

54

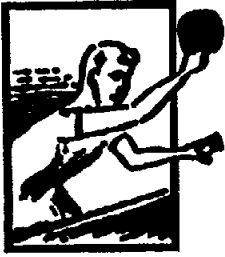


Table Tennis

DIGEST

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

EDITOR: Jack Lambert
4, Rhosemor Road
Liverpool L32 7QU
Tel: 546-3081

EDITORIAL BOARD:
A. Upton
J. McKim
D. Cameron
K. Armson

VOL 44

MAY 1990

NO 2

EDITORIAL

I don't quite know what happened to the last magazine, excepting you didn't get a magazine and the League saved a couple of hundred quid. The print apart from one set of notes was in the printers hands. As I mentioned in the previous magazine we had problems with Sefton ITEC, but S & A Print Services with the assistance of Alan Smethurst saved us from a fate worse than death.

Unfortunately when we go to the big time boys, we have to pay big time prices, the fact is that the present price we have to pay is more than we can afford, in the context of the number of players we have in the league. So as things stand at the moment, the Digest as we know it is at a crucial stage, unless anyone has any bright ideas.

The Committee are well aware of such things as news letters, bulletins – one copy for each club – one per team etc., but the problem is providing you with a similar magazine to the one we have now – at a price that will please the Treasurer and the committee and through them your subscriptions.

So has anyone any bright ideas – if not, it could be that the end of our great little magazine as it stands, is very much on the cards.

I would like to thank all my table tennis friends for their many kindnesses and welcome support during my recent mishap.

DIVISION 1

KEN ARMSON

Another season over. Another champion replaced. A familiar name back as Champions. Wav. Lab. 'A' escape yet again. A void match which could have decided the championship. An appeal. A broken Blackboard. A half dressed player. Not to mention too many sets claimed as win at all costs replaces win if you can. Quite a lot to get in one issue.

New champions are English Electric, back on top after a lengthy absence. No doubting the decisiveness of their title win. Played 22. Won 21. Only dropped 29 sets out of a possible 220. For good measure they put last seasons champions, and their main rivals this season, Colonsay, firmly in their place with a 7-3 victory first time and achieved a comfortable draw to clinch the title in their final match. The team as we knew from the outset, had the ability, strength in depth and an equally strong reserve waiting in the wings. They dropped a few sets early on but soon got into their stride. So our congratulations go to Paul Hutchings, Mal McEvoy and Peter Flint. A double congratulation, for they also won the Readman Cup 6-2 to clinch the Double. The scoreline not truly reflecting a hard earned win. If, and rumour says it is a big, if, they stay together next season, then a repeat is on the cards. They can also be expected to do really well in the National Club Championship. Do I also hear rumblings within Colonsay?

Over to runners-up Colonsay, they looked a good bet to retain their title provided they could continue to produce the results. They did this and pushed Electric all the way, only to take a hefty tumble on their heavy run-in programme when they met Liv. Y.M., Wav. Lab., Eng. Electric and the Management Committee.

Faced with such a demanding run-in they got involved in a scorecard mix up which resulted in their match with YM 'A' being declared void. A decision which cost them 8 sets. Not to be overlooked is the fact that they dropped two vital sets. This matter being sub-judice as it has gone to an appeal.

In a hectic playing schedule they first met Wav. Labour and struggled to get a Draw. Phil Thomson was unavailable and reserve Rob Lowe dropped his three. The night also found Stuart Richards in poor form and he lost to Dave Roberts, 14 in the 3rd., and Roy Smith, 13 in the 3rd. It was left to Chris Ford to save the day with a brilliant performance, winning his three and teaming up with Stuart to achieve a doubles win which clinched the draw. At one point they were trailing 5-2 and their championship hopes looked in ruins.

Four nights later they met Liv. YM. and obviously hoped to do better than in the first match which ended in a draw. Rob Bevan making his presence felt in that match by taking a set off Chris Ford, who also dropped a set to Peter Lee. Rob then teamed up with Keith to take the doubles with Keith adding two singles. This time the result was only marginally better, 6-4. Keith was in even better form and won his three. Not to be out-done, Peter Lee and Mike Mahoney teamed up to take the doubles. They played again the next day and came back with a 10-0 against Police. Took another 10-0 from Elec. Supp. seven days later. Next day it's Lab. 'A's. turn for a 10-0 drubbing. Then they met Electric in the championship decider needing, by my reckoning, 7-3 to finish level, and 8-2 needed to ensure outright victory. Assuming they won their appeal. They struggled to a controversial draw in an equally controversial match. In a drawn match there are generally reckoned to be no losers, but if the secondhand information I have received is correct, then there were losers. The Liverpool League as a whole being the losers. The outcome of this spot of bother being a blackboard punched by a Colonsay player fiercely enough to damage it, and an Electric player being so upset by the events of the night as to concede his final set after playing only one game. What hope is there for the rest of us if two teams comprised of our top players cannot play a vital match in a competitive and sporting manner. Certainly the Championship was marred, possibly some reputations, also. Why, I wonder, was it necessary for Colonsay to be in the position of having to play five matches in

two weeks to complete their programme?

A notable win which played its part in the title battle came from Trevor Owen, who was a lone winner for GPT when taking a hard fought set off Chris Ford.

Wav. Labour got into 3rd place seven points ahead of Liv. Y.M. They never really put a foot wrong, recovering from an early season set-back against their 'A' team and winning all the easier matches 10-0. They did drop a few sets due to playing the odd reserve. With no chance of the title and little chance of 2nd place they played as a team and gave the front-runners hard battles. They lost 6-4 to Electric in a match which included a rare three sets defeat for Roy Smith. Dave Roberts was in great form taking sets off Paul Hutchings and Mal McEvoy. Alan Timewell chipped in with a victory against Malcolm and they also took the doubles. Against Y.M. they got a draw which was mainly due to reserve Ahmed Thabet losing his three. Roy beat Peter Lee and he and Dave took the doubles. For Y.M. Keith Williams was yet again unbeaten winning all his sets in 2 straight. They regained their dignity in the second match against their 'A' team with a 9-1 win. Only Gary Watson showed any fight. As always they struggled against Cadwa and had to be satisfied with a draw. Only Roy Smith succeeded in overcoming Neil Gravener, 18 in the 3rd. Paul Ashcroft winning two, including a notable 25/23 in the 3rd against Roy.

Finishing in 4th place, 35 sets ahead of Cadwa in 5th, and 34 sets behind Champions Electric, Liv. Y.M. emphasised the gaps in strength of this division. They were never in with a chance of winning anything and the best they could hope for was a 3rd place. Obviously they did not see the season in that light and always felt they had a chance of something. They lacked the all-round deeper strength of Wav. Lab. and relied always on Keith Williams winning the majority of his sets. He never let them down and completed a season of tremendous form by comfortably taking the Men's Singles Closed Title. It must be frustrating as a top player to know that no matter how hard you play, or how many times you win, your team can achieve nothing because they rely so heavily on your results. When you falter, they lose. When you win in the hard matches, success is still not guaranteed and in most cases never materialises. His team-mates Peter Lee and Mike Mahony, are both good players, but not quite good enough to provide the back-up to a player of Keith's ability. Against Colonsay, in two matches five of their nine sets came from Keith. Against Electric, in a 7-3 defeat, it was Keith again, with Peter and Mike losing all their sets 2 straight. Against Wav. Labour, he was there again with another treble. They did hit the headlines, or they are now, when against GPT T. Owen took two sets from Mike Mahoney and Peter Lee. This latter set, I hear, being somewhat tense, and finishing with Peter Lee completing the set minus his shirt. I don't have the full details, but friendliness and sportsmanship appear to have been sadly lacking. Should you play uncovered from the waist upwards? The answer has got to be, no. Dependent on the circumstances, if such a state of attire was acceptable to your opponent, fair enough, but this is the 1st DIVISION of the Liverpool League, not the local Fairground. Grow up, lads.

Cadwa had a comfortable season, never seeming to be able to make up their minds just which players comprised their 1st team. This, allied to the use of a lot of reserves, affected many of their results. Had they regularly played their strongest team then they may well have been challenging Y.M. and Wav. They do rely heavily on Neil Gravener and I have heard unkind comments to the effect that Neil avoids certain matches to protect his averages. Personally, I consider this to be hokum and his regular appearances confirm this. He is an extrovert player, capable on his day of beating anyone. They were never troubled in the easy ones. Always did well in the not too difficult ones and gave the top teams a hard fight. They had a lone winner against Electric when Graham Parr, who has never really realised his full potential, beat Mal McEvoy. Against Colonsay, in a match which introduced Darren Howarth to our League, they

went down with little evidence of a struggle, 10-0

Bath St. were the only other team to reach three figures. What Ken Jackson, Mike Keane, Ian McElwee, aided and abetted on some occasions by Fred Bainbridge, lacked in ability was more than compensated by their friendliness and enjoyment of the game. They played as a team and gave 100%. What more can you ask of any team. Can't find any outstanding wins, but they won all the easy ones well and held their own in the others. The gap in strength only becoming apparent when they played those teams above them. Everyone shared in the wins with Mike Keane leading the way. Slightly below par results from Ken Jackson who, even when playing badly, should never be under estimated.

Newly promoted GPT finished in 7th place and looked possible relegation contenders in the early stages. They put their early season nerves behind them and with some steady play pulled themselves steadily clear. Along the way they recorded some good individual results. Bob Edwards being a lone winner by taking a set off Mike Keane when playing Bath St. and finding himself on the other end of a lone win when that 'youngster' Fred Pheysey, saved his team from a whitewash by beating Bob. They recorded a good win against Lab. 'A' in a match marred by the claiming of Mike Tierneys' sets. Gary Watson being a lone winner for Wavertree beating P. Price. They played Police twice in 3 weeks and recorded a draw followed by a 7-3 win. Ray Lavin winning his three in the 7-3 win. Both results stemmed from an all round team performance. They lost, surprisingly, 6-4, to a weak Cadwa team. None of them getting the better of Graham Parr and only Trevor defeating Justine Thomas. Their second match v Cadwa again found a below strength, but stronger team and this time they went one better and pulled off a draw. Neil Gravener comfortably winning his three for Cadwa with Trevor and P. Price beating Ken Hartley. They recorded another convincing win against Y.M. 'A' 8-2 with Trevor winning his three. These results amongst others proving that they got clear on ability, allied to determination and an all round team performance.

Electric 'A' also managed to finish comfortably clear of relegation but the gap between the two Electric teams is vast. Apart from Lawrence Kenwright there is no-one available to plug any gaps. Should I withdraw that comment? Evergreen Fred Pheysey filled in a couple of times and did his stuff against Y.M. 'A' with a treble when greater mortals faltered. They got four against Y.M. with three coming from the non-appearance of Peter (Shirtless) Lee. The fourth coming from a tremendous win by Mike Corcoran. His victim being Mike Mahoney, 20 in the 3rd. They battered a full strength Y.M. 'A' 8-2 and did likewise to Lab 'A'. Gary Watson once again being left to do the winning for W'tree by beating Mike Allan and Alan Chase. His set v Ted Birch being once again the highlight of the match producing, as it did, three hard fought games, with Ted just edging home 19 in the 3rd. Is there a player in the League who puts in as much effort as Ted? I doubt it, but he also has that 'rare' gift of being able to convince his opponent that he, the opponent, is on to a winner. Only for them to find out at the end of the set that Ted is the one who emerges victorious. Tremendous graft, allied to craft, often proves a winning combination. Against Police, in a 9-1 win, both Ted and Alan beat Paul Gittins. Against Cadwa, in a 6-4 defeat, they took three sets off reserve Bill Hargreaves, with Mike Corcoran gaining the 4th with a win against Ken Hartley. Mike is a much improved player and the team plays as a team. Having said that, they are in the bottom four, two of whom will be relegated. So next season could well be tougher.

This also applies to Y.M. 'A' whose results were poor when you consider that on paper they look a good team. Ming Liu, introduced at an early season stage, threatened to sweep all before him, as he showed against their own 1st team. The bubble quickly burst, but not before he had recorded some good wins which included the scalp of Paul Hutchings. His game depends mainly on a very good spin serve and a strong attacking forehand, but at times he is slow to

change his game when his opponent gets in front. His first season at this level will have increased his experience and we will see better results from him next season allied to greater consistency. No-one really shone and their season consisted of easy victories against Police and Elec. Supply, with the rest of their sets coming in the odd two's and three's. Against Bath St. their two came from a Peter Taylor win against Mike Keane, and a Ming Liu victory against Ken Jackson. This must have proved an interesting set as Ken also likes to hit everything. A lone win against GPT came from Peter Taylor who beat Bob Edwards in 2 straight. It was Ming and Peter again against Elec. 'A', with Ming beating Ted Birch and Peter disposing of Mike Corcoran. Their 9-1 defeat of Police saw Ahmed as a lone loser to George Wright, and Ahmed, Peter and Dave Tagg all beating Paul Gittins. Not a season they will want to remember, and unless they get their act together by next season it could well be their last in this Division.

Now to Lab. 'A' a complete and total disaster and saved only from the ignominy of relegation only by the late arrival of Gary Watson and the late season return from injury of Mike Tierney. Phil Luton being noticeable mainly by his frequent absences. They started well only to be hit by injuries to Mike Tierney and Les Molyneux. Les has not been seen since and Mike did not return until late in the season. Due to an internal mix-up, Gary Watson did not come into the team until a late stage but soon made his presence felt. Up to Christmas it was a case of who could play, coupled with postponements and w/overs, as they struggled to fulfill their commitments. Garys' arrival changed this. He was a lone winner against Electric when he beat Mal McEvoy, was a lone winner again against their 'A' team, this time getting two. In the draw with Police he won his three, with Phil Luton chipping in with two. In a rare victory against Bath St., Gary again won his three and the almost fit Mike Tierney got two. A doubles win completing the victory. A disastrous season, and they can consider themselves extremely fortunate not to be relegated. Only some early season good results achieved prior to the losses through injury, and the injection of Gary Watson saved the day for them. At the final count the gap was a mere ten points and they can thank the problems encountered by the Police for yet another reprieve.

Police tried hard, but theirs was an uphill struggle from the very first match. Not only because they lacked the in depth strength, but because suffer regularly from the problem of availability. As with Colonsay, there must be matches they will be looking back at and saying 'if only'. Against Y.M. Paul produced a win against Mike Mahoney, with Gareth Jones going one better by beating Ming Liu. In their match v GPT Paul won his three and teamed up with Gareth to take the doubles. Gareth also beating Bob Edwards. In the return the same two were involved with Paul beating Trevor and Gareth getting the better of Bob Edwards again. A win well worth mentioning fell to George Wright, playing as a reserve, who beat Ahmed Thabet in 2 straight. Well done, George. Was Ahmed, I wonder, bemused by George's style? Paul produced another treble against Bath St. to get his teams' only points. To some extent Paul has been to Police what Keith Williams is to Liv Y.M.

Elec. Supply finished, as expected, in bottom place. I don't think they ever moved from there, and if they did, then it was not for long. They did produce a very creditable 22 points and went out with dignity. Thrown into this Division by the mass desertion of their original 1st team they completed their full programme and never stopped trying. The two Alans', Biggs and Cameron, teamed up against Y.M. 'A' to be lone winners in the doubles. A very creditable win against two experienced players, Peter Taylor and Dave Tagg. They achieved a Draw against Police with Alan Cameron winning his three. They can also point to two sets taken off Wav. Lab. when the two Alans' again starred, beating reserve Val Franco. They may fare slightly better in the 2nd. but the time has surely arrived for the Management Committee to re-act

positively to any future problems, this being the third time in the last few years when this has occurred and the Club concerned has been left to struggle in the 1st Division.

In conclusion, from time to time players like to bend my ear regarding my notes. I don't object to hearing their views, good or bad, but if you feel you have a point of view you should put it in writing to our Editor who will be only too pleased to publish them. This is your magazine and you should make more use of it. But don't expect everyone to agree with whatever views you put forward.

DIVISION 2

SYLVIA GRAHAM

What a smashing division we are to be sure'. That might seem like a remarkable statement but if you think about it it's not so extraordinary. We had several really strong teams in the division this year, any of which in a normal year would have deserved promotion and to top it all we had a team in the Readman Cup semi-final. As a division we should be proud of any achievement our players or teams attain within the table tennis world so if anyone has any information on players doing well in a tournament etc. pass it on to me and let everyone know.

Now on to what's been happening locally. Bootle J.C. were undoubtedly the side to beat and remained the only unbeaten team; that is until the last week of the season. I'm not saying that they had it all their own way, but with luck at the right times and exciting play at others they had the championship title in their sights for the whole season. Chris and Andy consistently picked up both their singles while Peter, Nick and Dave only lost the odd one. To top it all they had winning doubles combinations which always helps in the promotion race. Bootle Y.M.C.A. held onto second place all through the year and finally took the other promotion place. Their Austerlitz must have been the 7-3 defeat of Bootle J.C. in the last match of the season. This win together with whitewashes against Electric Supply 'A', Wavertree Labour 'B' and Liverpool Jewish made them very deserving runners-up. As forecast last issue, Julian strengthened the side, John Higham seemed extremely comfortable at four while Lee and Derek made it strong all the way down. The two very experienced English Electric sides were always in with a chance and came on particularly strong towards the end but they never managed to pull that little extra out of the hat. They did however provide one of the cup finalists in their 'C' team and although Bootle J.C. were the favourites the team of Frank Brady, Keith Miller, Ricky Brown and John McLoughlin could have managed a draw. The crucial match was Keith versus Andy Clark. Keith was 17-13 up in the third but lost leaving the J.C. team to match 6-3.

The following pack did not play consistently enough to be promotion contenders. It included Cadwa 'A', MCYA, Colonsay 'A' and Fords, Cadwa beat Eng. Elec. 8-2 and then lost 7-3 to MCYA. MCYA seemed to come into their own as the season progressed whereas the exodus of Ian Worsley to G.P.T. certainly had a detrimental effect on the Colonsay side. Matches I thought they would win often ended as 6-4 or 7-3 defeats. Bill Harris is still there getting the ball back and driving his opponents to despair in his match against Colin Rourke, Colonsay 'B', he won the first 23-21 lost the second 21-19 and took the third 21-7. A similar situation arose against Deli Oluymombo, MCYA. Here he won the first 25-23, lost the second 23-21 and again took the third 21-7. If you can't beat Bill in two straight sets – just forget it – because you'll be too exhausted to do yourself justice in the third !!!

Fords were the low profile (s'cuse pun on tyres') side of the division but I've seen the match cards and they have always given as good as they got as shown by a draw against Colonsay 'A' and a 7-3 win against Cadwa 'A' They are very much team players: you often find them taking a singles each and one doubles which I suppose squashes any disputes for a man-of-the match award. I noticed that they added Neil Parker, ex University to their band mid season and I think

this division gives him the competition he missed when he originally dabbled in the league. Colonsay 'B' avoided the 'drop' but I know there have been problems in their home camp and I hope these can be sorted out for next season. Players were interchanging between the Colonsay sides so fast that I had to check the top of the card each time to make sure it was the right match. The 'drop' appeared to be two from Liverpool Jewish, Labour 'B' and Supply 'A' and quite a scrabble developed. Jewish were having problems fielding a fourth player to match the usual staunchness of Messrs. Clein Henshaw and Hudson, whereas the other two teams were somewhat 'dropped in it' by the politics of their respective clubs. The easier task fell to the Jewish side who finished the season with two 6-4 wins against Fords and Cadwa 'A' and saved themselves. I missed John Henshaws' name on the last few cards -- rumours are rife that he has split but nothing definite has been said. I must add that Labour and Supply have given their all throughout the season and comments from opposing sides such as "they always try like hell" are typical and show that the rest of the division certainly did not consider them walkovers. That's all I can say about the division as a whole but I'll carry on with the facesavers, good wins and close matches and I'll close with a few tips on match tactics against some of our illustrious players.

In the following results the winner achieved his teams' only set of the match. Ian Miller, Cadwa 'A' beat Frank McCann, Electric 'B' -17, 17, 14. John Reynolds and Peter Jones, Labour 'B' beat Brenda Buoeoy and Mike Power, Colonsay 'B' 20, -19, 19. Steve Gittins, Colonsay 'B' beat Nick Miler, Bootle J.C. -16, 13, 19 and finally McCann and Evans, Electric 'B' beat Miller and Scarisbrick, Bootle J.C. -25, 15, 20. I believe the J.C. pair are still arguing about Peter's finishing prowess and I believe Peter has even crossed Nick off his 1990 Christmas card list. Any applications for the vacancy send to me.

Good wins for Rob Lowe, Colonsay 'A' who beat Chris Spedding Bootle J.C. 16, 13, Eddie Clein, Liverpool Jewish who beat Keith Miller, Electric 'C' 15, -18, 15, John Higham, Bootle Y.M. who beat Dave Graham, Bootle J.C. 11, 11, R. Goldson, Fords who took both his single matches against Electric 'B' and beat John Evans 22, -12, 19, Alan Evans, Supply 'A' who beat Malcolm Pu, MCYA, 13, 17 and last but not least Glynn Tierney and Peter Jones, Labour 'B' both had wins against Frank McCann, Electric 'B' of 18, 20 and 16, 18 respectively.

John Tsang, MCYA likes keeping his teammates on tenterhooks by winning close matches such as the one against Mike Power, Cadwa 'A', -22, 19, 21 and another against John McGloughlin, Electric 'C', -22, 18, 22. In the same match John Lau beat Fred Pheysey 14, -20, 19 and Deli Oluyombo beat John Evans 18, -19, 19 MCYA won both matches 7:3. John Hodges, Jewish, beat Steve Gittins, Colonsay 'A' (for that match), -19, 22, 22. Frank McCann, Electric 'B' beat Julian Quirk, YMCA, 17, -19, 22. Frank Brady, Electric 'C' lost to Chris Spedding -20, 15, -25. Bill Harris lost to Julian Quirk -18, 20, -21 and in the same match Tom Killip had two close doubles over Ian Wensley 20, 20 and Mike Power 18, 23.

A few Sylvia Gems from last months notes:

Chris Spedding - play "Sweet Child of Mine" by Guns and Roses and watch the potential rigor mortise set in.

Derek Sullivan - say "there's a red Fiat X19 outside on bricks"

John Evans - tell him you're Dave Mullen in disguise.

John Tsang - say that you want to make a bulk order for Double Happiness.

Justine Thomas - tell her the Welsh National Team bus leaves in 5 mins.

Fred Pheysey - say that you want a second car for your spouse and another for your in-laws.

Steve Gittins - just give him directions to the away match if he's driving.

The tips may not be ethical but they are legal - think on that !!

DIVISION 3

COLIN PRATT

Another season over and the final tables show that GPT (Plesseys) have finished top of the league by a large margin – 35 points ahead of Rodney Youth.

Well done GPT, Peter Wass set out to win this division and backed by a very strong squad with high quality reserves, he has done it in a very convincing way.

GPT also won the cup by 6 games to 2 after a 5-5 draw against Bootle Job Centre. In the first game Bootle were always just hanging-in and were fortunate to squeeze a 5-5. In the replay Bootle brought Sylvia in for Dave Ashby but the gamble failed and GPT won convincingly.

The battle for second place was close all season, Maghull led from the start but were quickly joined by Rodney and Waterloo, YMCA had hoped to make a challenge but lost too many crunch games. Bootle J C threatened for a while but could never field their strongest team due to most of their players having commitments to other leagues. Rodney always seemed to have lots of games outstanding and when Maghull had finished their programme, Rodney still had 3 games to play, they knew how many points they wanted and they played with this in mind, eventually clinching 2nd place by 6 points.

Relegation was always going to be any two from Cadwa, Colonsay, Bath St B or Wavertree Labour. Wavertree lost Joan Connor at Xmas due to her happy event and this virtually sealed their fate, they had great difficulty raising teams near the seasons end and finished bottom with 72 points. Who goes down with them ?, Colonsay and Bath St B both finished on 81 points and they must now play off for the bottom spot.

Bath St B played the whole season mostly with the same team and improved steadily, while Colonsay played with a large squad with just Brian and Garry Jennings playing most games.

It was ironic that bottom team Wavertree conceded a 10-0 walkover to Waterloo when they were unable to raise a team in January.

Now details of games highlighted with asterisks by various Captains.

Bath St B have done well here, Rob Peat beating Alan Noor in two straight in Rodney's 8-2 win. Rob has all the shots. and has had lots of close games all season so it was fitting that he should put it all together against one of the best players in the division. Rob then teamed up with Pete Mercer to beat George Smith and Jim Clewitt of YMCA in a very exciting doubles win, although YM won the match 7-3. Don Davies starred in a mammoth game against Brian Jennings and led 16-10 in the third before losing 18, 22, 20, when Cadwa beat Colonsay 7-3. George Higham and Phil Liu winning three each to clinch victory.

Asterisk for Phil Liu when he beat Phil Wilkinson in three 19 games. Phil W top spinning down both wings and Phil L blocking like mad. Here is an amazing asterisk win:- Dave and Sylvia playing doubles together in Bootle's 8-2 win over Police and beating George Wright & Alan Wood without a single cross word, this could qualify you for an award of some sort !.

Brian Jennings in a losing asterisk game this time against the best backhand in the league (no-not you Trevor) Tom Purcell in the match Police 9 Colonsay 1. The rallies were spectacular and highly entertaining to watch.

Last card with a star game marked is the 6-4 win by Bath St A over Cadwa. The second of Don's calls to go the wrong way was Rob Davies game with Barbara Smallwood, both top spin hitters and Rob has reverted to spin rubber both sides after several seasons using short pimps. The first game saw Barbara serving and hitting, winning easily 21-11, the 2nd and 3rd turned into terrific games with some incredible counter hitting from Rob and great rallying from Barbara which saw her home -19 22. In the same match Phil Liu saved Cadwa from disaster by beating Phil Wilkinson and Colin Owens 19, 19, 19, 16, 19, 19. Phil then combined with

George Higham to beat Phil and Colin in the doubles, again in three. Phil has obviously been working on his stamina.

Top doubles partnership this season was Peter Wass and Ted Gilmour of GPT who to the best of my knowledge remained unbeaten playing at second doubles. The doubles results made quite an impact on GPT's points total for the season because their other pairing of Bob Owen and Mark Whittaker only lost one or two.

Gosh here's a good result – Dave Stoddern helped Bath B to a 5-5 with Bath A by beating Fred Bainbridge 19 in the 3rd, I haven't forgotten that Dave also beat our No 1 Julie Prince twice this season. The game when Julie beat Fred Bainbridge was a cracker with both players committed to hitting the winner on the third ball. It then became a battle to stop the third ball attack which Julie just about won.

Mark Jagger did well to beat Ritchie Craggs when Electric beat Bootle 7-3, Ritchie invites his opponent to hit and then swallows them up with sidespin loop defence and occasional counter hitting, Mark obviously resisted the invitation and "pushed" to victory.

Ritchie beat the best No 1 that I saw all season Alan Walton when Electric lost 4-6 to Waterloo. Alan Reid winning three and Ray Hibbs beating the complex game of Ian Lunt. Trevor Hughes has proved to be a good signing for Electric D giving them stability at No 2, he did well to beat Jim Clewett when they beat YM 8-2, Pete Holmes and Ian Lunt both keeping their nerve to stay ahead of Ted Mandaluff in singles and combining to beat Peter Lau and Ted in the doubles.

Jim Clewett this season has beaten Alan Reid, Stuart Fay, Rob Peat, Paul Morgan & many other top players in what must be one of his best seasons. People keep making the mistake of thinking that Jim is a veteran, until they play him. His angled forehand must be one of the best in the league, once his hit is grooved-in he takes some stopping. Well done Jim. Graham Anderson stepped in to the Wavertree side and had some good wins, he beat Trevor Hughes and Ian Lunt when Wavertree took 4 pts off Electric D, Graham and Trevor both play the loop defence game so I wonder what happened when they met. Graham with Mike Ashton then heat Ritchie and Trevor in the doubles in three great games.

Maghulls Stuart Fay won the L-Pool Closed Restricted Title to go with his Southport Restricted Title and was the top Maghull player in their chase for second place followed by Chris Roberts and Rod Bulmer, the 4th spot was filled by several players as the season progressed and maybe it was this which cost them the few extra pts.

Stu Fay beat Alan Noor in the battle of the No 1's when Maghull crushed rivals Rodney 8-2, Chris Roberts edging out Dave Garbe 25-23 in the third. Maghull fell away when they only took 3 from GPT, 6 from Electric D, and 5 from a weakened Bootle JC, followed by a disastrous 3-7 against Bath St A. In this series of games Maghull won only 2 out of the 8 doubles. The Police team spent the season worrying about relegation but were never in danger with a team of their class, Tom's backhand, Len's defence, George's sidespin and Alan's tea were enough to win many a match.

Alan Wood beat John Letch, Pete Holmes, Ian Lunt, Dave Piper and many others in a very successful season. George Wright with his unique style beat John Letch, Phil Liu, Phil Wilkinson, Ian Lunt, and Sylvia Graham (Civil Service Champion).

The battle of the Electrics was won by the E team 4 pts ahead, after two draws in the league. Julie winning her three in the most recent draw, against Ritchie and Trevor. Tom Downing had a good win over Phil Liu in three and in Electrics 6-4 over Bootle, Tom beat John Pilkington 20, 19 followed by a fascinating game with Sylvia when after winning one each by hitting,

both shut up shop and hit less and less, so much so that by the time they reached 18-18, neither of them had the nerve to hit. Sylvia settled it conclusively — with a net and an edge. In the same match Ro Craddock beat one of his bogey men John Pilkington 22-20 in the third. The points mostly going with the serves, John's twiddle bat serves followed by his flat hit, and Ro's chopped serve followed by the push which sets up his tremendous smash.

A very entertaining season with very good competition, non more so than Bath St B's meteoric rise up the table from the near bottom to almost being promotion candidates.

Ah well there's always next season !.

P.S. I am sure that all members of the Division will have appreciated Colin's efforts in getting a copy of his last unpublished notes to all teams – nice work!

DIVISION 4

JACK LAMBERT

Triumphs don't come much more clear cut than the G.P.T. 'B' championship triumph, what can you say about a team that wins a division by 34 points excepting well done you most certainly are the tops. This applies of course to the team for most of the season from Paul Morgan, Tony Moon, Paul and Fred Price and Les Griffin - but late on Ian Wemsley nips in at No. 1 you have a really superb side.

Let's be fair you have to be pretty good to push a team which includes such an experienced quartet as Karen Gibson, Alec Gould, Billy Clayton and the divisions top scorer Reg Edwards into second place. Our top spots are littered with players of experience and long service – none more so than the Linacre side who finished in the third place. Two players – Frank Lacey and Jack Davidson with the odd game from Alex they have been playing regularly since 1949, not quite so long but with the vets. are 'youngsters' Mal Cray and Kenny Ainsworth - I reckon Mal and Jack just have the edge on Frank and Ken in sets won or is that a bit unfair.

Danny Every and Roly Wright are the top boys in another tight little group including Jim Geddes and Les Higham. Roly incidentally joins the second best set winners with Billy Clayton, Fred Price and Harry McGannity. According to my records Tom Killip and Paul Price are on 100% with a fair number of games.

Bath St. 'B' and Aigburth have struggled on to the bitter end but they are holding the rest of you up. With John Letch, Charlie Gallantry and Bill Leeming leading the way. Maghull 'A' and 'B' battled for supremacy with the 'B' winning by a short head. Brian Gregory was the main supporter to Harry McGannity with Andy Howarth and Jimmy Gill doing their bit. The two teams fought out a tight draw. George Frost won his three in this game but with Wilf Gibson was just pipped by Steve Woods in sets won.

Alan Williams and John Forrest the leading Waterloo players won all their games in an excellent 6-4 win over Bath St 'C' Bill Spencer still proves himself an awkward bloke to beat. Police 'B' and Aigburth fought a 5 all battle for survival with top set winners Arthur Garnett and Richie Winkle both winning doubles with Billy Holmes losing 19 in third and winning his doubles with Bill 19 in the third and a Charlie double.

Elec Supply 'B' were a bit unlucky to meet a full strength G.P.T. 'C' Les Griffin and Bobby Bell winning their three. Les and Ray Field had a cracker, Les winning 21-19; 17-21; 22-20: Ray is Supply's top man with Tony Dixon not far behind. Vagabonds have a few good results including a 6-4 win over Maghull 'B' (Gregory 2) John Gratton joint-top scorer with Gordon Langshaw winning his 3 (doubles with Dave Foulis) Kenny Ray who has helped the club to survive has also had a good season. In the Police 'B' 4 vs G.P.T 'C' 6 match seven games went to three Richie Winkle beat John Southworth 21-16; 17-21; 28-26: Lone rangers Bob Rawlinson (Police) 19 & 12 against Karen Gibson. Bert River (Bootle Y.M.) beat Danny Every

18 & 15; John Letch beat Bill Spencer 21 & 18; Bill Leeming beat Danny Every 16 & 17; Dave Cunningham beat Jack Davidson 16 & 21; 23-21; 21-23; 22-20 quite a game. Neil Bascombe (Elec. Supply) beat Jimmy Gill 24-22; 17-21; 21-19; Eddie Preston Bootle Y.M. beat Ted Green (G.P.T. 'C') 13-21; 21-13; 21-18; Tony Harris (Police) beat T. Caunce (Waterloo) 19-21; 21-16; 21-16; Neil Bascombe (Elec. Supply) beat Stan Harvey 16 & 16; Dave Aimson (Bath St.) beat Fred Price 21-17; 17-21; 21-17.

My goodness what a lorra lorra cards we had it has been a bit difficult to sort the best and worst, there is no doubt there have been some cracking games. Top marks undoubtedly go to G.P.T. 'B' but let's not forget Forrest Cup winners, Bath St. and runners up Maghull 'B' nice work.

DIVISION 5

TONY CONNOR

Congratulations Bootle J.C. 'B'. They deservedly finished top of this rather decimated division of only 8 finishers. They remained unbeaten (only drawing 3) and had several star performers. Roger Neal won ten out of ten, Ritchie Beattie 15 out of 16 whilst Ray Parry, Norman Cooke and Sylvia Graham performed very strongly with Sylvia losing just 3. Their tightest game was the early season draw against University who were, at that time, challenging them for the leadership. Sylvias important wins against the rated Robert Heeney and Neil Brooks helped preserve Bootles unbeaten record.

Young Ritchie Beattie had some fine wins and a good scalp was that of Labours Mike Ashton, in an exciting game, 20 in the 3rd. But he also did well to shade fellow junior Martin Hunter (Colonsay) in the third in another thriller. Both these players are to be watched for the future, and I think Martin has the hardest forehead hit in the division.

Martin was rightly promoted from 4 to 2 at half-way yet still managed a very creditable 17 wins out of 28 games for Colonsay (an ever present). Alan Hunter (also ever present) just lost the family battle with 16 wins out of 28. Better luck next year dad . . . Alan had some impressive scalps. Mike Poole (Jewish 'C') in the third. Jerry O'Keefe (Jewish 'B') 2 straight. But the best was a 19 in the third win against University's Robert Heeney, which helped keep the scoreline down to 8-2 at a time when University were in runaway form.

Colonsay finished 4th without ever really challenging the promotion positions, with Brian Leeson virtually ever present and particularly impressive in beating Ted Cramsie (Jewish 'B') in a tight game. The very promising Wirral junior Gary Allen managed 6 wins out of 10, for Colonsay, with his all action attacking style.

At the half-way stage, University (with Bootle) were so far ahead of the pack that promotion seemed a formality. They had used just 4 players; Robert Heeney, Neil Brooks, Craig Wilson and Mike Watson, and they were consistently very strong. But then, the team fell into bad habits like decaden study. They even took exams and allowed their table tennis to fall by the wayside, eventually finishing 3rd. Priorities all wrong, I say!! Reserves were called upon and many sets slipped through their fingers. After Xmas, Bootle beat them 9-1 with only Mike Watson able to prevent the 'tin hat' with a fine 14, 19 win over Ray Parry. Cadwa held then 5-5 though Craig Wilson recorded a creditable 19, -10, 18 win over Peter Roberts. But the self destruct button was well and truly pressed when their 2 conceded 10-nil walkovers both occurred against Wabertree Labour 'D' who zoomed past them into 2nd place, claiming promotion. On a sour note, though, my Wavertree team-mates felt rightly aggrieved at setting out THREE times to play University only for them not to turn up. The 6.00 p.m. call off was too late to prevent long journeys. Subsequent non-arrivals left us twiddling our thumbs (and Sandie his bat) wondering why no contact had been made. An easier way of contacting the secretary at University would be helpful as opposing captains recognising University's

particular difficulties could ring to confirm if matches are on. Any chance Mike?

Well done Wavertree! finishing 18 points clear in 2nd place was just reward for a fine 2nd half to the season. Sandie Sanderson was 10 out of 10 only conceding three games. A fine record. Mark Vincest won 14 out of 18, despite promotion from number 4 to number 1 or 2. Mike Ashton, Ken Armson and yours truly weighed in less prolifically with 27 wins between us, but Wavertrees major strength was their doubles play. Twenty one wins and just 2 losses. Myself with Ken Armson and Mike with Mark remained unbeaten.

Other good doubles combinations were Ray Parry with Ritchie Beattie (Bootle) with 6 wins out of 8, and Craig Wilson and Mike Watson (University) whose only loss in 11 was against Sylvia and Dave Ashby (Bootle) by 14 and 11.

Alan Jones continues to improve for Wavertree (watch his next season!), but in 6 years I have never seen Ken Armson play so well. His 6, -21, 23 win over 'never-say-die' Jack Power of Cadwa sticks in my mind as does his 19, 9 win over Dave Cohen of Jewish 'C'. His new look combinations but shows that you can teach an old dog new tricks, and who better to demonstrate the finer points than that young dog Sandie Sanderson.

Staying with the young end, Emma Fletcher of Cadwa is a good prospect, and I understand she is junior ranked in Cheshire. However, she won't thank me for mentioning that she was 20-10 up in the third against Ken Miller of Jewish 'B' before folding -17, 8, -25. An excellent comeback by Ken, but I bet you won't allow that to happen again, Emma! However, her 14, 19 win over Colonsays Alan Hunter was a truer indication of her potential.

Cadwa rather struggled in the league, which suprised me given the calibre of Pauline Lawrenson, Jack Power, Russell Thornton and Peter Roberts. However, some praiseworthy victories are worth a mention. Jack beat Jerry O'Keefe of Jewish 'B' twice and lost to and beat Norman Cooke (Bootle). He beat John Pilkington also of Bootle 14,18 and just pipped University's Mike Watson 15, -10, 17. Some good scalps here, and despite Cadwa's struggles, a good season for Jack, finishing around 60%. Peter Roberts on a similar percentage recorded a fine 23, -16, 18 win over John O'Sullivan whilst Russell edged Ted Cramsie (Jewish 'B') -13, 19,16 and Martin Hunter (Colonsay) 15, -19, 16. This latter result in February is especially creditable, as Martin walked the October encounter 12 and 2.

Thinking back is a conversation I had with Russell, I wonder if we'll have a 5th division next season. Russell was pesimistic, and I won't bet against him after the mass drop out of Waterloo 'B', Rodney Youth 'A', and Waterloo 'A', leaving just 8 teams. Thirty one score cards involving three teams are now void which means that on 31 occasions teams turned out for matches that ultimately had no meaning. A most unsatisfactory situation with the league tables constantly shifting and changing, as records were expunged. Surely there is a lesson next season for clubs to enter teams realistically. This bottom division needs a more solid and settled feel to it for next season.

Who arrived from the smoke, played for three different teams in this division, and found himself unbeaten? Answer, Steve Leven of Liverpool Jewish. His '2 straight' win over Bootles Sylvia Graham gives fair testimony to the ability of this imported talent (transfer fee unknown!) He played mostly for Jewish 'C' who finished 5th using 10 different players. Roy Lussey was strong at number 1 or 2 and finished with 7 wins out of 12. Roy has an all round game and seems equally confident forcing the pace with strong forehands or chopping and pushing when the need arises. Roy didn't lose to any Jewish team-mates, and recorded '2 staight' victories against Julian Dutch (19 + 15) and Gordon Nelson (11 + 15) in the derby against Jewish 'A'.

Mike Poole, too, was strong for Jewish 'C', and like Jack Power has his fair share of close,

tense, games. Mike gritted his way -23, 29 through the first 2 games in his thriller with Cadwa's Peter Robert, before 'coasting' home 12 in the third. Mike beat Jack 18 and 18 in the same game (which finished 6-4 to Jewish 'C') BUT, it shouldn't have been that tame!!

Dave Cohen had a successful season for Jewish 'C' and his determined hard bat game is difficult to break down. His -18, 14, 14 win over Jerry O'Keefe was a good result in the 7-3 victory over Jewish 'B'. Derek Dorman had an excellent -19, 11, 14 win against Colonsay's hard-hitting Martin Hunter, and Ritchie Blackburne playing for Jewish 'C' had a fine double over Ted Cramsie and Ken Miller in the 10-0 rout of Jewish 'A'. Jewish 'C' finished unbeaten against 'derby' opposition, and their best result was a fine 5-5 draw against champions Bootle, with dominating double wins for Steve Leven and Roy Lussey.

Jewish 'B' finished 7th, but this is a very strong bottom division. What other explanation is there for just 2 wins all season with players like Ted Cramsie, Jerry O'Keefe and Eric Young playing regularly. Eric is capable of neutralising the strong points of very capable players, with his left penhold blocking, often short and angled wide. Eric recorded a good win, -7, 19, 23 against Mike Poole (Jewish 'C') and another against the very tricky John Hodges of Jewish 'A' (-12, 9, 17). Ted had a reasonable win record, but I must admit to surprise that he doesn't win a lot more. He showed excellent tactics and attacking form to shade Mark Vincent of Wavertree, 20 in the third. Jerry, as usual, had good wins. E.g. John Pilkington of Bootle, 17 and 12, but finishing around 50%, perhaps Jerry will be a little disappointed. This is a close knit and settled team, and I always enjoy our matches against Jewish 'B'.

Jewish 'A' finished 8th but in using no fewer than 14 different players, team spirits and motivation must have been lacking. Team identity and spirit is important for good results, and a case in point might be demonstrated by Ted. He won considerably more playing higher up the order in his normal team (Jewish 'B') than he did as reserve for the A team. Ken Dutch won over a quarter of his sides points, and that at playing number 1.

Overall a disjointed season with drop outs and walkovers, but still plenty to cheer. A good crop of youngsters are emerging, but we need lots more! Bootle are worthy champions. See you next season.

LIVERPOOL CLOSED TOURNAMENT 1990

The Finals of all seven events in this years Closed Tournament were held once again at the Police Club on Tuesday evening, 10th April, the earlier rounds having been completed at Kirkby Sports Centre on Sunday 8th.

Finals evening commenced with the Junior Final, in which Richard Beattie (Bootle J.C.) defeated Martin Hunter (Colonsay) in three games. It was unfortunate that this Final was interrupted by a faulty burglar alarm, which took some time to repair and which must have upset the boys concentration to some degree. However, in spite of this annoying interruption, both boys produced some entertaining table-tennis.

The Veterans Final followed and, as last year, Alan Timewell took the Title, defeating Roy Smith in three. Alan has now won this event five times in recent years, while Roy has one win to his credit, which was in 1988.

The Restricted Singles came next, Stuart Fay (Maghull) facing Paul Price (G.P.T.) Both these players had recorded good results in their league matches this season and this was reflected in their Tournament results. Stuart had beaten Ted Mandaluff, Dave Garbe, Barbara Kirkman and Gary-Thornton-Allen, while Paul had, among his victims, Mabel Neary, Richard Beattie, Peter Holmes and Sylvia Graham. In the Final, however, Stuart emerged victorious in three games.

The Mixed Doubles Final was next. This event had not been included in our Tournament since 1976 but had been re-introduced this season at the specific request of the lady players. Ten couples had taken part in the event and the eventual Champions were Keith Williams and Paula French, who defeated Paul Hutchings and Barbara Kirkman in an entertaining three games Final.

After an interval for refreshments, the Mens Doubles Final got underway. Here, the top seeded pair of Paul Hutchings and Malcolm McEvoy, having defeated last years winners, Peter Lee and Mike Mahoney, in the Semi-Final, took the Title by overcoming the fourth seeds, Chris Ford and Peter Flint. Chris and Peter had earlier eliminated the second seeds, Neil Gravener and Keith Williams.

The Womens Singles Final this year was in fact a repeat of the Womens Final of 1976, when the same two ladies faced each other. The result was also the same, Barbara Kirkman (Colonsay) taking the Title in two straight games from Julie Prince (Eng. Elec.) In fairness to Julie, however, it must be remembered that she did beat Barbara in the 1982 Final and won the event again in 1984.

The Mens Final was the eagerly awaited clash between Keith Williams and Malcolm McEvoy. Keith, seeded two, had put out Chris Ford and Peter Flint in previous rounds, while Malcolm had seen off Peter Lee, Graham Parr and the top seed, Paul Hutchings. Keith was obviously in a very determined mood on this occasion and became Liverpool Champion for the fifth time with a two straight win. Keith first won this title in 1975, when he also took the Junior Title.

Before closing this report of the 1990 Liverpool Closed, I must thank all those who helped to make the Tournament a success. In particular, I found it very encouraging to have the voluntary help of a number of our leading players on the Saturday evening when the equipment arrived at Kirkby Sports Centre to be set up ready for play to commence promptly on the Sunday morning. Special thanks therefore to Mal McEvoy, Paul Hutchings, Chris Ford, Paula French, Denise Conroy and Committee members Dave Garbe, Bill Leeming, Stan Clarke and Ken Armonson for their help on that evening.

Same old story in the same old way – an excellent tournament with a brilliant finals night, my thank to Brian and his colleagues – (not forgetting Alan, Tom and Coy at the Police).

Brian Leeson.

Liverpool & District Table Tennis League
Annual Closed Tournament

Sponsored by:

BILL FAWLEY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LTD

Tuesday, 10th April, 1990

at

Merseyside Police Club

Hon. Referee: Mr. B. A. Leeson

FINAL EVENTS

- 1. Junior Singles Final**
Richard Beattie (Bootle J. C.)
beat Martin Hunter (Colonsay) 13-21, 21-11, 21-16
- 2. Veterans' Singles Final**
Alan Timewell (Wav. Labour)
beat W. Roysmith (Wav. Labour) 14-21, 21-8, 21-15
- 3. Restricted Singles Final**
Stuart Fay (Maghull)
beat Paul Price (G.P.T.) 22-20, 6-21, 21-17
- 4. Mixed Doubles Final**
Keith Williams (Y.M.C.A.) and Paula French (Colonsay)
beat Paul Hutchings (Eng. Elec.) and Barbara Kirkman (Colonsay)
22-20, 16-21, 21-16
- 5. Men's Doubles Final**
Paul Hutchings (Eng. Elec.) and Malcolm McEvoy (Eng. Elec.)
beat Chris Ford (Colonsay) and Peter Flint (Eng. Elec.)
21-16, 13-21, 21-13
- 6. Women's Singles Final**
Barbara Kirkman (Colonsay)
beat Julie Prince (Eng. Elec.) 21-15, 21-17,
- 7. Men's Singles Final**
Keith Williams (Y.M.C.A.)
beat Malcolm McEvoy (Eng. Elec.) 21-13, 21-17,

CUP FINALS

HYDE CUP

Bootle J.C. 'A' - 5 G.P.T. 'A' - 5

Steve Nield lost to Bob Owen 18 & 18; Mark Jagger lost to Mark Whittaker 21:16; 5:21: Steve and Dave Ashby beat Ted Gilmour and Peter Wass 21:19; 17:21; 21:14. and excellent win this. Rod McPherson beat Ted 21:15; 16:21; 21:15; Dave lost to Mark 21:13; 15:21; 12:21; Rod beat Bob 28 & 14 Dave lost to Peter 14 & 18; Rod and Mark lost to Bob and Peter 16 & 17; Plessey 5-3 up and the crunch is on Steve beats Peter 12:21; 21:18; 25:23 bit of tension here, Mark and Ted to decide their teams destiny Mark forcing a draw 17; 11:21; 21:13: quite a game. Played at Cadwa with Alec Gould the official in charge and Rob Davies the club ref. I daren't tell you the finishing time.

RUMJAHN CUP

Bootle J.C. 6 Eng. Elec 'C' 3

Andrew Clarke with some superb hitting beat Rikki Brown 18 and 18; Mick Miller and Peter Scarisbrick lost to John McLoughlin and Frank Brady 13 & 18; Charlie Spedding and Andrew beat Keith Miller and Rikki 13 & 14, Charles beat Frank 21:9; 13:21; 21:14: Peter lost to Keith 21:18; 14:21; 13:21: Nick beat John 14 & 18: Andrew beat Frank 14:21; 22:20; 21:17; a close one: Nick lost to Rikki 21:19; 14:21; 13:21; Charlie clinched it with a 17:21; 21:15; 21:18 win over Keith, touch of nerves here and there but some great stuff as well – doesn't Rikki ever give up?.

Played at the G.P.T club with Jack McCaig the official in charge. It was nice to see ex international and Vice President Ted Rumjahn on parade again to present the cup and trophies he was accompanied by Janet our secretary Mr. John McKim, Stan Harvey was the club official.

FORREST CUP

Bath St. 'C' 6 Maghull 'A' 4

Billy Clayton lost to Andy Howarth 16 & 15; Reg Edwards beat Harry McGanity 14 & 17; Alec Gould beat Jimmy Gill 16 & 15; Karen Gibson lost to Brian Gregory 15 & 12; Billy and Reg beat Brian and Jimmy 14 & 12; Karen lost to Andy Howarth 21-15;9-21;10-21;. Billy beat Harry 15 and 9. Alec lost to Brian 21 & 15; 15-21; 7-21: the score 5-4 and Andy and Harry battling to save the game, but Karen and Alec were worthy of the challenge winning 13-21; 21-19; 21-17: Played at Bootle J.C. with Dave Graham being promoted, at the last minute, to match official as well as club official. With Mr. Arthur Upton presenting the trophies.

STAMP CUP

Bootle J.C. 6 Cadwa 1

Norman Cooke beat Peter Roberts 18 & 14 a crunch game this. Roger Neal beat Russell Thornton 19 & 8. Ray Parry and Richie Beattie beat Peter and Jack Power 19 & 18, Richie beat Emma Fletcher 7 & 16, Roger beat Peter 14 & 7. Russell coolly stopped the whitewash by beating Ray in an exciting game 16-21; 21-16; 22-20: but the end was in sight, Richie beating Jack Power 20-22; 21-5; 21-16:

Nice to see Emma Fletcher, Richie Beattie and Russell Thornton coming through nicely and winning medals, nearly as nice to see youngsters Roger, Norman and Jack getting a little out of the game. Played at English Electric with Jack Lambert official and club rep. also presenting the trophies.

HYDE CUP (REPLAY)

G.P.T. 'A' 6 Bootle J.C. 'A' 3

Another crunch game to start off with Ted Gilmour hitting a purple patch and beating Rod McPherson 21-15; 17-21; 21-15: top class stuff. Peter Wass beat Sylvia Graham 11 & 8: Mark Whittaker beat Mark Jagger 14 & 16: Bobby Owen lost to Steve Nield 18 & 18: Bob and Mark lost to Steve & Sylvia 21-11; 17-21; 17-21: Ted and Peter lost to Rod and Mark 21-17; 19-21; 12-21: two good wins for Bootle over the divisions two top pairs three all – very interesting – but then Bobby sweated blood to beat Mac 21-16; 16-21; 21-17: Mark beat Sylvia 11 & 18 and Peter concluded the proceedings with a nail biting 21-14; 16-21; 21-11: win over Steve. Some good stuff here with Plesseys' celebrating in good style. Alec Gould was match official with Mr Arthur Upton presenting the trophies and cup. Played at English Electric with Jack Lambert club official.

FRANK MURPHY TROPHY

English Electric 0 Wavertree Labour 5

Alan Chase lost to Roy Smith 11-21; 21-8; 12-21: Fred Pheysey lost to Alan Timewell 21-18; 15-21; 12-21: Ted Birch lost to Mike Tierney 15 & 14: Alan Chase lost to Alan Timewell 18 & 11. Ted lost to Roy 13-21; 21-17; 13-21: short and sweet. The big snag for the rest of the vets. is that the Wavertree Vets. will be getting younger every year – think about it next season. Played at G.P.T with Don Davies in charge and Mr. Arthur Upton presenting the cup and trophies. Trevor Owen was the club official.

TABLE EDGES

Colonsay our champions (Phil Thomson – Stuart Richards and Chris Ford) reached the Area Final of the Leeds National Club Championship, losing narrowly 5-4 to Bolton,

Did you hear of the bloke who wanted to go early – played his three – won 'em all – rang his captain to see how they went on – we lost 7-3? only clue – Division Two.

I suppose records come and go – are they recorded? How about English Electric 'A' Rumjahn Cup winners, Eng Elec. 'A' joint Div 2 champs, Eng. Elec. 'C' Hyde Cup winners; Eng. Elec. 'C' Div. 3 winners; Eng. Elec. Veterans, Frank Murphy cup winners; Andrew Eden Mens Singles and Junior Champion, Frank Brady restricted champion.

The latest news is that Wavertree Labour will be playing at Wavertree Labour Club next season.

Surely one of our all time 'turn ups for the book' – must have been the 6-2 defeat of Wavertree Labour by Bootle J.C. The Job Centre boys certainly look set to become a good first division side which is what we need.

Talking about Wavertree Labour Ken Armson celebrates his 40th year of playing there.

Congratulations to Paula, Justine and Brenda our ladies team who won the area final of the Rose Bowl.

Justine Thomas (Cadwa) was selected to play for Wales against Switzerland.

The mens team lost 5-4 to Blackburn in the area final of the Wilmott Cup.

If we can put forward plans to increase our membership we will be in line for a share of the £100,000 the E.T.T.A. is prepared to put back into the game.

Filling in a match card is a simple matter!?, Eddie Cameron our Fixture Sec. finds many exceptions to the rule. A beauty was M.C.Y.A vs Colonsay 'A' card with 'Rob' crossed out at 1 'Harry' at number 4 wrong team name wrong numbers - one asks were the scores correct and how did they manage to turn up'.

Beware next season you first division wallahs Neil Gravener and Chris Ford are meandering off to the Far East to learn a few of the Chinese arts.

As Dave Garbe retires from the management we have two new nominess Paul Hutchings (Eng. Elec.) and Phil Liu (Cadwa).

Mabel Neary is off to the States to compete in the World Veteran Chanpionships.

The Liverpool Team completed their Leeds British League programme with a brilliant 5-3 win against Ormesby with excellent wins by Paul Hutchings supported by Neil Gravener and Keith Williams. Chris Ford must be complimented for the amazing amount of work and money he puts into the competition. The team are now in with a possible championship win.

Sylvia Graham (Bootle J.C.). reached the semi-finals of the National Civil Service championships and won the Departmental Championship - a subsidiary competition.

The Leeds Building Society promotes table tennis.

100 CLUB DRAW

Firstly, sorry for not including something in the last issue, my humblest apologies, but getting everything organised for draws etc. and paying out winnings, and getting the money in made me forget to send in an update with my usual divisional notes. It will not happen again! I stand (sit) reprimanded.

Well this year is not quite as good as last and I held off the first draw until I managed to get the full 100 Yeahs. We now stand at 104 members who have been bullied, bludgeoned and in some cases even volunteered into contributing with the cause and to date we have had four monthly draws with the fifth one nigh.

September Draw – drawn by D. Inkson

1st	-	£25	No. 11	Mr. J. McCaig
2nd	-	£15	No. 52	Mr. A. Clark
3rd	-	£12	No. 18	Mr. P. U. Rumjahn

October Draw – drawn by Rodney Youth

1st	-	£25	No. 101	Mr. R. Craddock
2nd	-	£15	No. 29	Liverpool Jewish Club
3rd	-	£12	No. 12	Mrs. V. McCraig

November Draw – drawn by Eric Young

1st	-	£25	No. 2	Mr. K. Hyde – donated back to league funds
2nd	-	£15	No. 26	Mr. K. Armson
3rd	-	£12	No. 53	Mrs. A. Clark

December Draw – drawn by Rod Bulmer

1st	-	£25	No. 95	Rev. N. Zalud
2nd	-	£15	No. 61	Mr. T. Killip
3rd	-	£12	No. 80	Mr. H. Reeves

If anyone still wishes to join for the remainder of the year whether or not it's only for the last 6 months give me a ring and then I'll include you. Bye for now!

Sylvia Graham

DIVISION 1	P	W	L	D	PTS
ENGLISH ELECTRIC	22	21	-	1	191
COLONSAY	21	17	1	3	179
WAVERTREE LABOUR	22	14	5	3	164
LIVERPOOL YMCA	22	16	4	2	157
CADWA	22	13	7	2	122
BATH STREET	22	12	10	-	113
G.P.T.	22	7	13	2	89
ENGLISH ELECTRIC 'A'	22	7	15	-	81
LIVERPOOL YMCA 'A'	21	6	15	-	68
WAVERTREE LAB 'A'	22	6	14	2	67

POLICE	22	2	16	4	57
ELECTRIC SUPPLY	22	-	21	1	22

DIVISION 2	P	W	L	D	PTS
BOOTLE J.C.	22	20	1	1	178
BOOTLE YMCA	22	17	2	3	153

ENGLISH ELEC 'C'	22	15	6	1	149
ENGLISH ELEC 'B'	22	13	3	6	144
COLONSAY 'A'	22	11	8	3	118
M.C.Y.A.	22	8	9	5	103
FORDS	22	8	11	3	102
CADWA 'A'	22	6	11	5	101
COLONSAY 'B'	22	5	11	6	97
LIVERPOOL JEWISH	22	5	15	2	74

WAVERTREE LAB 'B'	22	3	18	1	53
ELECTRIC SUPPLY 'A'	22	1	17	4	48

DIVISION 3	P	W	L	D	PTS
G.P.T. 'A'	26	24	-	2	207
RODNEY YOUTH	26	20	5	1	172

MAGHULL	26	18	6	2	166
WATERLOO	26	12	9	5	144
BATH ST. 'A'	26	13	7	6	143
BOOTLE J.C. 'A'	26	12	8	6	140
LIVERPOOL YMCA 'B'	26	13	11	2	139
ENGLISH ELEC 'E'	26	11	11	4	138
ENGLISH ELEC 'D'	26	11	11	4	134
POLICE 'A'	26	8	15	3	113
CADWA 'B'	26	5	19	2	90
COLONSAY 'C'	26	5	18	3	81

BATH ST. 'B'	26	4	17	5	81
WAVERTREE LAB. 'C'	26	3	22	1	72

DIVISION 4	P	W	L	D	PTS
G.P.T. 'B'	24	23	-	1	196
BATH ST. 'C'	24	17	4	3	162

LINACRE	24	19	3	2	153
BOOTLE YMCA 'A'	24	13	7	4	140
WATERLOO 'A'	24	15	8	1	136
MAGHULL 'B'	24	12	10	2	133
MAGHULL 'A'	24	12	9	3	128
G.P.T. 'C'	24	9	10	5	122
VAGABONDS	24	10	14	-	112
BOOTLE YMCA 'B'	24	7	16	1	89
POLICE 'B'	24	2	20	2	71
AIGBURTH	24	2	20	2	60

BATH ST. 'D'	24	2	22	-	58
--------------	----	---	----	---	----

DIVISION 5	P	W	L	D	PTS
BOOTLE J.C.	14	11	-	3	103
WAVERTREE LAB 'D'	14	11	3	-	97

UNIVERSITY	14	8	3	3	79
COLONSAY 'D'	14	7	6	1	75
LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'C'	14	6	5	3	73
CADWA 'C'	14	3	7	4	56
LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'B'	14	2	11	1	50
LIVERPOOL JEWISH 'A'	14	-	13	1	27

NOTES:- Waterloo 'B', Rodney Youth 'A' & University 'A' records expunged

Division 1 – Match 18 Liverpool YM 'A' v Colonsay null and void no points to either side.

Division 3 – Play off result – Colonsay 'C' 6 – Bath St. 'B' 0