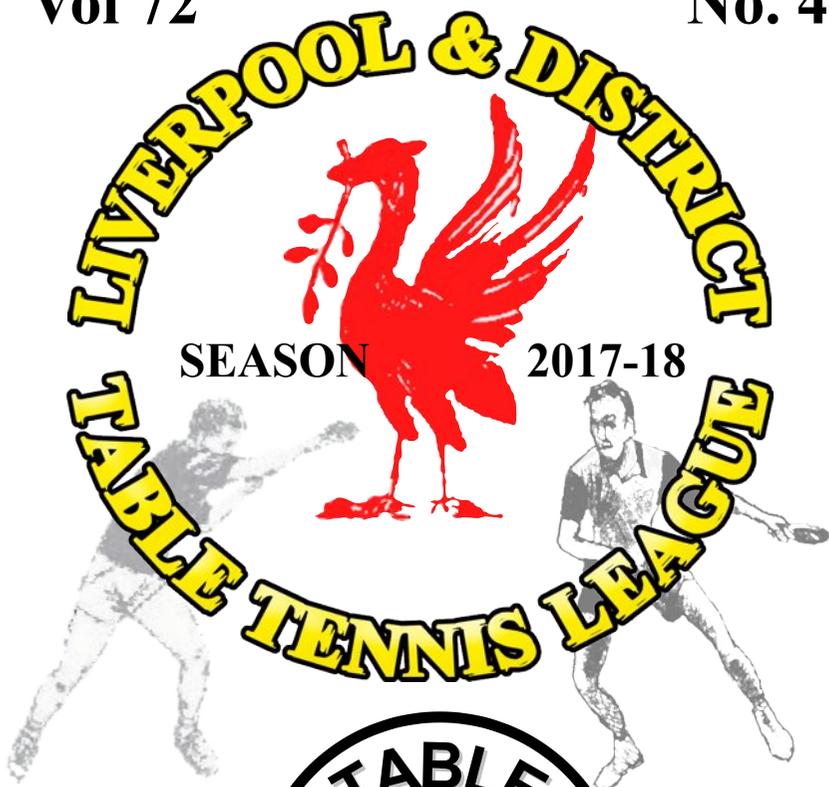
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<https://www.tabletennis365.com/Liverpool>

# EDITORIAL

Another season over, I don't think we have had so close a run in for the final Champion to be decided, at the time of the last Digest (17 matches played) Crosby High were top, 3 points clear of Maghull, with changing top sport till the final match for Maghull which they had to win 10-0, a 9-1 win would have given us a first time shared championship, but Maghull did get that 10-0 win to crown them L&DTTL Champions for the first time in the Club's history, well done!

Congratulations to the League for starting the new Summer League, to be played on a set night in a set Venue, Anfield Community Sports Centre, an excellent venue where we had the 'Finals Night'. Starting with two divisions, hopefully this will prove very popular.

One little item, which may be out of place here, but has always been in my mind while and since I was Cup Secretary, Divisional Cup Finals, so many finish with a '5-0 or 5-1' score line, disappointing for spectators and probably players who don't get a game, maybe a system like the Vets Tournament where order of play is set out as standard, thus preventing the same (best) players playing continuously, they may still finish 5-0 or 5-1, but everyone will get a game, just a thought!!

Now to Business! This is to be my last 'Printed' Digest, I say printed, as whether the Digest carries on in an 'On Line' format is dependent on the response I receive from members over the summer break, I have found that less and less members are actually reading the Digest, and since the 365 On line site has been adopted, all necessary information is there, and immediately updated, where as the Digest is always out of date. The final nail in the coffin has been the new Data Protection Law which basically says we can't mention a person's name, or use his photograph unless we have his permission, and I don't intend to go down that road for a purely voluntary publication, this effects the online version even more so,

I have been Editing the Digest for 18 years now, responsible for turning out 59 editions in that time. The first Digest, was to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the L&DTTL, printed October 1956, it was a professional Glossy Digest for which the members paid 6d, a lot of money then, in fact was about 40% of membership fees, because of cost it's life nearly ended soon after startup, but it was kept going as a typed and photo copied edition. There have been 264 editions to date, the first editions were put together by an 'Editorial Committee', Jack Pattison was the first to take the job on as a single Editor, followed by Eric Caird, since then we have had 6 Editors, changing after a couple of seasons early days, until Jack Lambert took it on with his wife Wynn, in those days it was type written, then a photo copy was posted to each member, in May 1974, a Mr. Jorge H. Arango asked how much it would cost to have the Digest sent to him 2

in Medellin, Colombia, S. America, don't know what the answer was! My first Edition was Vol 56 No1 Christmas 2001 when I took on the Editorship from Ken Armson, Computing and Desk Top Editing was within reach of all, and I picked it up as I went along, and Cadwa's Ian Lunt printed my early copies via his printing Business at cost price, we were then turning out a professional / amateur Digest to read. After a few years I found that the extra time involved between me and printing would be easier under my total control and started printing totally from home. But printing is not the total work, sometimes the Digest was 24 pages, 6A4 sheets which had to be sorted into 6 page items, stapled together, and delivered to club Secretaries by me in the car, a full afternoon driving around North Liverpool, South Liverpool and Cronton, in my early days I was doing over 400 copies, (down to 150 printed copies now), which I bundle and send by Post to Club Secretaries. In 2001 just after I had started using pictures in the Digest, late one night I had a telephone call from Judy Rogers, the Child Protection officer of the ETTA, she had had a complaint from the father of a junior who's photo I had taken at our recent 4star Junior Tournament, he knew that I had taken it for the Digest, it wasn't on line then, but that episode frightened me, near to packing in! (and now we have the New Data Protection Act!!)

On pages 14-15- 16 there is a bit of 'Nostalgia' from early Digests, numbers of Reporters and contributors over the years, I doubt if I have managed to get all the names, and apologise to anyone still alive if I have missed them, on page 15 is my very first 'article' about a member who is still actively playing now, a bit of leg pulling, but taken in in the friendly spirit it was intended.

So a great big thank you to the six present subscribers, Nets & Edges Don Davies, and Divisional reporters Paul Hutchings, Brian Crolley, Ian McElwee, Ken Roberts and Simon Craske, and also to a 'no publicity please' benefactor who has covered the cost of printing the Digest for about 10 years.

Divisional Cup Photo's Pg 16 - 17

Man V Nature Pg. 18

Obituary page 18 & 20

JDD Photo's Pg. 19

Awards Pg.19

Final League Tables Pg. 20

We now have a vacancy for a 'budding' Editor to take the Digest to Vol 75

My e-mail address is [roly@ttdigest.co.uk](mailto:roly@ttdigest.co.uk),

In February's edition I highlighted the opportunity in which the men's team found themselves with a chance of taking the LCTTL's premier division title for the first time in a number of years. The final round of matches pitted Ritchie Venner, Harry Watson and Paul Hutchings with a Warrington trio comprising of Pawel Orzechowski, Connor Whitehead and Jake Shaw, all of whom play in the Liverpool League. Both Leagues' boasted a 100% winning record but, we picked up just one win, Paul beating Shaw, which left Warrington as champions and our men in second place.

The 2017/18 Liverpool League season passed off well with no major issues to report. That may seem to some, an odd statement to include in my final Nets and Edges column. However, I do so after the Management Committee dealt with a number of unpleasant and contentious issues in recent seasons'. I'm sure Tom Purcell will have been very pleased to complete the campaign without any such hitches, something I sincerely hope will continue.

Speaking of our General Secretary, his umpiring travels this season included the World Team Championships in Halmstad, Sweden while prior to that, he attended Australia's Gold Coast

Commonwealth Games. I gather, however, that Halmstad may be his last outside of the UK!! Among the many tournaments and international matches in which he has officiated, the London Olympic Games where he took the chair for the Men's Singles final, I suspect is his greatest honour and memory. He will, of course continue to umpire much closer to home and on behalf of the League, I congratulate him on such a tremendous career in the role and one which will continue closer to home.

What an end of season Jack Dempsey has enjoyed. After winning the Bill Fawley Liverpool Closed beating Ritchie Venner in the final, he then won the Champion of Champions' men's singles title beating Pawel Orzechowski in the final. The final can be seen on line with Graham Rollinson in the chair. After playing two matches in the opening month of the season, Jack took a long holiday abroad and didn't appear again for his club until January 18<sup>th</sup>, losing only once in thirty six trips to the table. That reversal was to Ritchie Venner who in turn won 59 of his 62 sets which equates to a playing average of 95%. A fuller account of the performances in the top division will, I'm sure, be included in the division one Digest notes.

**The following Statement was placed on the L&DTTL 365 web site by League Secretary Tom Purcel for ALL to read**

You are probably fed up recently receiving lots of emails from companies saying that the legislation regarding the processing of private data is being changed and we have all been asked to give permission to companies to keep our data and use it within the new legislation or get rid of it.

The new legislation "GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS" (GDPR) comes into effect on 25th May 2018 and will not just impact on the big companies. It will impact on any one who keeps private information about a person. This includes Table Tennis England, Table Tennis Leagues and Table Tennis Clubs.

Under GDPR, TTE and each league and club is going to have to obtain permission from each of its members to retain data about the members, eg, address, DofB, T/P number, email address and give reasons why the data will be retained.

Permission will also have to be obtained to take and keep photos or videos that we may display on the TT365 website or in the LDTTL Magazine.

Each League and Club is also going to have to complete a Privacy Policy which will be displayed on the website and each member can read.

All the above may seem extreme but it is EU Legislation which will impact on us. The Information Commissioner can check up on us to make sure we are complying with the Law and a person could complain about a League or Club if the private information we hold is used without authority.

I am currently drafting a Privacy Policy for the LDTTL and each club secretary could use this document as a basis for the club's own privacy policy.

There will be an agenda item at the 2018 AGM to discuss GDPR.

Guidance documents for Leagues and Clubs have been prepared by Table Tennis England and can be found at: <https://tabletennisengland.co.uk/clubs/data-protection-guidance/>

Having just returned from cycling around the Yorkshire Dales in glorious weather for the weekend, it seems difficult to believe that the season's final event only concluded just over a week ago. Jack Dempsey became the new Open Singles winner with a hard fought victory over Ritchie Venner and is well deserved after an excellent season. It has been a long time since a winner of the Open singles used an anti – spin rubber, if at all – and Jack has adapted well to the demands of changing his game. Congratulations must also go to Dave Graham with his first open singles winner as coach and he may not be the last.



really exciting season and the culmination of five years' work for the club taking the team out of the third division with brilliant contributions over that time from Paul Banks and Amy.

Crosby have also had a fantastic season this year and surely would have been crowned champions if Jack hadn't missed the early part of the season with his only loss coming against Ritchie Venner. Yameen and Rhys have continued to improve all season and will both prove extremely

The new league champions are Maghull who just about managed to hold off a fantastic second half of the season from Crosby High to take the title by just one point. In fact on the opening game of the season against Police A, there was a spirited and somewhat tense discussion about our doubles pairing with Amy claiming that she deserved to play and dad deciding to go with ex England Number 11 Ritchie just in case the season came down to one point. The conversation went on all the way home and much of the following day with Amy eventually asking whether the title was worth falling out with your daughter and asking how I will feel when she drops me in years to come : but it did come down to just one point - Amy!

difficult to beat next year, perhaps they just lacked a little consistency against lower ranked opposition over the season to offset Jacks' absence. However they both showed at the Closed how much improvement has been made with Rhys beating Thomas Haddley before eventually losing to Ritchie deuce in the fifth and Yameen beating Jonathon Taylor before losing narrowly to Jack in 5 from two games up and with an 8 5 lead in the third. All three players have been a credit to everyone involved at the club and it will be interesting to see how far they will go at a national level over the coming years, certainly, they will be the team to beat for next season if Dave can manage to turn them out regularly with various exams looming.

Maghull's success was due largely to the fact that both Ritchie and myself were super consistent in turning out all season, and despite both of us having shoulder surgery in April and June, we only missed one match between us. Ritchie had a fantastic season losing only three singles and we only lost three doubles sets to finish top of the doubles table and also take the Closed doubles title. A big thank you goes out to Brian Oldfield who never let us down as first reserve and ended up playing much of the second half of the season as we struggled to get Beth Farnworth to play due to university commitments. Brian brought all his experience and unconventional technique to consistently pick up vital sets at important times. Valuable contributions were also made by Michael Stewart, Amy and Olivier Barthelemy to conclude what for us has been a

Police managed to secure third spot and proved that with a full team they are capable of beating both of the top two sides with their success in winning the Readman Cup Final defeating both Crosby High and Maghull. However the League title isn't always won by the best team and perhaps last season's success meant they were not as committed to the challenge of turning out week in and week out this year. The club do perhaps have the option of promoting Harry Watson next year into the first team and could again mount a serious challenge with solid support from their second team when required. We hope that they are able to secure premises for next season and thanks go to Crosby who were able to support at short notice.

Jaguar took fourth after a solid season ably led by Andy Taylor who has had one his best seasons for some time, Terry Turner returned to provide

excellent support and a special mention must also go to Andy Town who continues to improve and turn out consistently for the team. If they are to challenge again then they will perhaps need Kevin Dolder to again take up the challenge and prove he is still the player to beat against the likes of Jack, Yameen, Rhys, Harry, Pawel, Thomas and that other newcomer Ritchie.

Of the other mid table teams Police A led the charge with Paul Gittins winning most sets and finishing with an excellent 60%, supported by Josha Matthewman and Joe Mullen with the occasional appearance of Harry Watson and Liverpool University student Abdulrahman Alsuwailem to boost the sets averages. They were perhaps the most solid of the teams outside of the top four and could even mount a challenge next season if Harry and Abdulrahman are available on a regular basis.

Harold House came next with Kevin Lewis being their most consistent performer finishing with 66% and supported by Peter Findlatter and Steve Whalley, with Jake Shaw for support when available. Only two points separated the next three teams with Greenbank and Wavertree Labour both on 90 points and Bath Street two points below. Greenbanks star performer was Ming Liu playing 54 sets and finishing on 44% with important contributions from Peter Lee and George Lennon. They missed Keith Bird over the season but were able to call on numerous reserves to plug the gap. Wavertree continued to rely heavily on Thomas Haddley who contributed 54 of the 72 singles sets won over the season and single-handedly kept the team up. Bath Street were able to call on Keith Williams more than they perhaps expected and with consistent support from Dermot, Claire and Dave Roberts may be a little disappointed that did not finish a little higher up the table.

Greenbank A were able to call on Pawel Orzechowski for eight of their games and his excellent 91% certainly helped them avoid what could have been a difficult relegation battle during the season. Dave Tagg proved to be the stalwart of the team playing in 17 of the 22 matches with excellent support from Billy Cheung on 50%. Ahmed continues to be one of the nicest guys around the division and we always look forward to a can of coke and chocolate biscuit at their home games.

At the bottom of the table relegation looms for Crosby High A and East Wavertree if two are to go

down. Crosby were able to play a regular three for most matches with Chris Spedding on 51% being their most consistent performer but were also able to call on Yameen, Connor Whitehead and Gavin Lloyd to just about stay clear of East Wavertree by one point. Neil Colville and Alan Davies should be pleased with their first season in the top division finishing on 36% and 27% respectively. Unfortunately they were not able to call on Ray Jackson as much as they needed to avoid relegation but will be difficult to beat next season in Division 2.

In my last set of notes I referenced my concerns about the playing conditions at Greenbank which provoked a response from some players within the club. I believe the League have since made recommendations to help resolve the issues of the balls and the mobility equipment, but would also like to note on the clubs behalf the many positive aspects of the venue. Certainly many clubs are struggling with their own venues and perhaps it is time to revisit the idea of a central location to provide playing conditions that would meet tournament standards.

My unofficial end of season awards

Best player – Jack Dempsey

Most valuable contribution over the season – Ritchie Venner

Most improved player – Yameen

Best wins of the season – Sylvia Graham against Rhys Davies, Kevin Lewis against Yameen (twice), Paul Gittins against Keith Williams, Alan Davies against Andy Town, Dave Roberts against Jake Shaw

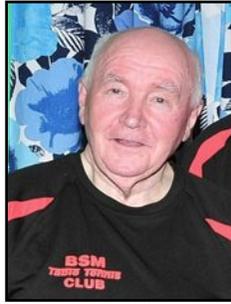
Player of the season – Kevin Lewis

Table tennis suffragette – Janette Hutchings for being the first female player to play in the Open Singles at the Closed

Finally, as one season concludes we now have the option of playing in a two division summer league at Anfield Sports Centre on Monday evenings. For me, the Summer sunshine and the bike will prove to be too strong a distraction to justify playing but I believe this is a valuable opportunity for those who wish to play all year long and wish it every success. For the rest of us the bats will be put away for a time but don't leave it too long because as they say in Game of Thrones - winter is coming!  
See you all next season.

**WEEKS 19 – 26**

In the last edition of the Digest. Vol 72 No 3. Paul Hutchings in his Div. 1 notes made comments about the “season so far”. One of his comments was about the length of our Table Tennis Season and “should we be still playing competitive league matches in May”. I raised this point about 6 years ago via the Digest, so I was interested in what Paul was saying. If I recall at the time some of my own club mates put me down saying,



Brian you have a nerve for someone who plays almost every day of the year. However I do feel that Paul has a point. I think that it would be good if the league could find a way of completing the first half of the season before Christmas. I do find it very annoying to still be playing that extra game in January to complete the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the season. Paul Hutchings has brought up a few other points of real issue. His point about late nights after 11 pm is one of them particularly for youngsters but I have to say I still like the doubles. I think I better stop now. Well done Paul. It has taken me all season to note a very important fact which appears without fail every week on the web site, that is, who does the “SCORE CARDS”, these are “Submitted by Tony Dixon”, “Approved by Tony Dixon”, and” Completed by Tony Dixon”. Look at the bottom of each score card on the web site, nobody takes any real notice. When you think of it, what an achievement this is, and Tony does this for 5 divisions amongst all sorts of other things he does like up to date League Tables. I know that all these things are done with the help of Table Tennis 365. On behalf of all us players, thank you so much Tony.

**MATCH WEEK 19.**

**BSM “B”4. v CADWA 6.** . One game that had an interesting point about it was the game between Brian Crolley and Peter Turner, Brian has known Peter Turner since 1952 when he played against him at Everton Red Triangle in that year, Peter was already known as a “Legend” at the age of 15, he probably did not know that, as he was a very modest boy even then, as he is now. Any way Brian played him that night, about 66 years ago and as far as can be remembered has not played against him since, so last night was a bit sentimental, and Brian lost again. Tonight’s match itself was as ever dominated by Graham Black who won all his games, well backed up by Peter and Alan Evans for CADWA. Andy Cheung put in a fine fighting performance to win 2 for BSM “B” with

Brian Crolley and Mal Kent getting 1 each for BSM “B”. **Bootle YMCA 5 v Maghull “A” 5.** Mathew Cranny was the player of this match winning 2 of his games and teaming up with Michael Stewart to win the doubles. Paul Banks picking up the other for Maghull. John Higham put up a fine performance, as did Ted Birch, both winning 2 and Alan chase won 1 to get a very good draw for Bootle YMCA. **Wavertree Lab. “B” 1 v BSM “A” 9.** The best game of the night must have been Phil

Luxton v Barry Davis, Phil just winning 11-9 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Dave Harse was unlucky to lose 11-9 in the 5<sup>th</sup> against Colin Turner. The rest of the games went according to form with Matt Wilson and Colin Turner winning 3 each and teaming up to win the doubles. **Wavertree Lab. “A” 1 v M/Side Police “B” 9.** Andy Bird beating Steve Gittins was the only success for Wavertree Lab. “A”. Andy Bird going to 5 with Jon Dyson and Michael Dugdale going to 5 with Steve Gittins, the rest of the games went to Merseyside Police team of Jon Dyson Matt Evans and Steve Gittins. **Bootle YMCA “A” 7 v East Wavertree”A” 3.** Craig Lee turned up trumps again winning his 3 with Shakil Malik and Liam Shaw picking up 2 each for Bootle YMCA “A” to give them a convincing win. Tom Creevie was the star man for East Wavertree “A” winning his 2 and teaming up with Paul Loftus to take the doubles for East Wavertree “A”.

**MATCH WEEK 20.**

**Maghull “A” 10 V ARRIVA 0.** Maghull “A” were just too good for ARRIVA on the night. Only Gary Stanton of ARRIVA taking Michael Stewart to 5. Edward Harrison put up a brave fight against Mathew Cranny, but everything else seemed to go Maghull “A”’s way. **East Wavertree “A” 5 v Bootle YMCA 5.** Ben Chen was by far the man of this match winning his 3 and teaming up with Paul Loftus to also win the doubles. Paul Loftus won his single against John Higham to secure a draw for East Wavertree “A”. Alan Chase and Ted Birch both won 2, with John Higham winning 1 for Bootle YMCA. **BSM “A” 8 v Bootle YMCA “A” 2.** Barry Davis pulled out all the stops to win his 3. Mathew Wilson and Colin Turner won 2 each and teamed up to take the double for BSM “A”. Shakil Makik beat Mathew Wilson and Colin Turner to take the 2 points for Bootle YMCA “A”. **CADWA 6. v East Wavertree “B” 4.** A great win for CADWA, Graham Black being the star man but it was Paul Evans great efforts in beating Hassab

Nuree and Tony Dixon which secured the win for CADWA. Lee Madin won 2 and Hassib Nuree and Tony Dixon got 1 each and 4 valuable point for East Wavertree "B" **Merseyside Police "B" 8 v Wavertree Lab. "B" 2**. This was a great match for Merseyside Police "B" and especially for Tom Purcell winning his 3 games in fine style and teaming up with Matt Evans to also win the doubles, Tom must have been over the moon. Matt Evans 3 and John Moore 1 did the rest for Merseyside Police "B". Dave Harse and Jet Liu got 1 each for Wavertree Lab. "B".

#### **MATCH WEEK 21.**

**Bootle YMCA 9 v ARRIVA N.W. 1.** John Rowan beat Alan Chase to get the only point for ARRIVA N.W. but Eddie Williams put up a fine fight against Alan Chase and Liam Shaw just going down in 5 to both Alan Chase and Liam Shaw. **East Wavertree "A" 2 v BSM "A" 8.** It was great for BSM "A" to have Kenny Jackson playing in this match, Kenny won his 3 games and with Colin Turner also won the doubles. Barry Davis and Colin Turner both won 2 each to take a very good win over East Wavertree "A" who had Tony Mullally and Tom Creevy winning 1 each to get 2 valuable points for their team. **Wavertree Lab "A" 2. v CADWA 8.** CADWA turn out a pretty good side of Graham Black, Paul Evans and Mike Power, and on this occasion were just too strong for Wavertree Lab "A" side off Andy Bird, Michael Dugdale and Alan Liu, with Andy Bird and Alan Liu picking up 1 game each for Wavertree Lab. A" **Bootle YMCA "A" 6 v Merseyside Police "B" 4.** Craig Lee won his 3 games in good fashion, backed up by 2 from Shakil Malik and 1 from Liam Shaw to get the win for Bootle YMCA "A". Abdul Alsuwailem got 2 wins, Matt Evans 1 and Matt Evans and Abdul picked up the doubles to get 4 very good points for Merseyside Police "B".

#### **MATCH WEEK 22.**

**ARRIVA N.W. 6 v BSM "B" 4.** This was a bottom of the table clash, none the less a hard fought battle in the best spirit of table tennis. John Rowan was the star of this match winning his 3 and playing with Krzysztof Lenyz to take the doubles 11-9 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Pavel Tomczy and Krzysztof got 1 each to get the win for Arriva N.W. Mal Kent got 2 and Andy Cheung and Brian Crolley got 1 each to get 4 hard earned points for BSM "B". **Maghull "A" 2 v East Wavertree "B" 8.** Another tough fight for East Wavertree "B". They had to fight hard against a very good Maghull side of Steve Braddick, Mathew Cranny and Michael Stewart. Mathew Cranny managed to beat Lee Madin, and Mathew Cranny and Michael Stewart managed to 7

overcome Lee Madin and Tony Dixon in the doubles to get 2 very good points for Maghull "A". **BSM "A" 9 v Bootle YMCA 1.** This fixture brought out the appearance of the big guns in the form of Kenny Jackson for BSM "A" and Wayne Percivil for Bootle YMCA. It really is great to see these stalwarts who have been playing in the Liverpool League for so many years at such a high standard and who have such a high reputation throughout England for everything that table tennis stands for. **CADWA 5. v Wavertree Lab. "B" 5.** I keep looking for outstanding results from these close matches and as ever games like Graham Black v Rob Bevan come to light, Graham winning 12-10 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mike Power v Phil Luxton, Phil winning close in the 5<sup>th</sup>. The doubles of Graham and Mike v Phil and Rob must have been a classic, Graham and Mike winning in the 5<sup>th</sup>. The other outstanding game was Peter Taylor v Dave Harse, these two always put in a good performance and this was no exception with Dave getting the win on this occasion. **Merseyside Police "B" v East Wavertree "A"**. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Merseyside Police our now playing from their temporary venue of Crosby High, The result of this match is not yet in.

#### **MATCH WEEK 23.**

**BSM "A" 10 v Merseyside Police "B" 0** Match Conceded to BSM "A". **Bootle YMCA 9. v BSM "B" 1.** Andy Cheung got the better of Ted Birch in a very tough game, but Ted got his own back beating Mal Kent and then Brian Crolley and also taking the doubles with Alan Chase. John Higham had a good night winning his 3 in pretty good fashion. Alan Chase was man of the match and overall Bootle YMCA were just too good for BSM "B". **East Wavertree "B" 8 v ARRIVA N.W. 2.** John Lee Rowan put in a tremendous performance for ARRIVA N.W. in his wins against Lee Madin and Hassib Nuree, nothing much else went ARRIVA's way. Tony Dixon was the star man winning his 3 games and teaming up with Lee Madin to get the doubles for East Wavertree "B". East Wavertree "B" are keeping the pressure on BSM "A", just hoping for any slip up by the current leaders. **Wavertree Lab "B" 3 v Maghull "A" 7.** Luke Courtney of Maghull "A" where did he come from, it really is amazing when we see new faces especially when they come in and win their games. Good luck Luke. Man of the match was Michael Stewart winning his 3 games teaming up with Mathew Cranny to take the doubles. Andy Bird, Michael Dugdale and Alan Lui all got 1 each for Wavertree Lab "B". **Bootle YMCA "A" 7 v CADWA 3.** Bootle YMCA "A" put up a fine effort here to beat a very strong

CADWA team. Shakil Malik, Liam Shaw and Craig Lee all won 2 each and Shakil and Craig teamed up to beat Graham Black and Mike Power in the doubles.

### **MATCH WEEK 24.**

**Maghull "A" 8 v Wavertree Lab. "B" 2.** Paul Banks and Michael Stewart got 3 each on the night, Mathew Cranny got 1 and teamed up with Michael Stewart to take the doubles. Phil Luxton and Mario Giove got 1 win each to get 2 creditable points for Wavertree Lab. "B". **BSM "B" 1 v East Wavertree "B" 9.** East Wavertree "B" were far too strong for BSM "B". Mal Kent won the only point for BSM "B" beating Tony Dixon. **ARRIVA N.W. 7 v Wavertree Lab. "A" 3.** John Rowan and Krzysztof won 3 each and teamed up to take the doubles to get the win for ARRIVA. Andrew Bird Michael Dugdale and Alan Liu put in fighting performances to get 1 each for Wavertree Labour "A". **Merseyside Police "B" 3 v Bootle YMCA 7.** Alan Chase, Ted Birch and Liam Shaw all got 2 each. However the match was marred by Abdul Alsuailem having the points he won awarded to Bootle YMCA because Abdul had already played up more than 6 times. I think that the mix up had occurred because of M/side Police having to more venues at this late stage of the season. Matt Evans got his 3 points for the Police "B" team

### **MATCH WEEK 25.**

**Bootle YMCA 1 v East Wavertree "B" 9.** This result shows just how good East Wavertree "B" are this season. Ted Birch put in a fine effort to beat Lee Madin. John Higham did very well to take Tony Dixon to 9-11 in the 5<sup>th</sup>, but the rest of the night went to East Wavertree "B". I note a team comment that Alan Chase was not too well on this night, I hope you are feeling better Alan. **Wavertree Lab "A" 8 v BSM "B" 2.** Andy Bird, Michael Dugdale and Alan Liu were very gracious hosts and all played very well. Mal Kent got 2 wins for BSM "B" and maybe the best game of the night was between Michael Dugdale and Brian Crolley, Michael Dugdale winning 11-7 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. **Wavertree Lab "B" 8 ARRIVA N.W. 2.** Jet Hou did very well for Wavertree Lab "B" winning 2 putting in a very creditable performance, Rob Bevan was the man of the match, but as ever John Rowan played very well for ARRIVA N.W. to get 2 very good points. **BSM "A" 6 v CADWA 4** this was a fine match with 5 games going to 5 most of them very close. The top game was Matt Wilson's win over Graham Black, followed by Barry Davis's win over Paul Evans and then the doubles win for BSM "A". Paul Evans win over Colin Turner for CADWA, This win ensured that BSM "A" won the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. Well done to Barry

Davis (Capt) Matt Wilson and Colin Turner. **Bootle YMCA "A" 6. v Maghull "A" 4.** Craig Lee 3 and Shakil Malik 2 were star men in this fine match for Bootle YMCA "A", with Paul Banks 2, Steve Braddick and Michael Stewart getting 1 each for Maghull "A"

### **MATCH WEEK 26.**

**BSM "B" 0 v Wavertree Lab. "B" 10.** BSM "B" fought to the end but did not get any points, this was a fine match played in excellent spirit. I would say that Jet Hou was the most improved player in the division this season, his hitting was excellent and his angles were very good. Well done Jet you had a good night. Rob Bevan and Dave Harse made up the rest of the Wavertree Lab "B" Team and were fine visitors to the BSM Club. **Maghull "A" 6. v East Wavertree "A" 4.** Michael Stewart played a fine match winning his 3 and teaming up with Sue Hughes to win the doubles. Sue Hughes also played very well to record 2 wins against a very strong East Wavertree "A" team of Tony Mullally, Ben Chen and Paul Lofus, Ben Chen getting 2 and Tony Mullally and Paul Loftus getting 1 each for East Wavertree "A". Janette Hutchings was very brave stepping up into the 2<sup>nd</sup> division playing reserve for Maghull "A". **ARRIVA N.W. 5. v Bootle YMCA "B" 5.** This match starred Graham Rollinson playing for ARRIVA N.W. Graham played John Taylor and recorded a very good win. Graham has played for his teams many times this season and has not won very many games so he must be very pleased with his efforts in this match. The rest of the match went pretty well according to form. The top game was between Shakil Malik and John Rowan, Shakil just managing to win 11-8 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. The other game was between John Rowan and Liam Shaw, this time it was John Rowan who won 11-7 in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Shakil Malik was the star man of this match winning all 3 of his games with Liam Shaw winning 2. It is always good to see reserves like John Taylor stepping up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and he deserves his mention for his efforts against Krzysztof Lenyk, just losing on this occasion.

So that is another season over, can I thank every Team and every Player in this division for their sportsmanship throughout the season. Congratulation must go to BSM "A" in winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Title and to East Wavertree "B" in coming a very creditable runner up. I hope both teams do well in the 1<sup>st</sup> Division next season. BSM "B" and ARRIVA N.W. were the relegated teams and they will appear in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division next season. From both BSM "B" and ARRIVA N.W. it has been a pleasure playing with such talented Players, it could be we will win a few more games in the 3<sup>rd</sup> division next season.

Brian Crolley.  
Wavertree Labour C ran out worthy winners of the division, the same team of Lee Farley (86%), Richard Wan (78%) and Mario Giove (63%) turned out virtually every week and continuously played to a high standard, in the closing weeks of the season they had a series of 9/1 victories over Bootle YMCA B, Merseyside Police C, St Annes and

Wavertree Labour C ran out worthy winners of the division, the same team of Lee Farley (86%), Richard Wan (78%) and Mario Giove (63%) turned out virtually every week and continuously played to a high standard, in the closing weeks of the season they had a series of 9/1 victories over Bootle YMCA B, Merseyside Police C, St Annes and Arriva NW A. When facing their nearest rivals, Maghull B they gained a hard fought 6/4 victory, Lee and Richard each won 2, Mario had an excellent win over Susie Hughes whilst Lee and Mario combined to take the doubles. Susie replied with wins over Lee and Richard and was supported by Phil Christie and John Langton who both got the better of Mario. In the final match of the season they played out a draw with BSM D, Lee was the MOM winning his 3 singles including an 11/9 5<sup>th</sup> set victory over me, Richard and Mario secured the draw with wins over Keith Dudley, Dave Stoddern and I each won 2 and combined to take the doubles.



Maghull B finished a distant 2<sup>nd</sup>, 20 points behind Wavertree having clocked up 151 points, their strongest team of Susie (82%), Phil (74%) and John (70%) was not available on a continuous basis and this cost them in the end. However, during the run in they had a series of impressive wins, when facing Arriva A, Eddie Williams pushed Susie all the way before losing out 12/10 in the deciding set, Eddie earned Arriva's sole point in defeating Alan Chan. They had a comfortable win over Sefton Park with Susie again remaining unbeaten but Chris Greaves beat John 13/11 in the 5<sup>th</sup> and Robbie Puddifer got the better of Phil. Their only hiccup during the closing weeks was when they went down 6/4 at BSM D, I won my 3 including a hard pressed 14/12 5<sup>th</sup> set win over Phil, Dave Stoddern beat John Langton as did Les Dodd with Dave and I clinching victory by taking the doubles. BSM D were never able to play a settled team in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the season and this counted against them in the long run, however, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> on 142 points was not to be sniffed at, It helped that the experienced Dave Stoddern (60%) became available for the final 5 matches. At week 22 we had a hard fought 6/4 win over CADWA A, Ian Wensley got his money's worth in winning each of his singles, he pipped me 11/8 in the decider and came back from 2 sets down to secure an 11/9 5<sup>th</sup> set win over Les Dodd (57%). BSM

points came via 2 singles wins for myself and Dave, with Les outlasting Peter Wass, coming back from 2 sets down to snatch an 11/9 win in the decider, Dave and I took the doubles.

BSM C had a good season finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> place on 126 points. A determined, hard working team who had a couple of 7/3 wins over CADWA A and Merseyside Police C during the reporting period. Darren Taylor (76%) won his 3 against CADWA A and combined with Ted Cramsie to win the doubles, Dave Noden (59%) and Ted Cramsie (42%) contributed with good wins over Peter Wass. In the Police match Ted was the star of the night remaining unbeaten on his 4 visits to the table, Dave remained unbeaten in his singles including a 12/10 5<sup>th</sup> set win over Ruben Di Antonio Liedo.

5<sup>th</sup> placed CADWA A ended up 3 points adrift of BSM C stressing the importance of the Crosby side's 7/3 win reported above, Ian Wensley (74%), Peter Wass (63%) and Martin Latham (41%) have played in the majority of their matches. All 3 were present in a 7/3 win over the Police C team, Ian and Peter were in top form each winning their 3 singles and Peter combined with Martin to win the doubles. Ian again won his 3 in 7/3 victory over Sefton Park, on this occasion he was well supported by Peter and Martin who both got the better of Robbie Puddifer and Ian Findon.

CADWA B had a steady season as confirmed by their record of winning 10, losing 10, and drawing 2 matches, in gaining 103 points. They finished strongly in beating both Arriva A and Linacre, Paula Adamson (82%) was player of the match on each occasion. In the Arriva match she and Alan French (45%) were both unbeaten and Alan Evans got the better of Eddie Harrison. In the Linacre match Paula won her 3, Alan French and Vaclav Holcman (49%) each won 2 and combined to take the doubles.

Bootle YMCA B and Police C both finished on 93 points. When they met, the Bootle side gained a 6/4 victory against a 2 man team, Eddie Preston and Richie Winkle each beat Ruben Liedo and Richie teamed up with Bert Rivers to take the doubles, Mick Winder had a great night for the Police side winning his 3 singles. Steve Daniels joined Eddie and Bert when Bootle had an excellent 6/4 win over CADWA A, Steve ran out MOM by beating each of the CADWA players in the 5<sup>th</sup> set, Eddie and Bert both got the better of Martin Latham and combined to take the doubles.

In a 7/3 win over BSM C Richie replaced Steve, they

each won 2 singles and took the doubles, Richie has had a fine season winning 61% and has received good support from Eddie on 36% and Bert 30%.

At Week 20 the Police side hit top form to gain a brilliant 9/1 win over CADWA B, Dave McMahon (36%) and Ruben Liedo (58%) were both unbeaten with John Moore (49%) losing to Alan French. The following week Tom Purcell (33%) was joined by Dave and Mick Winder (38%) when they visited the champions elect and went down 9/1, Tom played brilliantly to beat Lee Farley in 4 sets and ensure there would be no whitewash.

Sefton Park were in 9<sup>th</sup> place on 89 points. They had a good run in to take themselves away from the relegation zone, in the latter weeks of the season they beat Police C and St Annes by 6/4 margins, Bootle YMCA B 7/3, before finishing off the season with a draw against Arriva NW A. Robbie Puddifer (52%) went home with MOM awards, remaining unbeaten in the matches against Police, Bootle and Arriva, in the Bootle fixture he was well supported by Chris Greaves (57%) who also won his 3 singles and Ian Findon who got the better of Mike Hughes. John Gratton (55%) replaced Chris for the Police match and did well to beat Brian Burrows and John Moore with Ian beating Brian.

Only 4 points separated bottom of the table Linacre on 74 points, from St Annes and Arriva A who each finished on 78.

The Arriva team finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place and were helped by an excellent 6/4 win over CADWA A, Eddie Williams (49%) and Yanusz Wator (33%) both played well to beat Peter Wass and Martin Latham and teamed up to win the doubles, their other point came from Eddie Harrison beating Martin. They had draws with

Linacre and Sefton Park, in the Sefton Park match Eddie Williams beat Ian Findon and Chris Greaves with their other points coming via Yanusz and Wacek Bondek (48%) over Ian, and a doubles win.

When St Annes and Linacre met at week 19 they played out an honourable draw, Israel Isaac (63%) and Dave Bradley (27%) each won 2 and combined to win the doubles, however, they had no answer to Alek Charcenko who remained unbeaten, with Charlie Bradshaw backing him up with a win over Davshil Yunsheebu. They picked up points consistently and kept going to the end of the season, travelling to Bootle YMCA B for their final match and coming away with a well earned draw, Israel was unbeaten on his 4 visits to the table and his doubles partner, Dave Bradley, beat John Taylor to secure the draw.

Linacre failed to win a match throughout the season but never failed to give of their best, their best result during the reporting period was a draw with the Arriva side, Alek Charcenko (73%) was in top form and won his 3 singles, Charlie Bradshaw (33%) also played well beating Eddie Williams and Wacek Bondek. They came close to their first win but could not quite manage it, Charlie lost 11/9 in the 5<sup>th</sup> to Yanuz with Yanuz then beating Sunil Sapre 15/13 in the deciding set.

To finish I would like to highlight those players who are great team players whether they win or lose. The following deserve full credit for playing in all their team's fixtures: Richard Wan, Mario Giove, Alek Charcenko, Dave Noden, Martin Latham and Ian Findon. The man who is always there for his team or the club's A team was CADWA's Alan French who racked up 73 matches during the season.

## Division 4.

## Ken Roberts

Congratulations to QVC, 4<sup>th</sup> division champions and Divisional Cup winners. They have been a strong squad all season and have always been leading the table, they fully deserve the title. The 2

Wavertree Labour teams came 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively, with the E team just taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place by 2 points over the D team, all 3 teams have played consistently the same squad of players, which has enabled their final positions

in the Division. Now to look at the last few weeks of the 2017-2018 season.



**Week 19** starts with honours even between Bath Street Marine E and Sefton Park A, Graham Turner winning both of his games for Bath Street and both myself and Paul Jennings also winning two each for Sefton Park. Waterloo A beat Bootle YMCA C 6-4, Gary Corran winning a brace for Waterloo. Wavertree Labour E were too strong for Sefton Park B winning 7-3, Paul Morgan and Alan Staniland winning a single each for Sefton and Neil Jennings and Paul Jennings teaming up for a doubles win for their 3

points, Jason Ao, Richie Pandey and David Ao providing the solid team base for Wavertree that helped them finish runners up in the league. Fellow team Wavertree Labour D beat Maghull C 6-4, Danny Hall

winning his two for Maghull and Steve Johnson his two for Wavertree. Close game between Sefton Park C and Waterloo B, Waterloo taking it 6-4, Jamie Whitty and Pat E R winning their games for Sefton providing the 4 points, Pete Roberts winning a brace for Waterloo.

**Week 20** saw Sefton Park B beat Waterloo A 6-4, Neil J in fine form winning his two games for Sefton. Score was reversed for Sefton Park A losing to Maghull C 6-4, Luke Courtney and Janette Hutchings winning both their games for Maghull and Richie just managing to beat Danny game 11 in the 5<sup>th</sup> for Sefton Park. Another 6-4 this week with Sefton Park C beating Bootle YMCA C, Steve Daniels and the “evergreen” Lenny Dyson picking up their two games for Bootle, Roy Cunningham picking up a brace for Sefton in this one. Waterloo A just losing out 6-4 to the eventual champions QVC, Andrew Clarke continuing is 100% unbeaten record for QVC well supported by Panchu Xavier who also does not lose many a good win for Nik Primuk over John Appleton game 9 in the 4<sup>th</sup> for Waterloo. Another strong performance by Wavertree Labour E beating East Wavertree 7-3, Ged Howard picking up a brace for East Wavertree here.

**Week 21** saw QVC beat Sefton Park c 6-4, John Ap and Panchu X both picking up 2 games each for QVC. Rob F had a tough night for QVC losing to Roy C game 8 in the 5<sup>th</sup> and beating Pat R game 10 also in the 5<sup>th</sup>! All square, 5-5 between Bootle YMCA C and Sefton Park B, again, Steve D and Lenny D winning their 2 games for Bootle, John T won a hard game for Bootle beating Alan S game 11 in the 5<sup>th</sup>! The derby between the two Wavertree teams saw E come out on top 6-4, Jason A and Richie P again winning their games for E, good doubles double for D to make the match closer. All square between Bath Street Marine E and Waterloo, Andy Armstrong winning a brace for Bath Street, Nik P having a frustrating night losing both games in 5 sets, game 8 and game 5 respectively.

QVC beat Bath Street Marine 7-3 in **Week 22**. Andrew A picking up a double for Bath Street. A strong performance from Wavertree Labour E beat Sefton Park A 9-1, Bobby Bell picking up Sefton’s point with a win over the “evergreen” Biggsy. The Sefton Park derby between B and C teams, saw the C team just shave it 6-4, Neil J picked up a brace for the B team and Pat E R returning the compliment for the C team. Maghull C beat Waterloo B 6-4, Nik P picking up both for Waterloo and Amy Hutchings responding with a double for Maghull. All square between East Wavertree C and Bootle YMCA C, however East

Wavertree unfortunately played short so to pick up 5 points was a good result in the end, Jimmy W winning his two games for East Wavertree against John Taylor and Tommy Lynch. Wavertree Labour D beat Waterloo A 6-4, some close games here, Steve J picking up both again for Wavertree and Phil O’M doing the same for Waterloo.

A storming performance from East Wavertree C kicks off **Week 23** with a whitewash of Sefton Park B. Bath Street Marine E beat Sefton Park C 7-3, Derek Traynor being the star man picking up both singles for Sefton against Graham T and Pete Ashley. Honours shared between Maghull C and QVC, an excellent result for Maghull against the eventual champions, John App winning his two for QVC and Danny H replying with a brace for Maghull. Wavertree Labour D were pushed all the way against Bootle YMCA C and won 6-4, some very close games here, Steve D and Lenny D picking up both each for Bootle and Steve J replying with two for Wavertree. Sefton Park A beat Waterloo A 6-4, John Gratton winning his two for Sefton, Richie Pucala had a particular tough night for Sefton, beating Nathan Jago game 8 in the 5<sup>th</sup> and losing game 9 in the 5<sup>th</sup> to Gary C.

**Week 24** saw Sefton Park A beat Bootle YMCA C 7-3, a brace here for John G and myself for Sefton Park, Steve D, Lenny D and a double resulted in Bootle’s 3 points. Good win for Sefton Park B against Wavertree Labour D 6-4, Terry Jones winning his two for Wavertree and Paul M and Paul J replying with a double each for Sefton. Wavertree Labour E were too strong for Waterloo B winning 8-2, Paul M and Pete R picking up Waterloo’s points. East Wavertree C beat Sefton Park C 6-4, Pat E R playing really well and picking up both for Sefton, Joey and Jimmy Williams also winning two each for East Wavertree. Bath Street Marine E beat Maghull C 7-3, Thomas R having a great night picking up two for Maghull and Amy H contributing the other point, Graham T and Peter Ash again winning both their singles.

A Sefton Park derby kicks off **Week 25** between A & B with B coming out victors 7-3, again, the Jennings brothers Neil and Paul win both of their games for the B team, John G and Shan L winning a single each plus a doubles for the A team’s 3 points. The other Sefton Park team, the C team, had a convincing victory over Maghull C 9-1, Luke C picking up Maghull’s only point with a good win over Kenny Y. One of the most anticipated ties of the season was Wavertree Labour E who finished runners up, against QVC the eventual champions, Wavertree winning 6-4, Andy C losing

his 100% record in this one to Jason Ao who won both of his games, along with David Ao for Wavertree. In the Waterloo derby A came out on top over B 8-2, Nik P and Graham Chellew picking up the two points for the B team, however, two very close games here which were won by the victors, Lewis C beating Nik P game 11 in the 5<sup>th</sup>! Nathan J beating my old mate Pete R also in 5. All square between East Wavertree C and Wavertree Labour D, Joey W winning a brace for East Wavertree and George L doing the same for Wavertree, some close hard-fought games in this one.

The last week of the 2017-18 season, **Week 26** saw Wavertree Labour E beat Bath Street Marine E 7-3, Graham T and Andy A picking up a point each for Bath Street, plus a doubles win. QVC showed their class against Waterloo A with a 9-1 win, Jeff Hornby

beating John App in 5 for their single point. Waterloo B beat Bootle YMCA C 8-2, Steve D producing a great performance winning both his games to pick up Bootle's 2 points. Wavertree Labour D were too strong for Sefton Park C, winning 8-2, Pat E R playing very well to beat Steve J for one of their points, plus a doubles win.

Well that's it for this season, every season seems to get harder and harder with the teams producing some great, steady and competent players. This season has been no different and the standard keeps improving from season to season. Have a well-earned break everyone and I'll see you all again from August onwards, (which will start my 40<sup>th</sup> year in the Liverpool League!) Have a great summer!!

## DIVISION 5

## SIMON CRASKE

This has been a highly competitive season in Division 5. Waterloo B took the title in some style and were only beaten once all season, Phil Cashmore, Tony McDonald, Mark Brooks and Geoff Metcalf were just too good and they all won over 75 of their games. Arriva B deservedly took second place with a strong showing in the second half of the season, Sefton Park D were not far behind in third place. However there was a sense that nobody was unbeatable and there were some surprise wins by just about all of the teams. I'm going however to give a special mention to Wavertree Labour F. This is a young team who all played for the first time this year and they surprised many of us with their special talent, to finish fourth in their first season is pretty damned good, they also conducted themselves in a polite and respectful manner and were ably led by Stan Clarke. The future looks bright. So this is my end of season report.

### **Match Week 19**

Harold House held off Wavertree Labour G (7-3), Alan Robinson and Clive Fisher chipped in with 2 important wins over Sharon Mahon, Frances Lay, continuing his comeback, beat Alan in three straight. Arriva and Sefton Park couldn't be separated in a quality encounter, Harry Hughes and Shan Lu were the best players on the night and it was canny doubles play that secured the draw for Arriva. Greenbank easily overcame Bath Street Marine F (9-1), the F team continue to struggle but their support on the night was magnificent. Wavertree Labour F just beat Maghull D (6-4), this was a good match with Edvaldo Bandeira dos Ramos Bandeira, playing his best matches of the campaign, deservedly



taking player of the match, he held his nerve in the encounter with Naresh Tagore which proved to be crucial.

### **Match Week 20**

Arriva beat Greenbank comfortably in the end (7-3), this was despite missing their inspirational captain Ray Guy, Harry and Gary beat a certain Simon Craske in the singles in close encounters, and Arriva, not for the first time, turned on the style in the doubles. Wavertree Labour G soundly beat Bath Street Marine F (9-1), the evergreen Dave Williams was the outstanding player on the night. Waterloo just pipped Harold House (6-4), Phil Cashmore did well to beat steady Eddie Clein in 4 sets, the strength in depth of Waterloo was just enough on the night. Sefton Park beat Wavertree Labour F (6-4) in a thrilling encounter, Paul Jennings and Shan Lu played well in the singles, and Shan and Chris Halliday combined brilliantly in the doubles to beat Edvaldo and Ming in 5 sets, but all teams have to be at their best to beat this fast-improving young team. Bath Street Marine G, led by Euan Mason at One, beat Maghull E who were missing their two talismen, Joseph Rock Jnr and Andy McCourt (6-4), pick of the matches was Finn Mason's 5 set win over David Baker.

### **Match Week 21**

Arriva thumped Wavertree Labour G (9-1), Paul Heslin had his best night of the season with two good wins and combined well with the experienced Harry Hughes in the doubles, Arriva have been stringing some good results together for some weeks now. Maghull E had too much for Maghull D (8-2), Andy McCourt was the outstanding performer and captains this team with

some aplomb, he's also generous at getting the drinks in. Waterloo B just never take their foot off the gas, this week they beat Bath Street Marine F (10-0), can anyone stop their march to the title? Wavertree Labour F dominated proceedings against Greenbank B (8-2), those boys sure know how to attack, and Greenbank simply couldn't live with them on the night. Michael Li is improving all the time after an injury early on in the season and is running into some serious form, Gobinath Sivanesan's forehand is a dangerous weapon too and he hasn't looked back after an indifferent start to the season.

### **Match Week 22**

In the top of the table clash, Arriva took apart the previously unbeaten Waterloo B (9-1) in one of the results of the season, six of the singles matches went to 5 sets and those steely boys at Arriva mastered the pressure situations brilliantly and deserved the win, whatever the outcome of the season, this was a performance to remember. Harold House beat Bath Street Marine F (8-2), Rod and Eddie have made mincemeat of many wannabees this season and tonight was no different, they have been two of the Division's stellar players during this campaign. Wavertree Labour F beat the G team (7-3) but this was closer than the score line suggested, Gordon Langshaw has had a great season and has led from the front as captain and star performer, the hard-hitting kids from Shiel Road couldn't live with his unorthodox style on the night, great stuff Gordon. Sefton Park had an off night and Maghull E took advantage (4-6), Joseph Rock and Gerard Hanley were on fire in a great encounter.

### **Match Week 23**

Greenbank B easily overcame Maghull E (7-3), Tim Ainsworth seems to save his best for the Maghull games and he bagged a brace by beating Gerard Hanley in 5 sets. Really good to see Peter Gibson making an appearance for Maghull in the doubles, he is a patient and confident player who works hard at his game and has a good grasp of the doubles format, keep it up Peter. Waterloo bounced back from last week's result by beating Wavertree Labour F (7-3), Phil Cashmore won his two games and has been one of the season's toughest players to beat. Maghull D seem to be saving some of their best form for the end of the season, this week they beat Bath Street Marine G (10-0), there were great performances throughout the card, Julian Dutch and Denise Chorley beat the young pretender Euan Mason with something to spare. Further down the card Peter Crichton had his best night for some time, but best of all, Chitra Balakrishna played magnificently to take

player of the match, she looks a strong addition to the squad.

### **Match Week 24**

Wavertree Labour F recovered from last week by beating a weakened Harold House (8-2), they really are on fire and Ming and Gobi look just about unstoppable at present. Maghull E beat Wavertree Labour F (7-3), Chitra, who is new to the league, got a fine win against the experienced Francis Lay in a 5 set thriller, and Joseph Rock Snr showed all his experience with two good wins. Arriva made light work of Bath Street Marine F (10-0) but the title looks a little out of their reach. Sefton Park continue to impress with a vintage win over Bath Street Marine G (8-2), Tony Low, a player with excellent technique, was the best player on the night, he looks back to his very best.

### **Match Week 25**

Hats off to Waterloo who secured the division title by beating Maghull E (9-1), they have looked the strongest team all year and proved it once more in triumphant style, appropriately, their captain Geoff Metcalf was the best player on the night. A ruthless Sefton Park thumped an under-strength Maghull D (10-0), they continue to put pressure on Arriva for the second spot, Faye Taylor, who has captained this team so well, and juggled her strong squad with panache, got two fine wins over Julian and Chitra. Wavertree Labour F beat Bath Street Marine F (9-1), this was a predictable win but special mention for Mark Benson who has tried so hard to improve his game and his dedication is starting to pay dividends as he beat Michael Li in 5 sets. Greenbank beat Bath Street Marine G (8-2), Tim Ainsworth smashed his way to two fine wins, though Euan Mason continues to impress for Marine.

### **Match Week 26**

Wavertree Labour F got one of their best wins of the season over Arriva (8-2), Ming Rong, not for the first time, was the man of the match with two super wins over Ray Guy and Edward Harrison, Harry Hughes was sorely missed by the Arriva boys. Zhixuan Yan's win over the experienced Gary Mavris was outstanding as Gary has been on fine form all season. Harold House had too much for Maghull E (7-3), the 'Rod and Eddie show' rolls on and they have been the two outstanding singles players this season. Greenbank succumbed to a perky Maghull D (4-6), Colm Cox had one of his best nights of the season and got two good wins, but excellent doubles play saw Maghull D through in a late night finish. Wavertree Labour G ended the season on a high note with a good win over Bath Street Marine G (6-4), the key match was the doubles win by Eric Spencer and Dave Williams over Thomas Bell and Euan Mason in five sets.

# Information gathered from Old Digests

The first Digest was started to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the L&DTTL, and started with a Editorial Board with three 'joint' Editors, it was printed by professional Printers and was charged to members at 6d each, each print run was costing the League £200, a great deal of money in the 1950's, and this cost led to the termination of the professional Magazine. The 1952 Vol 3 mentions the start of the Wirral League, Vol 7 mentions the end of the glossy magazine because of cost, with Jack Pattison asked to take over as Editor. In 1960 Eric Caird took over as Editor and from then until Jack Lambert accepted the job as Editor there was a constant changing of Editors, 1964 Albert Montgomery for two seasons, then Jim Green stepped in for one season, Ken Armson did it for three seasons, J.M.Wren did it for one season, Albert Montgomery stepped in for a season. In 1972 Jack Lambert started his unbroken run of twenty four seasons with the help of his wife Wynn, in 1996 Jack retired and Ken Armson once again took it on, Ken brought a bit of a professional approach to the Digest using a new Computer program by Serif, but printing was still a problem, and it was being photocopied in bulk.

In 2001 I took over to 'Help Ken Out' using the same Serif software as Ken, but found out that Cadwa's Ian Lunt also owned his own print shop, and he offered to print at cost, an immediate improvement. Because of the time involved between printing and delivery, I started printing myself at home where I could do all the 'operations' myself, very time consuming for me but I felt I was 'in control', to save postage I would drive to every Club Secretary with their Digests, I was printing 480 copies of each Digest. For the last 10 years we have been lucky to have had a 'benefactor' who has covered the cost of the printing, (my many hours of time printing and sorting were voluntary), and now to the present day, and at my age and family problems, sitting at a computer for long stretches doesn't do much for 'back problems' and now time to bring it to an end.

The new 365 Web site has taken over now and all information is immediately found on line, not helpful for those who can remember the details of the early years mentioned above, of the 263 editions since the very first, I have been the Editor for 59 of them, can't be bad!!

## 'Do You Remember ?'

Nostalgia has figured a lot in our Mag over the years, so when the 1956 – 57 handbook forced its way to the fore and I picked it up, I thought here was good source of "Memories are made of this".

It was surprising that John McKim and Arthur Upton had not been there for ever – Bill Stamp was our Secretary, and Jack Hughes our Chairman – Jack did a tremendous job after Billy died, keeping the changeover on an even keel. Eddie Cameron was Fixture Secretary – of course, Don Cameron – Auditor. John McKim, Peter Rumjahn and Jack McCair all had Committee commitments.

Alec Gould was not Secretary of Bath Street, George Aspinall was – how about that! Brian Leeson was Secretary of Fairlawn, a tiny tennis club in West Derby. Harry Holmes was Secretary of Lussac (University), Peter Rumjahn, Match Secretary of Rafters. Eddie Cameron was Secretary of Victoria Park, up the stairs and over the workshop in Wavertree. Les French was Secretary of West Derby Y.H.A. Youth Club.

Peter Rumjahn had 88.42% in the Number 2 spot in Division 1. Alec Gould had 76% at number 6 in 14

Division 2. Frank Lacy was 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 3 with 78.94%. Peter Turtle number 1 in Division 4 – 100%, not bad Pete for Everton YM. Les Lewis now returned to Colonsay had 80.41% with the old Anfield Club. Bobby Owen had 81.25% for YM at number 2 in Division 6. Dave Butterworth number 2 for Rafters in South Region with 92.10%, and is that Mike Gallagher of Vagabonds at number 3 with 90.90% for Rafters? Peter Carney (Elec. Supply) at number 6 with 75% for Cadwa.

Wavertree Labour were in the South Region, as were Harold House – the present Liverpool Jewish, and Champions. English Electric Division 3 with Maghull, Linacre, Waterloo Park, Police, and Beauclair next to bottom. Cadwa and Bath Street, Division 2, Rafters and Y.M.C.A. Division 1.

Now for the real Golden Oldies, or you must be getting on a bit – Don Power- African Oil, Reg Gray - Anfield, Joe Ellison and Eileen Mansell – Balfour, Renee Sturgeon – Beauclair, Ken Jones – Bohemians, John Todhunter - BRENKA (yes COURTAULDS), Bill Crafter – Cadwa, Sam Bennett – Dunlops, Tom

Larkin – Linacre, Jim Green – Linnetts, Bob Chew – Litherland, Alan Heague – Police, John Coveney – Liverpool YM, Nan Lamb – Lofters, Pat O’Connell - RAF Assn, Eric Caird – Rafterers, Brian Harding – Stanley House, Bert Ariss – Warbreck Moor, Jack Seddon – Waterloo Dock, Austin Haden – Waterloo Park : All were Secretaries.

Adverts : Jack Sharps ever faithful – Stuart & Dorfman, good old Eric. Monty’s sweet shop – Albert Montgomery. Dickensons – furnishings – Olive. Barker & Dobson. Ted Rumjahn – Approved Coach. Jaques Table £40. Sponge Bat 12/10 (64p) Track Suits 34/6 (£1.70). Happy Days!! Makes you think!

A few puzzlers around the Clubs – Plesseys have an Aigburth flavour – Aigburth and Maghull have a taste of Beauclair and Bootle with a Trinity look, it’s all very puzzling.

Only a two team outfit was the Beauclair Club, both teams were full of personalities, characters and very good players (and awkward ones – players I mean). Bringing all the charm and administrative ability and devastating defensive play of a good Evertonian to the Club, in recent years was Frank Murphy, Frank would be the first to acknowledge the work put in in the early days by Renee and Sam Sturgeon. The Club was given the Red Card by Beauclair Tennis Club (the present Jewish Club) and moved to temporary premises at the old Victoria Park Club in High Street Wavertree, but soon moved to the premises we know in Bedford Street, they were guided there mainly by Renee and up to Division 1 and down again. A good Club – excellent premises, sorry to lose you, but we will remember Renee, Sam, Stan Porter, Ted, Frank, Billy, Mick, ‘Harry’, Bill, John, Richie and Edna Palmer, Margaret Collins, Dave and many other players.

### Where Did Your Money Go! (1959)

At present Clubs pay 22/6d for their 1<sup>st</sup> team and 17/6d for each additional team, of this we will pay to the E.T.T.A. 15/- for each team, and a further 2/1d for each team will go to the County Association. This leaves us with 5/5d from each first team and the princely sum of 5d from each additional team of which there are about 70.

Our other main source of income is the 10/- Registration fee and this is accounted for as follows -:

Handbook .....	1s. 9d
‘Digest’ .....	3s. 10d
Trophies .....	1s. 3d
City Teams .....	1s. 9d
Administration .....	5d

You can see from the above figures very little of the fees paid by Clubs and players are spent on running costs. The majority of the money goes in affiliation fees or is passed back to you in the form of Handbooks, ‘Digest’ and medals, etc. Our only other source of income is from fines, and profits, if any, from the Merseyside Open and Liverpool Closed Tournaments

The above are little snippets from old Digests which can be found on my web site at - <http://www.ttdigest.co.uk>

### List of Contributors to the Digest since First Volume

Renee Sturgeon, F.J.Farrell, C.W. Manning, Don Brown, J.E.Neil, J.D. Loughrey, Bill Stamp, J.H.C. Hughes, M.E. Travis, Peter Rumjahn, D. Coulson, Don Cameron, Reg Gray, Wally Alinson, Ken Chambers, D.W. Mahen, Les French, J. Kenwright, Frank Murphy, Bob Alcock, Philip Reid, E.W. Sturgess, Alex Davidson, John Molyneux, John McKim, Don Foulis, Barry Meyer, Paula French, Ken Armson, Stan Clarke, Arthur Upton, Frank Lacey, Roy Jones, T. Gordon, Eddie Cameron, Brian Leeson, Jim Green, Jimmy McClure, John Langton, Jack Pattison, Janet Davies, Tony Harris., Chris Spedding, Len Dyson, Graham Turner. and Don Davies who has done the Nets & Edges for ‘ages’ as well as his Liverpool Echo TT Column

### List of Divisional Reporters

Margaret Lindner, Ken Boden, Glynn Hughes, George Morgan, Norman Nelson, Les Harper, Don Gould, Eileen Mansell, Norman Nelson, Fred Winstanley, Lil Jenkins, Len Davies, Terry McCoy, Brian Jennings, Philip Reid ( Leicester TT League), Amy Bell, Tom Bunner, George Grime, David Eaton, Peat Hurworth, Jim Robinson, Max Ratoff, Tom Gordon, Bert Arris, David Cohen, Judy Crafter, Jim Byrne, Harry Reynolds, Allan Crawshaw, John O’Sullivan, Mabel Francis, Kevin Baker, Alan Wych, John O’Keef, Warren Davies, Ted Jane, Theo Mills, Joyce Randall, Ken Brady, Grahame Reid, Val Lee, Rob Lock, Keith Fitzsimmons, ‘Harry’, Sue Hughes, Mike Griffiths, Roy Smith, Eddie Cameron, Mike Elson, Les French, D. Chalkley, Colin Pratt, Rod Bulmer, Stan Clarke, Barry Meyer, Tony Connor, Jack Lambert, Ken Armson, James Power, Arthur Garnett, Mike Power, Don Davies, Ron Georgeson, Doug Baker, Gordon Nevins, Sylvia Graham, Paul Gittins, Paul Banks, Paul Hutchings, Ray Jackson, Brian Crolley, Ian McElwee, Ken Roberts, Jimmy Williams, Simon Craske, Doug Baker, Pete Walsh (jnr)

# 2017 - 18 DIVISIONAL CHALLENGE CUPS



## Div.1 Readman Cup

Merseyside Police were this seasons winners of the Top Divisional Trophy. Vice Chair of Table Tennis England, Sue Hughes, presented the winners awards to Jonny Taylor, Mitch Barker and Aaron Beech. The Runners up were Maghull's Paul Hutchings, Ritchie Venner and Brian Oldfield, a slight 'lump in the throat' as Sue plays for Maghull in the L&DTTL

## Div.2 Rumjahn Cup

Once again Jan Rumjahn continued the family tradition of presenting the Dr. J. Rumjahn Cup to East Wavertree 'A's Ben Chen, Lee Madin and Hassib Nuree. Losing Finalists were Cadwa's Graeme Black, Paul Evans and Peter Taylor



## Div.3 Hyde Cup

Wavertree Labour 'C's Mario Giove, Lee Fawley and Richard Wan were presented with winners trophy and awards by L&DTTL Committee Member Neil Jennings. Losing Finalists were St. Anne's Israel Isaac, Dave Bradley and Davshil Yunsheebu



### Div.4 Forrest Cup

New name on the Forrest Cup is Q.V.C. Awards were presented by League Official Tony Dixon to Panchu Xavier, John Appleton, Tommy Lewis and Andy Clarke. The losing Finalists were Waterloo 's Nikolay Primuk, Paul Mainey, Graham Chellev and Peter Roberts,



### Div.5 Stamp Cup

Waterloo 'B's Mark Brooks, Phil Cashmore, Nathan Jago and Tom McDonald were presented with their awards by T.T.E.'s Sue Hughes, and once again that 'lump in throat' feeling as she presented the losing Finalists awards to her own Club's 'E' team of Joe Rock Jnr. Ged Hanley, Andy McCourt and Peter Gibson



### Frank Murphy Vets Handicap Cup

Marjory Murphy again presented the Cup and awards to Bath St. Marine 3's Keith Williams, Ian McElwee and Andy Armstrong who were a 'little' too strong for their BSM 5 team's Darren Taylor, Ted Cramsie and Dave Noden. But all served up a tremendous night of hard hitting entertainment for the full house of Club Supporters. Also in the photo is L&DTTL Secretary Tom Purcell just returned from Umpiring in the World Team Championships in Halmstad, Sweden



## A Tale of Man verses Nature



This is a Heterocera- Lepidoptera (a moth to you and me) a fragile frivolous creature.

What, you might say has this got to do with Table Tennis. Well it has just come to my attention that one of our number actually tackled one of these creatures single handed, a man who refused to turn his back on the problem of one flying round his home.

Being a TT player, nimble of foot, an eye for fast moving objects, and fast coordination of eye and swat, but sadly he came off second

best, fell off a stool and broke his arm.

This feat doesn't warrant an OBE, but certainly deserves a passing mention, and who is that man? Our very own Len Dyson of the Police TT Club, ( I invoke the freedom of the press, article 29). Anyway the good news is that Len is back at the table, and as hard as ever to get past.

The moral of the story, (as we can't afford to lose players in this manner) is leave it to the experts, the wife or the RSPCI.

But if Lenny has any tips that can be passed on to members of the L&DTT League to prevent similar occurrences, they will be printed in the next Digest, but that won't be printed until approx. March.

So take care!

After reading about this tale, I thought it rather insensitive to ask "what happened to the Moth" as Len rarely lost his temper

This was one of my first articles in my very first Digest, Vol 56 No.1 - printed Christmas Dec. 2001 At the time Len took it in the spirit it was intended ( he didn't expect that type of a mention), So Len can take pleasure in having a mention in the First and last of my Digests as Editor, and by chance Len is now a member of my own Club Bootle YMCA and still playing as competitively as ever.

## OBITUARY



### Mike Hughes

Died 1st June 2018

Mike was one of the original members of the Courtauld's Table Tennis Club, playing in the Liverpool Business Houses League and The L&DTTL.



In 1981 Courtaulds Aintree factory closed and the teams then started their journey of playing from different venues in order to stay together, they played from a room in Bootle Golf Course, ( where play was continuously being stopped for Golf club members to get from the bar to the toilet) .Next venue was the Bootle Giro S&S Club, then Trinity Church Hall, and finally Bootle YMCA, when the Club Name was changed to Bootle YMCA. Mike has been a regular team member throughout, and will be missed by his fellow team members.

Jim Geddes. Club Secretary, Bootle YMCA

## JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT DIVISION AWARDS



Welsh superstar Ryan Jenkins presenting the 'Respect' awards to Crosby High's Emma and Kaitlyn



Crosby High's Michael and St. John's Liam receiving their 'Respect' Awards



Mrs Vivienne Fawley presenting the Arthur E. Upton trophy to Div. 2 winners Crosby High 'F'



L&DTTL President Bill Fawley presents the 'Bill Harris Cup' to winners Crosby High 'G'

## SEASON 2017-18 AWARDS

### LEAGUE CUP FINALS

PLAYED WEEK BEG. 23RD. APR 2018

#### Division 1. Readman Cup

MAGHULL	1	V	5	M/SIDE POLICE
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#### Division 2. Rumjahn Cup

CADWA	3	V	5	EAST WAVERTREE 'A'
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#### Division 3. Hyde Cup

ST. ANNES	1	V	5	WAVERTREE LAB. 'C'
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#### Division 4. Forrest Cup

QVC	5	V	2	WATERLOO
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#### Division 5. Stamp Cup

MAGHULL 'E'	1	V	5	WATERLOO 'B'
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### FRANK MURPHY HANDICAP CUP FINAL

BATH St. MARINE 3	402	v	299	BATH St. MARINE 5
H/CAP + 54				H/CAP + 50

### CLOSED TOURNAMENT

WINNER		RUNNER UP
<b>OPEN SINGLES</b>		
JACK DEMPSEY		RITCHIE VENNER
<b>WOMEN SINGLES</b>		
SUE HUGHES		JANETTE HUTCHINGS
<b>DOUBLES</b>		
PAUL HUTCHINGS/ RITCHIE VENNER		AARON BEECH/ ABDULA ALSUWAILEM
<b>O/40'S</b>		
RITCHIE VENNER		THOMAS HADDLEY
<b>O/55'S</b>		
PAUL HUTCHINGS		PHIL LUXON
<b>JUNIOR</b>		
RHYS DAVIES		YAMEEN AL-DAHIRI
<b>DIVISION 2</b>		
TONY DIXON		HASSIB NUREE
<b>DIVISION 3</b>		
MARIO GIOVE		RUBEN DE ANTONIO LIEDO
<b>DIVISION 4</b>		
JOHN GRATTON		STEVE DANIELS
<b>DIVISION 5</b>		
MING RONG		GOBI SIVANESAN

Divisional league Champions on the back page as usual

# Final League Tables of Season 2017 - 18

DIVISION 1		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Maghull	22	20	1	1	170
2	Crosby High	22	19	0	3	169
3	M/Side Police	22	17		4	149
4	Jaguar Land Rover	22	14	3	5	141
5	M/Side Police A	22	10	2	10	107
6	Harold House	22	7	3	12	95
7	Greenbank	22	6	5	11	90
8	Wavertree Labour	22	6	3	13	90
9	Bath Street Marine	22	6	2	14	88
10	Greenbank A	22	5	4	13	82
11	Crosby High A	22	3	2	17	70
12	East Wavertree	22	5	2	15	69

DIVISION 2		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Bath St. Marine A	22	18	0	4	164
2	East Wavertree B	22	16	3	3	159
3	Maghull A	22	15	2	5	140
4	Cadwa	22	14	3	5	131
5	M/Side Police B	22	10	1	11	117
6	Bootle YMCA	22	9	5	8	111
7	Bootle Ymca A	22	11	1	10	107
8	Wav. Labour B	22	9	4	9	107
9	East Wavertree A	22	10	1	11	101
10	Wav. Labour A	22	3	2	17	75
11	Arriva N. West	22	3	3	16	64
12	Bath St. Marine B	22	1	1	20	44

DIVISION 3		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Wav.Labour C	22	18	3	1	171
2	Maghull B	22	17	3	2	151
3	Bath St. Marine D	22	14	3	5	142
4	Bath St. Marine C	22	13	4	5	126
5	CADWA A	22	11	3	8	123
6	CADWA B	22	10	2	10	102
7	Bootle YMCA B	22	9	1	12	93
8	M/Side Police C	22	6	4	12	93
9	Sefton Park	22	6	5	11	89
10	Arriva N. West A	22	6	2	14	78
11	ST ANNES	22	2	5	15	78
12	Linacre	22	0	5	17	74

DIVISION 4		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	QVC	22	18	2	2	159
2	Wav. Labour E	22	14	3	5	132
3	Wav. Labour D	22	15	4	3	130
4	Waterloo	22	8	5	9	116
5	East Wavertree C	22	12	5	5	115
6	Waterloo A	22	9	1	12	110
7	Bath Street	22	7	7	8	107
8	Sefton Park A	22	7	4	11	105
9	Maghull C	22	8	5	9	102
10	Sefton Park C	22	6	1	15	94
11	Sefton Park B	22	4	4	14	79
12	Bootle YMCA C	22	1	5	16	71

DIVISION 5		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Waterloo B	20	16	3	1	151
2	Arriva N. West B	20	15	2	3	138
3	Sefton Park D	20	12	5	3	124
4	Wav. Labour F	20	12	3	5	115
5	Maghull E	20	9	4	7	108
6	Greenbank B	20	8	3	9	104
7	Harold House A	20	9	2	9	101
8	Maghull D	20	9	0	11	98
9	Wav. Labour G	20	4	3	13	80
10	Bath St. Marine G	20	3	1	16	66
11	Bath St. Marine F	20	0	0	20	15

**Tony Edge**  
Greenbank T.T.Club



just as I had completed final layout for printing,  
Greenbank Secretary Mark Palmer issued the sad message on social media of the passing of Tony yesterday, the 6th June 2018.  
Everyone who new Tony as a person and competitor will acknowledge him as a person you never forget.

Editor

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