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Editorial

The second Digest of the season, cut off for this one was week 14, 8 weeks since the last but it feels as if it was only the other week, how time flies with age!

Once Christmas passes, it just seems to get busier and busier with Table Tennis issues, this one has been more so, we have had the major problem of where to store all the Tournament equipment, having been informed in January that the Council store we had been using in Paul Street was to close, with no direct offer of a new place, so the Mancom hurriedly set about finding other possibilities, but with the special requirements of the tables, it looked like a very expensive outcome. But at the 11th hour, Mr. Richard Johnson of The Liverpool City Sport Development Unit has again come to our rescue, with space at the new Sports Centre in Park Road, Dingle. The move from Paul St. to Park Road will be done at the same time as the Closed Tournament, so when you read this, all will be over, hopefully, with many volunteers having helped because of all the publicity given to the requests assistance.

We are now at the semi Final stages of our K.O. Cups, disappointingly, one team decided to withdraw from a Div. Cup Semi Final, due to the genuine personal reasons of one of the players, but with quite a few good players below, disappointing! Soon we will be looking for Final Venues. The Individual Membership issue is still on a 'learning curve, for the majority of members, on page 19 I've copied the latest update on the ETТА web site, with the web address for looking at the further updates

In the last Digest I mentioned Crawley, Horsham & District TT League setting up the running of 3 divisions on the one night from a Sports Centre, their League publish minutes of all ManCom meetings, so I have been following the progress of the new set-up, the last report showed an unexpected problem to them, but a problem which is very recognisable to us, player involvement, or lack of it, those who just want to play!

Secretary's Report (Crawley & District TT League January 2011 Minutes)

Alison reported that things were generally running smoothly. Concerns were expressed about the setting up and taking down of the K2 equipment on a Thursday night, players are not helping enough and this needs to be addressed before next season. Alison suggested that maybe the home teams should take responsibility for this, or charge players at K2 a levy to enable the league to pay someone to do it.

Paul Gittens has added another to his 11 Up series, this time a player who has been involved in many other sports of poise, balance and speed, read it on page 14, thanks again Paul.

This season Barrow burst onto the National League with some star player signings including Paul Drinkhall & Darius Knight, and are currently top of the Senior British League, but they have encountered the problem of venues,

unless you own the venue outright, (how many Leagues can do that these days) you are so reliant on others, Barrow have encountered this totally unexpected problem, read a passage on page 21 I came across. The following passage from a Steve Kerns British League report; "The leaders Barrow beat Sycamore by a 6-2 scoreline, and their top three players – Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight and Sebastian Laux all stayed undefeated. Sycamore's **Kevin Dolder** (England no. 19) threw everything he had into his battle against Paul Drinkhall. Put simply – "an awful lot of it went on but even more of it came back". Paul won comfortably 11-5, 11-6, 11-2 (*and we all know how good Kevin is – Editor*)

We are always pleased to welcome new players into the League, especially young new players, this season we have had quite a few who are still at school, we still have the major problem of where to play, but nevertheless, they are playing, at clubs who have made the effort, still trying to find their feet in competitive league play, but best of all, are sticking at it even though they lose more than they win, (don't the majority of us!!). A special welcome to young Jack Spivey-Hunter, 15, who has signed for Sefton Park, Jack plays from a wheelchair. It has been quite an exciting few months for Jack winning Young Achiever of the Year in September from Royal Society of Public Health in London, and Halton and then Merseyside Young Sports Personality of the Year, so beware future opponents, more on page 20

The schedules and ticket prices for the 2012 Olympic Games have just been released, a mind boggling logistical challenge, also mind boggling are some of the ticket prices, for Table Tennis, prices range from £85 (best seats) to £20 for early / prelim rounds to £125 - £45 for rounds with medal ceremonies, each day is split into either 3 sessions of 2 hours or 2 sessions of 3 hours, what I'm not sure of, does the ticket cover the day or a session, if the latter, a bit expensive!. Mind you looking at the prices of the athletics which range from £150 to £20 for the early rounds to the (start saving now) medal ceremonies of £420 to £50, the Table Tennis is comparatively cheap, they say that the return from tickets will only cover 25% of the total cost of the Games!!, so the message is 'book early and start saving' Book through the ETТА page 22.

Apart from the welcome to new players, how about a welcome back to those who have endured health problems, be it major surgery, twisted ankles, pulled muscles or ligaments, all a sign of age, but table tennis gives all the possibility of carrying on playing playing a sport.

Thanks again to our divisional reporters, and Don D. who all have their own style of reporting, but without them, this magazine would be 'wanting'

Sadly, five past players of the L&D.T.T.L appear in the Obituary pages 16 to 18 of this Digest.

Nets & Edges

At the time this edition is being finalised, the entry for the annual 2010/11 Fawley Closed championships was poor. With under a week to the closing date, just two entries had been received for the women's singles. With 18 ladies registered with the league, one would have expected a fair number of those who regularly turn out, would have been keen to take part in an event first staged in the 1928/29 season. Annie Pollitt collected the S.W. Richardson for the first three seasons and from then, it proved to be a coveted crown



to hold. It must be said, however, that a few players may be engaged in veteran competition on that weekend for which they are committed. On the men's side, Tomasz Rzeszotko, the holder of the men's open and veteran singles won't be defending his titles, having made fewer than a handful of division one outings by the qualifying cut off date. Ten times men's champion Keith Williams, in fine form at the moment, is also out, on county veteran duty as is twice losing finalist, Chris Ford. In the absence of Keith, the longest surviving former eligible men's champion, Dave Roberts (1984) hasn't entered while Wayne Percival, the champion two years earlier, has made only a few appearances and is also, ineligible. Twice winner, Paul Hutchings has entered having moved from Maghull where he turned out for the club with his family to Crosby High and although having suffered two league losses this term, is a formidable opponent for any of his rivals.

Sadly, the league lost one of its most well known and respected former players, when Peter Rumjahn passed away. The men's singles champion in 1938/39 season when he added in partnership with Edie Malley, the mixed title, their fourth success in a row. Eight years on he added the first of three further mixed titles with sister-in-law Lillian (Pinkie) Rumjahn. He also, with brother Ted, annexed the men's doubles title four years on the trot and added another partnering brother Ron - completing a sixth and last with Reg Hetherington. His final Closed title came in 1963 when he took the veteran title, having once told me he had never won the event!! Unfortunately, we shall never again, see the likes of Peter Rumjahn.

Keith Williams must have fancied himself in with a good chance of reaching the closed final following a couple of impressive performances for Lancashire against two highly rated players who looked to be on the way to thrashing the Bootle YM' man. Facing Ritchie Venner, he lost the opening two games to the Sussex England ranked 7 and former number one, 11-4, 11-1 but levelled matters with a battling performance, 11-9, 12-10 before sweeping home, 11-5 in the decider to help secure a 6-4 victory for the red rose side. A similar scenario was enacted when he took on Clive Carthy (Essex) who took the opening two games 11-6, 13-11. Keith, though, has never been one to let previous games affect him and, again, played an important role in the county's 6-4 success, winning the next three, 8, 8, 9.

Don Davies

I recently met Linda and Nicky Jarvis at Anfield, there to see son Matt playing for Wolves who left with a shock 1-0 victory. They follow Matt around the country to as many matches as possible. Although Nick didn't manage to win a title at the Merseyside open, Linda, a former European mixed champion with Des Douglas, did team up with sister Susan to win the Merseyside women's doubles title, Susan adding the junior girls' crown in that same tournament at Dunlop's, Speke in 1969. Matt must be the only premier

division player to have parents who are former European champions' - Nick having been in the Ormsby team which won the European Club cup in 1972 while both having been ranked at one in Great Britain.

The longest surviving Closed singles title winner still playing in the league, this season celebrated his fiftieth successive season in division one, a record which, almost certainly, will never be equalled. The records show that W. R. Smith was the Closed Junior champion in 1961 and that same W.R. is Roy Smith still a division one player regular. In 1963 he reached the Closed men's singles final where, after ousting Ronnie Rumjahn in the semi's, he lost to Wally Allanson who had put paid to a family affair final, when accounting for brother George in the other half of the draw. Fourteen years later Roy again made the final following a straight games win over Eric Hardman in the semi's, but was beaten by Keith Williams, then a Rafterns man, winning 21/11, 21/13. There isn't a league divisional honour Roy hasn't won, his haul of Readman cup and division one winners' trophies will, almost certainly never be equalled. Thirty six years after that junior title Roy won the veteran title a feat he repeated nine years later. Although, not an international player, I place Roy in the same bracket as Peter Rumjahn a pleasure to watch, a gentleman, sportsman, and another, whose feats at local league level, will never be equalled. Well done, Roy.

An elderly gentleman called into Cadwa recently and handed in a collection of old newspaper cuttings concerning the CADWA Association which was formed in 1944. One interesting item was an Echo, 'Over The Mersey Wall' write up and picture of the Crafter family, Mum, Ivy, dad Rennie, daughter Judy and son, Bill. Judy, the Closed women's singles champion in 1962 when only 16, the youngest ever at that time, as well in 64, 66 and 67. She won the women's doubles four times in five years, with four different partners and the mixed with Ralph Gunnion, Frank Thomas twice and another with Cadwa team mate Gordon Birch. Bill, a solid, all out Barna bat defender, played many times in division one, and I was fortunate enough to have him as a team-mate at Rafterns while earlier at Sefton General where he helped the team win the Rumjahn cup and the division two title.

As in the past few seasons Fords are leading the way with 99 points from 13. However, Crosby High B team on 91 and their First team on 89 are giving them a run for their money.

During the 8 week reporting period things have gone very much to plan for Fords gaining 7 wins whilst accumulating 60 points. Included in these wins are a 7/3 victory over 3rd placed Crosby High who fielded a strong side of Stuart Mudie, Michael Lunn and Paul Chiccheli. Kevin Dolder and Mal McEvoy were in formidable form both winning their 3 singles. Kevin was pushed all the way by Paul to win 13/11 in the 5th, whilst Mal got the better of Stuart 11/9 in the decider. Stuart and Paul played brilliantly in the doubles to beat Kevin and Mal. Merseyside Police pushed Fords all the way before losing 6/4. In this match Kevin was again taken to 5 sets by Jon Taylor and Chris Ford but retained his unbeaten record. Jon and Chris both had wins over Mal and Andy Taylor to secure the 4 points.

At week 13 Fords lost their unbeaten record to Crosby High B by a 7/3 margin, Paul Hutchings remained unbeaten in his 4 visits to the table, Aaron Beech had great wins over Mal and Andy before losing out narrowly to Terry Turner, who lost to James Bartello, a great win for Crosby's 3rd team to keep them in contention at the top.

I am not normally one for quoting statistics, however, the significance of Fords loss comes home when you realise that this is the first time they have lost a match since the final week of the 2007/2008 season. On that occasion they were a player short when they went down 6/4 to Wavertree Labour for their only defeat of that season, to put that into perspective, prior to their loss to Crosby High B, they had lost only one of 74 matches played since the beginning of the 2007/2008 season. Could this be a record within the league?

Prior to their victory over Fords Crosby High B had built up a string of victories including 10/0 over Merseyside Police for whom Jon Taylor surprisingly lost his 3 singles. CTK pressed them hard but lost 6/4. Paul Hutchings again won his 3, Aaron had good wins over Omid Khaiyat and Ahmed Thabet, but James had a poor night, although combining with Paul to clinch the win by taking the doubles. After the euphoria of beating Fords they were quickly brought back down



to earth, the following week they faced a Bootle YMCA side of Keith Williams, Wayne Percival and James Eaton. Paul beat Wayne and James and Aaron beat James with Bootle winning 7/3, Keith was outstanding on the night winning his singles with ease and combining with Wayne to gain a hard fought doubles win.

Third placed Crosby have been extremely consistent, having won 10, drawn 2, with their only loss being to Fords. The team varies from week to

week with 6 different players representing the side during the reporting period, Stuart Mudie, Jamie Hewitt and Michael Lunn were together when they beat Harold House A 10/0, Cherith Graham replaced Michael in a 7/3 victory over Merseyside Police. When facing 4th placed BSM the match ended in a draw, Gary Watson was man of the match in winning his 3 singles and was well supported by Ken Jackson who beat Michael, and Steve Green won against Jamie.

BSM have 82 points from 13 matches, although they have had a good winning run recently 4 losses early in the season mean they are not going to be in the mix for the championship, the team of Ken Jackson, Gary Watson and Steve Green are more than a match for mid table and lower teams. Recently they have beaten both Harold House teams 9/1, beaten Crosby High A and CADWA and drew at CTK, in the drawn match they all played well to beat Omid, although Ken scraped through 12/10 in the 5th and Steve 11/9 again in the 5th, Keith Bird won his 3 singles, although he was truly pushed all the way in beating both Ken and Steve 11/9 in the 5th. The match was very obviously hard fought between two equally matched sides and Keith and Omid managed to outlast Gary and Steve to gain a monumental 17/15 deciding set win.

CTK are only 6 points behind BSM with a game in hand, they have had 9/1 wins over their A team and Wavertree Labour. In the derby match John Lau saved the whitewash beating Omid 12/10 in the final set (does Omid ever get involved in straight forward matches?). Wavertree Labour's Paul Banks secured what must be one of the best wins of his life when he came back from 2 sets down to beat Keith Bird. When visiting Harold House Keith and Tony Whelan both had wins over Neil Baker and John Henshaw before combining in the doubles to secure the draw.

Merseyside Police are averaging 5 points per match from their 13, with Jon Taylor, Chris Ford, Paul Gittins and John Hope in their squad their tally of points could have been better, I believe Paul and John have not always been available because of injury but they have suffered from having to use reserves. Their potential to do better was fully illustrated in their match, reported earlier, against Fords when they lost out 6/4, Jon, Chris and John played together when they drew with a full strength Bootle YMCA side, in this match they all beat James Eaton, Chris had a good win over Wayne and Jon and Chris had a good doubles win over Keith and Wayne (Keith won his 3 singles)..

Crosby High A are on 61 points, they had an excellent 8/2 victory over CTK A when Rob Wylie won his 3 and Gavin and Gemma Lloyd each won 2, they played out a draw with Harold House, with Gavin being the hero in winning his 3 and Gemma beating Rick Beattie.

I am surprised to find Bootle YMCA have only 58 points with 4 wins, 2 draws and 7 losses, as expected Keith Williams, who rarely misses a match or drop a point, is their main man as proved when they beat championship contenders Crosby B, their strongest team is a match for most with Wayne and James supporting Keith, however, Wayne is not available on a regular basis and the reserve strength is not strong enough to succeed at this level. They did have a comfortable 7/3 win over CADWA with Keith winning on his 4 visits to the table, James beating George Lennon and Paul Evans and Janey Gibson beating Paul.

The lower positions in the division are a close run affair with 5 teams battling to hang on to their first division status.

CTK A are not finding life easy after promotion (whoever does?) are on 44 points, 8 points ahead of bottom placed Wavertree Labour, every point won in such a closely grouped situation is vital. Harold House did themselves no favours turning up at CTK A a player short, CTK A took full advantage running out 7/3 winners, Peter Lee beat Rachel Baker but lost 12/10 in the deciding set to her brother Neil, Deli Oluyombo also lost in 5 to Neil this time 13/11, John Lau was in top form winning both singles and combining with Peter to take the doubles. They have also had 6/4 victories over CADWA and Merseyside Police, the above 3 players played in both of these matches and each contributed 2 wins against Merseyside Police. At CADWA, Deli beat Graham

Black and Damien Piper, Peter beat George Lennon and Damien and John beat George. In other matches played these 3 players have not been available leading to the introduction of reserves and consequently a series of defeats, in their 9/1 defeat to Fords Peter had a great win over Mal.

Harold House A are locked on 44 points with CTK A, in their 6/4 defeat of CTK A, Myles Fong and Jasmine Yang each won all their singles. There were 2 much weakened sides out when they met their first team, but Myles again won his 3, John Henshaw got the better of Eddie Clein, and Eddie beating Eric Chan. Jasmine had fantastic wins over Paul Hutchings and Aaron Beech, with Myles overcoming James Bartello as they went down 7/3 to Crosby High B.

CADWA are one point adrift on 43 with Graeme Black and George Lennon playing week in week out but struggling for a regular 3rd player, this situation may well have been sorted with Damien Piper (I am told he is very talented and has been highly ranked as an England Junior), when beating Wavertree Labour 7/3 each contributed with 2 singles wins. When going down 6/4 to CTK A Graeme beat Peter and John, George beat Deli and Damien beat John.

Harold House are surprisingly next to bottom with 42. I say surprisingly because there is an array of talented players signed for the club, they seem unable to put their strongest team out on a regular basis and thus suffer. In their draw with CTK Myles Fong had an excellent evening to remain unbeaten and was supported by John Henshaw and Neil Baker who both beat Ahmed Thabet. As with their A team they need to field their better players on a regular basis to climb out of trouble.

Wavertree Labour prop up the division on 36 points, however, the team of Roy Smith, Mike Tierney and Paul Banks make themselves available every week and continuously provide 100% effort. They comfortably won 7/3 over a weakened Harold house A with Paul Banks having an outstanding night remaining unbeaten, Roy won 2 and Mike 1, Roy and Mike have a lot of experience at this level but Paul is having his first taste of the top division and is having some excellent wins. When Wavertree lost 7/3 at CADWA he beat both Graeme and George and Mike rolled back the years to beat Damien. In another 7/3 loss to Merseyside Police Roy and Mike each beat Jon Dyson with Paul chipping in with another fine win over John Hope.

Ian Mc.

Well, with a packed programme tonight we have (unfortunately) less time for the usual ramblings, but, with more high octane division 2 drama it should still be a great show!!

Bath Street Marine (A)

The first card on the list is a home tie for BSM against Crosby High (c) no easy task on any night but this team of 'galacticos' walloped them 10-0 and not one of them going to five sets!

Week 8 and a slightly different story as the pace of success catches up with Dave Roberts, Clare Peers and Tony Kendall

losing 6-4 to CTK (B). Back to winning ways following this mid season blip with an 8-2 at Marconi, 9-1 at BSM (B), 8-2 at Maghull and a 10-0 at Wavertree. Cut and dried winners you say! Yes you are probably right who can catch them? 25 points ahead of their nearest rivals at the mid term!

Fords (A) have their best team for quite a while, this is supported by their lofty position in the division. There is a bit of a second place struggle though with CTK (B) and this will be where the drama is at the end of the season. The Fords team is Graham Cleary, Paul Kinsey and Bob Hughes. The gap between the top team and the rest of the division could be highlighted by the fact that where BSM (A) tin hated Crosby High (C) – Fords (A) only managed a draw! What they did manage was an 8-2 at Marconi (A), 7-3 at Merseyside Police and BSM (C) and a 7 -3 over their nearest rivals CTK (B).

Christ The King (B)

With only one point between them at present CTK (B) are very much in with a shout at a promotion place – how important the loss to Fords was, is yet to be seen! Dave Tagg, being man of the match at this tie, winning two on the night, beating Paul Kinsey and Bob Hughes. Unpredictable is the word for this team! week 7 sees them losing away at Wavertree Labour 6-4 and week 8 sees them beating BSM (A) 6-4. Peter Taylor with great wins over Dave Roberts and Tony Kendall was joined by Dave Tagg, again winning two but this time over Clare Peers and Tony Kendall. A 7-3 win at the Police, 6-4 wins at Harold House (B) and Maghull, and 9-1 wins at Marconi (A) and BSM (C) put them in a strong position at the halfway point!

Harold House (B)

A 7-3 win, a 6-4 loss and two draws are the results available for this report from Harold House. With only 8 points between them and second place, this team of Steve Whalley, Kevin Lewis and Alec Bryce have the conkers for a promotion push; can they grab the bull by the scruff of the neck and make that step?



Marconi

Perennial 'just off the leaders' team 'Marconi' are currently in a position that is just off the leaders!

Bob Edwards, Chris Spedding, Ray Jackson and Adrian Bramham have a mixed bag of results for weeks 7 to 14. Ray Jackson unbeaten on his two appearances. Bob and Chris with three wins at Marconi (A), Adrian with a big win over Dave Roberts, and all three at Maghull. 4 wins out of six keep Marconi on the outskirts and a 6-4 win over the team above them (HH) could be important in the final shake up!

Bath Street Marine (B)

The second of three; BSM (B) have four wins out of six for their efforts. Ian Mcelwee wins his three at Wavertree, Ricky Brown and Fred Bainbridge winning their three at Marconi (A) and Dermot Tierney winning his three at Marconi. Looking for a pattern to the results here is difficult as this team all seem to hit their peak on different nights and there are results on the cards (both wins and losses) which you would not particularly expect! Is it style, time of the season? If you are looking at why matches are won and matches lost; there is probably a whole branch of sports psychology devoted to it. This team though are a great bunch of guys (with apparently some humorous goings on in their match at Wavertree Labour) who love playing table tennis, so enthusiasm and motivation are not in question!

Merseyside Police (A)

Keeping a consistent line up for this part of the season Merseyside Police have recorded 2 wins and two losses (only four cards I'm afraid). An impressive 10-0 against BSM (C) – John Dyson, Steve Gittins and Brenda Buoy all winning with a set to spare as well. Brenda and Steve repeated this at BSM (B) in their 7-3 win

Crosby High (C)

Three draws, two wins and one loss make up Crosby's return for this report. Dave Evans, Sylvia Graham, Roger Neal, Alec Buchanan and Ben Edwards are making up the team.

Ben Edwards wins his three at Marconi (A), Dave Evans wins his three at BSM (C) and Harold House (B) and Roger Neal is the only player to manage this feat at Maghull! Sylvia almost manages it winning two at Fords (A) with strong wins over Paul Kinsey and Bob Hughes. Alec Buchanan also was very unfortunate not to bag a brace at Harold House (B), losing his first match to Alec Bryce – then coming back on to nick Steve Whalley and Kevin Lewis in the fifth.

Wavertree Labour (A)

The pattern here is that Wavertree seem to be winning or losing around the 7-3, 6-4 mark, Roy Adams however, leaps off the pattern for Wavertree as their MVP, winning his three at CTK(B), Marconi (A) and HH(B) and only Ian McElwee could stop him from doing the same at BSM (B), Dave Harse and John Rowan make up the team, Dave with wins over Peter Taylor, Adrian Bramham, Alan Jones and John Langton, John with wins over Peter Taylor, Bob Edwards, Fred Bainbridge and Peter Holmes.

Maghull

With only one win out of six – Maghull are in their usual position of fighting for survival in the second division, The team has been bolstered this season by the welcome return of John Langton and it was John who won his three to ensure victory over bottom place BSM (C). John's team mates have, however, popped up with some good wins to assist – just obviously not quite enough. Alan Jones with fine wins over Dave Evans, Alec Buchanan, Bob Edwards, Dave Tagg and Peter Taylor, Peter Holmes with wins over Alec Buchanan, Bob Edwards and a great win over Dave Roberts.

Marconi (A) is Frank McCann, Ian Wensley, Peter Wass and Andy Lloyd. They have only been able to register one win in this section of the season and with some heavy losses they are sinking slightly in the division 2 sea. They do however bob up and down now and then with some notable scalps. Frank and Ian taking Ian McElwee, Frank and Andy taking Paul Kinsey and Frank just missing out on taking his three at Crosby High in the fifth set by Ben Edwards.

Now you may think to yourself, 'aahh, I know where Paul is going with this' but no you are wrong as it is Ian

Wensley who I shall be recording as the 2nd division player of the quarter. Ian has been a player I have admired for many a year with his total commitment, competitiveness, long trouseriness and his energy! I think that Ian must hold the record for the most fifth set matches played. Ian's attributes were pointed out to me recently by another second division player so I had little hesitation in making this award to Ian!!!

Bath Street Marine (C)

With 8 points separating BSM (C) from the next team above them – you have to feel that this time, Lord, you gave them a mountain – a mountain that they may never climb – with points coming there way very infrequently.

Rob Peat has turned out for the team and won two singles at Maghull, only losing out to his former team mate John Langton, In this same match Rob beat Alan Jones 21-19 in the fourth set!!!!

This reminds me of the match at Wimbledon last year that went on and on etc. Is it better to keep playing to win? If you win, okay you have won a set, but is it worth the energy expenditure? If you lose – you have invested the same energy but you also have a negative view of the game?!! However, when you play to win every point, its not easy to switch off from that even if you agreed with this strange suggestion, and I know that Rob and Alan would never, ever do that!!!

So, lots more drama and excitement to come in the next edition!

Best wishes and good luck for the rest of the season.

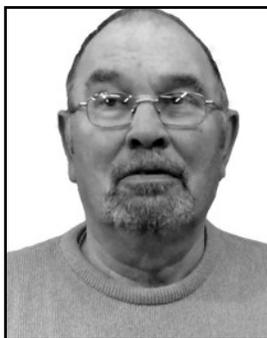
Paul Banks
Wavertree Labour.

Division 3

Mike Hughes

Week 7

Bootle YM B v Police C, a good win for the YM 6-4, man of the match Shakil winning all his 3 singles, Cadwa A. v Wav. Lab B, a strong win for CADWA 8-2 with Tony Connor and Paul Morgan winning their singles for Wav. Lab, both in 4 sets. Sefton v Wav Lab C, a hard contested draw 5-5 with Alan Davies MOM winning all his singles along with the doubles. Maghull A v Bath St D, a heavy defeat for Maghull 1-9 with Rod Bulmer saving the day for Maghull beating Dave Stodder in 4 sets saving a whitewash. Police B v Marconi B, a good win for the police 8-2 with Terri-Ann Nolan taking the honours winning all 4 matches on the night.



another tight match with 4 games going to 5 sets, but with Wav Lab coming out on top winning 6-4. Bath St D v Sefton Park, a solid win for Bath St 7-3, Rob Peat being MOM winning all 4 of his games. Wav Lab C v Police C, honours even in this match 5-5 with Paula Adamson MOM winning her 3 singles. Bootle YM A v Cadwa A, a good win 6-4 for YM A against a strong Cadwa, 3 games going to 5 sets, Alan Chase MOM winning all his 4 games. Police B v Bootle YM B, a well contested match with honours even 5-5, MOM Shakil Malik winning all his 3 singles.

Week 8 Marconi v Harold House C, a hard contested match with 3 games going to 5 sets with Rod Mc forcing the draw in the 10 match. Wav Lab B v Maghull A,

Week 9. Sefton v Wav Lab B, a solid win 8-2 for Sefton, MOM Ian Laird. Maghull A v Bootle YM A, another good win for Bootle 8-2, only Danny Every for Bootle dropping 2 of his 3 games, MOM both Alan Chase & Ted Birch winning all 4 of their games. Police C v Bath St D,

a win for the Police 6-4, MOM Paula Adamson winning all 4 of her games. Karen Gibson had a good match against Paula just losing 11-9 in the 5th. Har. House C v Police B, a well contested match with honours even 5-5. Bootle YM B v Wav Lab C, a 6-4 win for YM B, again with Shakil being MOM winning all his singles.

Week 10. Marconi B v Cadwa A, a well balanced draw only the doubles going to 5 sets with Marconi coming out on top, Alan Timewell MOM, winning all his singles. Wav Lab B v Police C, a good away win for the police 7-3. Har. House B v Bootle YM B, honours even on this one 5-5, Mike Hughes taking 2 of his matches to 5 sets but losing both. Bootle YM A v Sefton Park, an exceptional away win for Sefton Park 4-6, the whole team must have been on top form as the YM are the team to beat, MOM Alan Chase for the YM winning all his singles. Bath St D v Wav Lab C, a good away win for Wav Lab 4-6, Colin Owens for Bath St being MOM winning all of his 3 singles.

Week 11. Bootle YM B v Bath St D, a good away win for Bath St 4-6, only Shak Malik holding Bootle's end up again winning his 3 singles. Cadwa A v Police B, a solid 9-1 win for Cadwa, only Terri-Ann Nolan's win against Steve Graham saving a 10-0 whitewash. Wav Lab C v Wav Lab B, a good 9-1 win for the C team Paul Morgan's win against Lee Farley saving a whitewash for the C team. Maghull A v Marconi B, a good away win for Marconi 4-6, Tony Mullanally being MOM for Marconi winning all 3 of his games.

Week 12. Har House C v Cadwa A, a solid win for CADWA only "Eric" Chan winning one for HH, Rod McPherson having hard luck with all his 3 singles going to 5 but losing all in the 5th. Police B v Maghull A, a good win for the police 6-4 with Terri-Ann Nolan being MOM

winning all her 3 singles. Bootle YM A v Wav Lab B, another solid win for Bootle 8-2, with again Alan Chase, Bootle being MOM winning all 4 of his games. Wav Lab B v Bath St D, a tightly contested match ending with honours even 5-5, Marconi B v Sefton Park, a good away win for Sefton Park 2-8 with Alan Davis again MOM winning all 4 of his games.

Week 13. Bootle YM B v Wav Lab B, a solid 8-2 win for Bootle both Eddy Preston & Shakil Malik winning all their singles. Sefton v Police B, a good home win for Sefton 7-3, Alan Davis again MOM for Sefton winning all 4 of his games. Maghull A v Har. House C, a solid away win for Har. House 2-8, Rod McPherson MOM winning all 4 of his games. Bath St D v Bootle YM A, a good win for the YM 4-6 Colin Owens, Bath St, played well to beat both Alan Chase & Ted Birch.

Week 14 Bootle YMB V CADWA A A good away win for CADWA 4-6 Paul Evans being MOM winning all his 4 games 1 being against Shak Malik which he won in 3 strait games. Wav Lab B V Bootle YM A A strong away win for Bootle 2-8 with Alan Chase & Ted Birch both MOM, both winning all 4 of these games. Wav Lab C V Marconi B A strong win for Wav Lab 10-0. John McCann being unlucky for Marconi losing 2 of his 3 games in 5 sets. Police C V Police B A good win for the C team 6-4 Terri Nolan being WOM winning her 3 singles. Sefton V HH A strong win for HH 2-8. John Hughes taking MOM winning all his 4 games. Bootle YM B V CADWA A A good away win for CADWA 4-6 Paul Evans Taking MOM winning all 4 of his matches, the best being him against Shakil Malik coming back from 10-4 down in the first set to win 10-12 and then taking the next 2 sets. Mike H.

Division 4

Just over half way through the season, and all hands are now known, Aces **Arriva_1st** were well ahead of the King and Queen, **Police'D** were 2nd, being challenged by **CADWA'B**, and the Jack, **Bath_Street'E** were trying to get 4th spot in their own right. There was a tight pack of 5 teams interchanging spots weekly. **Wavertree_Labour'D** and **Maghull'B** were joking around trying to drop the other into the relegation zone and **Sefton_Park'B** looked bust.



Doug Baker

Against **BSM'E** Ted's replacement Barry Davies surprised winning his two versus Brian Hornby and Graham Rollinson, coming from 2 down against Brian after losing the 2nd 12/14, Derek Scotland also came from two down against Mal Kent to drop just 10 points in the next 3 games, Derek bt Keith, Larry bt Graham and Rollo bt Keith (all in 3) to own the top half of the card. Graham Oates took Brian after a close first set, and wunderkind Barry teamed

with Keith to win a tough 2nd doubles,

Larry Stone had beaten Mal in 4 in the first match on, and won his 2nd to secure a 6:4 win.

Best individual results... Derek taking on Neil Jennings (12/10 in't 4th) or two toughies in one night v John Gratton & Dave McMahon, for Larry that could be

I present you, after much research my order for the period weeks 7 to 14.

Pos. 1 Arriva North West First (P7 W6 D1 L0 F53 Av7.5)

Undeafated despite playing two championship challengers.

beating Jeff Pye (11/9 in't 5th). Harry, the hero at **Police'D'** but also beating Robbie Puddifer in 5. Graham beating Alvin (in 5 after slipping up in the 4th 10/12) & Francis. Brian defeating both Sefton's l'ans.

3 CADWA 'B' (P6 W4 D0 L2 F44 Av7.3)

Biggest movers from 10th to 3rd, there's been excellent results, e.g. 10-Nil at **Arriva'A'** and 9:1 over CADWA'C', through these matches Ian Burrows didn't drop a game till he got to **Sefton_Park'B'**, Ian Wood gave him a start taking the first from deuce, but then Ian ran in 3 games to 5, Robbie went one better taking Ian to 5 losing 9/11 in the 5th, something he repeated against Pete Roberts. Ian Lunt also got startled by Ian Findon, losing the first 2 10/12, in the last match Fred beat George in 5 abetted by a sneaky-squeaky 13/11 3rd game to save the whitewash.

Downside has been 6:4 loses to **BSM'E'** and **Police'D'**. Pete and George lost both their singles (Ted & Mal / Mal & Graham), Ian B had an impeccable 3 straight win over Ted, and John did for Graham. Against **Police'D'** singles were shared, Joe beating Pete (in 3 with two 12/10s) & Ian B (in 5 from 1-2). George records "How nice it was to see two well mannered lads Joe & Sam. The game hinged on the doubles with Police taking both, good wins; Peter against Sam, Joe against Ian, close game, Sam v George (*Sam's*)".

2 Merseyside Police 'D' (P6 W5 D1 L0 F42 Av7.0)

Arriva 1st was a very close affair, 4 games to 5, only one over in 3. Derek opened v. Sam, who amazed winning in 5 (11/8), then Joe beat Larry in 4, Graham bested Alan_C in 4 and Larry levelled with a nail biting 3:2 win over Jeff, Joe came from 2:1 down to beat Derek. After Jeff beat Graham the pressure was on Harry to beat Sam to prevent their first defeat, Harry started well, but then Sam took games 2 & 3, Harry's prowess took the next two 11/8, Harry, the visitors hero, undefeated in singles and doubles. Joe and Sam won 4 out of 5 of their combined matches, proving themselves in the toughest match of the season.

Sefton'B' 10-0, though both Alans went to 5 (v Fred & Ian Wood) and their doubles versus the l'ans did too. The game against their 'A' team could have gone the same way but for El Del, Derek Traynor, firstly having a remarkable 3 straights win over Joe, /8, /9 13/11 and then using two games from deuce to beat Sam in 4.

4 Bath Street Marine 'E' (P7 W5 D1 L1 F39 Av5.6)

Only 1 loss, a creditable 4-6 to **Arriva_1st**, then running up 5 solid 6-4 wins. Mal had his best night with CADWA'B', beating both Peter and George, Ted beat Pete in 4 with 3 close games, Keith helped beating John in 5, as Graham did, beating George in 4. Mal & Keith beat Ian & John 11/9 in't 5th. The **WavLab'D'** game didn't go so well, they all won 1 – lost 1. Young Michael

Evans got the night off to a flying start with a win over Graham Oates, Colin Fyles was on fire beating Ted & Mal both in 4, Andy Bird beat Keith in 4 but saw Ted come back to win in 5. A 13/11 5th game by Colin & Andy was significant in the draw.

Paul Oakes was in for the match against **Marconi'C'** and won his two, in 4 v Frank then teasing Ken 11/9 in't 5th after losing the 4th /3. Last game; v CADWA'C' 6:4, Ted and Billy Clayton won their singles, both doubles went to 5, one apiece.

6 Marconi 'C' (P7 W4 D0 L3 F37 Av5.3)

John Gratton and Dave McMahon won their singles to add to the doubles to beat **Arriva'A'** 6:4, despite Wacek winning his two. Five games went to 5 v **Police'D'**, 4:1 in Police's favour, Sam had both his in 5, delighted for overcoming John_G 12/10, but disappointed losing to Dave_Mc 9/11. Alan_F beat Dave_B 11/8 in't 5th and Frank 12/10 in 4, Frank improved against Alan_C, but lost out in 5. By the time of their next game to **Arriva_1st** the Dave's had been reordered, four games went to 5, all involving the Dave's with a win each; Dave_Mc over Harry after bagging the 1st 12/10 and Dave B over Graham, Derek & Larry won singles. John Gratton had his best night at **BSM'E'** beating Ted & Mal (both in 5). **Maghull'B'** was the best night for Dave_B and Ken who were undefeated (Karmic Ken frustrating Brian Gregory 12/10 in't 5th). Frank will remember the brace he got from Findon & Pierce, the only Marconi-ite to do so v **Sefton_Park'B'**.

9 CADWA 'C' (P7 W3 D0 L4 F33 Av4.7)

8:2 at **Sefton'A'** Joel Webb winning his two but Dave wining John O'Sullivan in 5. John Gratton had a 'mare' losing to Josef and John 11/13 in't 5th. I lost a remarkable 3rd game v Frank Proffitt 24/26. Dave Bradley had a 'dream' night, firstly beating Josef and then myself, both in 5, Dave McMahon secured victory with his 2nd win over John 12/10 in't 3rd. At **WavLab'D'**, Josef had his nightmare losing to Colin & Andy – who I surprisingly beat 12/10 in't 5th, Paul won his two and John ran in 13/11 victor in the 5th v Dave Williams to achieve the win. Versus **Manweb** Neil was too strong winning the 1st game v Josef 12/10 and the 5th 11/6, Josef & I both beat Alvin (me elated), Paul won two and John beat Francis in the last game (after a 15/12 opener) to secure the win, Paul saved a whitewash beating George Higham after losing to Ian Lunt (11/13) in't 5th.

7 Arriva North West 'A' (P7 W3 D1 L3 F32 Av4.6)

Five close games, a good 7:3 win at **Sefton'A'** but a 0-10 when visited by **Cadwa'B'**, at least they beat their 'C' team 6:4, though Kristof (over 5) and Pavel couldn't beat Josef, they all won one, Wacek with his spin won both v

John_O and Paul who beat Janusz. **BSM'E'** visited and won 6:4, Kristof beat Mal 12/10 in't 4th and lost out to Ted over 5, Pavel lost the 1st two games to Ted & Keith to the same scores, won the 3rd but lost the 4th. Wacek made it a bad night for Mal winning 3 straight and beating Graham as did Janusz, both doubles went to **BSM'E'** in 5 & 4 game sets.

5 Manweb (P7 W2 D0 L5 F30 Av4.3)

Hosting **Police'D'**, Neil beat Sam 13/11 in the 1st game and 12/10 in the 5th! he started the same with Joe, winning the 1st 12/10, but Joe went up a gear and won the next 3. Alvin was ahead against Joe but was overpowered in games 4 & 5, he didn't let the lead slip against Alan French to win 12/10. Francis had a good win over Alan Cameron, as Arthur did over Alan_F – 11/9 in 5th, poor Alan had the distinction of losing both singles in the 5th game by 2 points, all singles went to at least 4 games but Police were strong in the doubles. Combating **Arriva_1st**, Larry had no trouble with Ben and Alvin, Derek had one close game with Ben and dropped a game versus Neil, Neil went on to beat Harry, Graham bested Alvin in 5 despite losing two games 10/12, and Derek & Larry kept coming back against Ben & Neil to win a closely contested doubles. At **BSM'E'** Ben & Neil won all their singles, including both beating Mal 11/6 in't 5.

10 Wavertree Labour 'D' (P6 W1 D2 L3 F24 Av4.0)

One important win, 7:3 against relegation rivals **Maghull'B'**, draws against **Arriva'A'** and surprisingly **BSM'E'**, provided much needed points. It was the rock, Stan Clarke, who earned the praises at **Cadwa'B'** – “Stan's the man! vintage performance beating Peter (11/9 in't 5th) & George (18/16! in't 5th) – great to see this gentleman's guile and attacking shots.” Andy Bird had a tremendous win over Derek Traynor preventing a whitewash when they turned up one short to **Sefton'A'**. Unbeaten Colin Fyles helped earn a draw at **Arriva'A'**, Andy also won his two, coming from 2 games down in each set against Kristof and Wacek denting his impressive averages (16/14 in't 5th after losing 1st game 13/15). Stan beat Janusz 13/11 in't 5th and got to 2-1 against Pavel but couldn't win from deuce in the next two games. **Maghull'B'** was a typical bottom of the table scrap, but played in good humour, Andy had a brace over the McGanity's and Michael Evans won both his singles and helped Dave to win their doubles, Andy&Stan lost a 5gamer 11/13 v Harry&Steve, Stan & Dave added a point to win 7:3.

8 Sefton Park 'A' (P6 W1 D0 L5 F22 Av3.7)

Well done Derek, beating Joe in 3 and Sam in 4 – the key being winning three deucers, reserves Robbie & Fred both beat **Manweb's** Arthur Harrison for their only points. Bar Robbie's win over Janusz, it was the doubles

that got the points v **Arriva'A'**, ironically the doubles cost them at **Arriva_1st**, as everyone won one lost one in the singles, Robbie, first on versus Graham won 11/9 in't 4th, Larry beat Ray Jones 14/12 in't 4th who latterly beat Graham in 4 11/9 again!, Mike Perry did really well coming from 2 down to beat Larry. Harry went to 5 in both his matches, losing to Dave_C 10/12 in't 5th and lastly he survived a resurgent Rob to secure the 6:4 win. Derek “Cruise King” Traynor only played in two matches and they've used reserves, sometimes 2, from the 'B' team, in fact there was only one match when they had their top 4 out.

11 Maghull 'B' (P5 W0 D0 L5 F13 Av2.6)

Even though their home base has been improved(?), they achieved better results on the road, averaging 1 point-per-game at home and 3.7 ppg away! The bottom half of the card at **Manweb** was a happy hunting ground as Francis & Arthur succumbed, John McLoughlin beat them both, after losing his 1st game to Francis he turned it round starting with a 12/10, Francis suffered worse at the hands of Steve McGanity seeing a 2 game lead evaporate, Loon had a major tussle with Arthur over the course of 5 games, 12/10 in the 5th. With **Marconi'C'** Loon and Brian took the only points off Frank Proffitt, both in 4, Loon just at 15/13. Better luck with the 5 gamers at **Arriva'A'**, as each of their 4 points was from a 5 gamer, Phil Christie /8 over Pavel, John had a topsy turvy battle with Wacek, and just missed a 4th game victory 10/12, he won the decider 11/4 and did the same in the next game with Janusz.

12 Sefton Park 'B' (P5 W1 L4, F11 Av2.2)

Nil-ten from **Police'D'** and **Arriva_1st** does not tell the full story, Fred dropped the first two v Joe 12/10 and lost to Alan_F in 5 when he could've won in 4 (11/13), Ian Wood also could've beaten Alan_C in 4 if he hadn't lost the 3rd 11/13. The Ians v Alans battle in 2nd doubles swung back and forth till it was lost in 5. Robbie just lost in 4 to Sam with middle games of 15/13 and 12/14, Robbie made a mark against Arriva's Larry with a 5 gamer, losing the 3rd 10/12 and Ian Findon was two up on Harry. Their perseverance was rewarded with an excellent 7:3 win over **Manweb**, Robbie & Fred won both their singles and doubles, they both beat Ben in 4 and won their other singles in 5 (Fred 13/11 in 5th v Francis). Ian Findon won the first two games from an unlucky Francis by two points and also bettered Arthur, the two Ians went in as first doubles and took the 4th 16/14 to credibly force a 5th game with Ben & Arthur, that left Robbie & Fred to beat Alvin & Francis, Robbie's best night came when beating **Marconi'C'**'s Dave's; Bradley & McMahon.

Doug B.

Division 5

Paul Oakes

Hello, sorry to have missed the deadline for the last digest, but I was unavoidably out of the country several times around the deadline and was unable to write more than part of the report in time. There's no point in using the predictions I wrote for that report as a look at the current League table is a more reliable indication of likely final result, so I'll just get on with the games.

Week 7 (mid-November) was obviously an elaborate joke, with derby matches at Bootle, Bath Street and Maghull. **Bootle**

D is selected as a training team, with Roly and 3 youngsters, this gives them a low-pressure introduction to the league with no expectation of winning anything, and a chance to move into a higher team once they're ready. **Bootle C** on the other hand has spent the last few years avoiding promotion (older readers might think of Liverpool pre-Shankly), and are going to be in a competition for 3rd place (says me) with CADWA, there's always the possibility of 3 teams getting promoted, so this isn't going through the motions, and BSM F's faltering form gives them a chance of second place. The loss of Joe Rees is a blow, but a very experienced side can handle that, as they showed beating the youth team 8-2, the 2 points scored by the old geezer who writes this rag. Hard lines for Josh, losing 13-11 to Jim Geddes in the fifth by serving into the end of the table (no biting your bat Josh).

Bath Street's derby was also 8-2, Colin beating Albert in 5 and a doubles win for Colin and Keith – a satisfactory result for the contenders with some close matches and 2 points for the G team. At **Maghull** things were less clear, the Ds beating the Cs 6-4. Maghull C are one of the relegated sides (with Linacre), while the Ds are the combined Maghull Division 5 sides from last year, less that father who made up the numbers in his Daughter's team. So we have a J McLoughlin (don't know which) winning and losing 5-setters, while A Hutchings (I'm prepared to guess this one) also gets a singles point. When you lose to Amy (this will become a frequent event) you can console yourself you've been beaten by the 17th best player in the country (in her age group), which is two places above Kevin Dolder in his age group (no unnecessary comments please). Brian Gregory at 1 wins twice, and with Jeanette this could be a useful side, while the C team after a few tough years have found a level where they'll win some, lose some.



Huntsman Wood also show they'll be in the chasing pack with an 8-2 win over a **Wavertree E** without Gordon. Joe Rees at 3 is an unpleasant shock for a lot of number 2 players hoping for an easy point, the other players I've not seen, and in the cases of Joe W and Jess W I don't even know their names – it's so demanding to fill out the name boxes I suppose.

Arriva B have lost Larry Stone (predictably) and are going to have to wait

for another Polish international bus driver to start working before they can expect to join the other teams in Div. 4 (although the firsts won't be there for long either – it's very pleasing when teams who've annihilated you turn out to be too good for Division 4 as well). A 6-4 loss to Marconi is reasonable, **Marconi D** seem to be run the same way as Bootle D mostly, but I've had the joy of facing Trevor Owen playing this team, so they can be quite strong.

CADWA are the other team who could be 3rd (or better), but Ged's availability – he's away at teacher training, so he only plays Friday night and holiday games – is a big loss. 8-2 against Sefton Park isn't a surprise, the 2 are wins for Arthur Pierce at 2, showing he's worth more than your typical Spanish striker, Arthur's tricks too much for Steven over 5 sets. A second doubles with 114 points scored between Ged and Steven v Mike and Arthur was exhibition stuff Ged tells me in the occasionally used space on the back of the cards. Jack, comfortable at 4 this season, wins his youth player tournament against Eric Young.

Linacre get a game next week, and are surprised by **Huntsman Wood** who run off with 6 points. Joseph W wins twice, and the 3 Rees brothers win 1 each and a doubles for a surprise defeat for the leaders, most matches taking 4 sets, Harry, Alex and Charlie all winning a game.

In the shock of the season **CADWA** beat **BSM F** 10-0, only 2 matches going past 3 sets. If they had got their player order right this would be a season highlight, but playing Damien and Joud out of order costs 4 point (and £3, insultingly). Meanwhile **Sefton Park** submit a proposal for a 7th Division via the unconventional method of the scorecard, Arthur Pearce with 3 points the sole score against **Wavertree**.

Maghull D have Jeanette at 3 (nasty!), but 10-0 is still hard work. **Bootle D** might like to forget that one. At least the C team beat Marconi 9-1, winning 5 of the 6 deuce games (no stamina, these kids). Another upset as **Maghull C** beat **Huntsman Wood** 9-1, perhaps to comments of “I’ve got a better table tennis room at home”). The usual HW team of Joe and Jess Whitto (or Witto – varies on the card) and Joe and Steve Rees, so this is a great night for Steve, Jim A, Alan and Jim D.

Andy Tucker of **Bootle C** takes Ned of **BSM G** to 14-12 in the fifth. This is a great performance, Ned originally expected to play occasional Division 4 games, but a fairly regular place in the G Team has opened, giving a lot of players a hard night’s work, Andy also lost in 5 to Colin, whose steady play is markedly more effective than last year.

CADWA draw with **Wavertree**, showing that losing Ged is a problem, especially when replacements aren’t players who are playing in the league every week for other teams at the club, a luxury Bath St F and Bootle C enjoy, Gordon against Joud was probably a spectacle, with chopping contests occasionally interrupted by a Joud missile.

The next week Barbara manages to make her game against Femi go to 5 sets, then holds her nerve to win 11-9 (with much shrieking and cries of “stupid woman” no doubt) as **BSM F** beat **Wavertree** 10-0 in 32 games to keep the pace hot at the top. Slipping slightly, **Linacre** have a tough game at **CADWA**, and win 6-4, Harry’s 2 singles wins the difference, gymnastic displays from the all-action Alex and Joel thrown in for free.

Danny gets the sole point of the night for **Arriva** against **Bootle C**, who rest Steve Daniels before the big European game next week (I could be getting confused here), beating an injured Gary Williamson. To be fair to Arriva, playing at Bootle in December is probably similar in climate terms for them to The West Indies at Old Trafford in April.

Maghull C follow a 9-1 win at **Huntsman** with another at **Sefton Park**, Eric predictably bamboozling someone for the point, 18 points in 2 weeks is Championship scoring, so they must be annoyed at not playing the following week, 3 weeks later, as these were the last games of 2010.

Linacre show no mercy to Gordon Eric and Alex (Femi no-show), which gives them some space at the top as the other games split the points – Arriva’s 4 against **Maghull D** and **Bootle C**’s draw at **BSM F** the better performances, Albert and Barry winning their

games. **Bootle D**’s youngsters manage a superb 5-5 draw with **CADWA**, young Jack Higham and Roly collecting all the points. Meanwhile, the break ends **Maghull C**’s run of big wins, 5-5 at **Wavertree E** in a night with fifth set results of 14-12, 11-9, 12-10, and 5-11.

And now the big one – **Linacre v BSM F**. Surprisingly there’s no 5-set games, and Harry Nelson and Alex win twice to set up a 7-3 win for the leaders. At the other end of the table **Sefton Park** win their first game of the season, 7-3 against **Marconi**, it’s not nice to see a team struggling, I just hope the cricket pavilion was open for the celebration afterwards. **Bootle C** get 7 at **Maghull D** which might be more than expected, and Gary came back to beat Jeanette from 2 match points down *in the third!* **Huntsman Wood** win 8-2 at **BSM G**, with some guy called Georgeson playing his first game of the season – a 5 setter against a teenager probably not what he’d hoped for.

The end of January saw **CADWA** win 9-1 at **Marconi** with 8-11 and 10-12 (twice) wins in the 5th, Rob Davies inflicting two of these on Adrian McG(?). **Sefton Park** nearly win again, but are probably happy to get a draw at **BSM G** after being 5-2 down. **BSM F** continue to drop points, with Bill and Barry winning all their games in a 6-4 win at **Maghull D**, but losing ground to the competition, will Clayton demand a move to a club that matches his ambition on deadline day?

As he gets very little written in this digest, I’ll print Roly’s comments on **Bootle D - Wavertree E** as they come, “A very competitive match, but our youngsters still not happy coping with spin [they’re not alone - Paul] and cannot settle to playing their game; will come after first season is over. The longest game I have ever seen, Liam beat Alex 25-23, both had many chances to finish it, both recovering with great shots then losing the advantage with silly shots. Well played to the old soldier Ken Ray, virtually playing with one leg, for two good wins”. Match drawn.

As most of you are aware, I’m no longer playing in Division 5. This makes it hard to comment on games featuring players I’ve never seen – **Huntsman Wood** are a particular difficulty – so more than ever I appreciate the comments on the back of the cards to help with this report. Thanks to all who’ve written anything, especially Ged for his frequent comments, and I’ve used these notes whenever they’ve been given. If you feel your team hasn’t received enough coverage a few comments about the games will soon fix that.

Paul O.

A bit of white space left to fill, thanks to Tom Purcell for this explanation of ETTA Rules when competing against players with disabilities, in local leagues, please read, it may save disagreements later.

LOCAL LEAGUE GUIDE TO THE RULES OF DISABLED TABLE TENNIS

Like table tennis for able bodied persons there are the Laws of Table Tennis and the International Regulations relating to disabled table tennis players. The International Regulations do not concern local league players.

The Laws of Table Tennis as adopted by the English Table Tennis Association are compulsory when playing in Local Leagues. All players, including disabled players, must comply with the Laws. However, there are some special Laws relating to players in wheelchairs. Below is a summary of the Laws regarding disabled table tennis players:

STANDING DISABLED PLAYERS

No exceptions to the laws of table tennis with the exception that the umpire may relax the requirement for a good service (throwing the ball up at least 16cm from the palm of the hand) where he is satisfied that compliance is prevented by physical disability.

WHEELCHAIR PLAYERS

SINGLES PLAY

In Service the rally shall be a let:

- a) if the ball leaves the table by either of the wheelchair receiver's side lines (on one or more bounces)
- b) if the ball, after bouncing on the wheelchair receiver's side returns in the direction of the net
- c) if the ball comes to rest on the wheelchair receiver's side of the playing surface

If the wheelchair receiver strikes the ball, in service, before it crosses a sideline or takes a second bounce on his or her side of the playing surface, the service shall be considered good and no let shall be called.

If the umpire believes that the server is deliberately serving fast let services (as described above), towards a

wheelchair receiver, before serving correctly, this should be interpreted as gamesmanship and a foul service should be called by the umpire

The umpire may relax the requirements for a good service (throwing the ball up at least 16cm from the palm of the hand) if he is satisfied that compliance is prevented by a physical disability.

DOUBLES PLAY

In Service the rally shall be a let:

- a) if the ball after bouncing on the wheelchair receiver's side returns in the direction of the net, or
- b) if the ball comes to rest on the wheelchair receiver's side of the playing surface.

If the wheelchair receiver strikes the ball before it takes a second bounce on his or her side of the playing surface, the service shall be considered good and no let shall be called.

In doubles, the server shall first make a good service according to the Laws of Table Tennis, with the above mentioned exceptions, and the receiver shall make a good return, and thereafter either player of a wheelchair pair may make good returns.

WHEELCHAIR PLAYER TOUCHING TABLE WITH HAND

A wheelchair player may touch the table with the racket hand to restore his or her balance only after a shot has been played, and if the table does not move. The player is not allowed to use the table as an extra support before touching the ball.

Similar to able bodied players a wheelchair player commits a fault if he touches the table with his free hand during a rally.

Tom Purcell
International Umpire

Something completely unrelated to Table Tennis, a report in the Daily Telegraph, on the subject of 'protecting your property, it could happen to anyone, at any time, anywhere.

Police in Surrey have told residents to stop putting wire mesh on their garden shed windows, because they could be sued if a burglar injured himself, that it was 'dangerous' and could lead to criminals injuring themselves and claiming compensation.

The Police go on to advise a 'commonsense' approach like fitting good quality locks and bolts, and not to resort to home made devices which could cause injury. So the bucket of water on the roof tied to the door with string wouldn't be acceptable as you would finish up with a bill for replacing damaged clothes.

It would be laughable if the possibilities weren't so serious

But then the papers are full of similar legal niceties that have trapped the unwitting!!

11 UP

**Another in the series of interviews of well known players
by Paul Gittens,
this one from Sefton Park's Eric Young**

1. *Where did it all start?*

It was in 1958. A young man called at my home carrying out a council survey. We soon established that we had a common interest in TT and chatted for hours. He invited me down to his club Victoria Park and as they say, the rest is history. The young man was Eddie Cameron.

2. *Best Player played against?*

Every player I play seems to be better than me. I can recall in the 60's being asked by Eddie Clein to play reserve for Liverpool Jewish against YMCA in the dizzie heights of the 1st division and being impressed by the high standard. I remember on the night expressing the view that the higher division you play in, the less good looking. I was never asked again.

3. *Best win?*

Blimey, I struggle to remember my last win never mind my best win .I sometimes catch the opposing team referring to me as 'the banker.' (well I hope it's 'banker' - my hearing's never been great) .Although my wins are far and few between, I do however remember being pleased with a win over Alan Cameron from the Police team .

4. *Worst defeat?*

How long have we got? There are literally too many to name . I never see myself as being defeated . They just get to 11 before I do .

5. *Best player to watch ?*

Has to be my team mate Arthur Pierce . Has a lovely orthodox attacking style and really consistent.

6. *Funniest table tennis moment ?*

Whenever I'm playing.

7. *Who's your T.T. hero & why ?*

Again , my mate Arthur Pierce . Plays the sport in the right spirit and is a real character .

8. *Is there life other table tennis ?*

Both my wife June and I love ballroom dancing and going on cruises. When we're on the dance floor we always receive favourable comments about our unique moves . I don't know

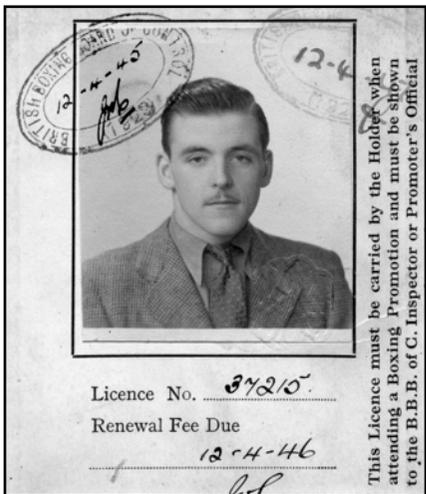


Photo taken by John Henshaw in the Liverpool Jewish tennis pavilion in Dumbabin Road 1980



1960 saw Eric doing a Burt Lancaster look alike for a re-run of the Classic ' From Here to Eternity ' (only for the oldies)

whether my dancing has helped my TT or vice versa. Perhaps everyone should warm up with a 'Salsa 'before a match . I think wearing 'glitter shirts' may be a step too far.

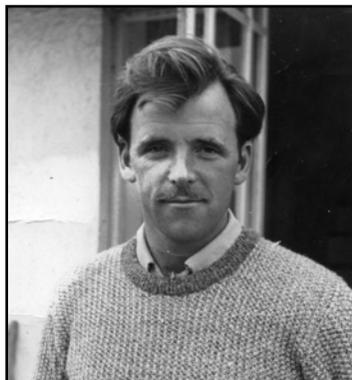


Eric's Professional British Boxing Board of Control licence, circa 1946, before the punches started landing. (is there a look of Clarke Gable !)

9. Tell me something that would surprise me ?

I was a professional boxer during the 40's . I can remember topping the bill at Wigan Baths against a local boxer Wally Burgess . I knocked

him down in the 1st round but he recovered and went on to win it on points . At that time I was also one of the top roller skater's in Liverpool, performing in front of hundreds . My other love was water skiing which I



Eric mid life, got out of boxing without any damage, concentrating on the safer indoor sport of table tennis.

continued to do well into my 50's . Having bought a boat, my sons Karl and Jon and I use to travel weekends to Conway Bay. Both my lads continue to ski to a high standard.



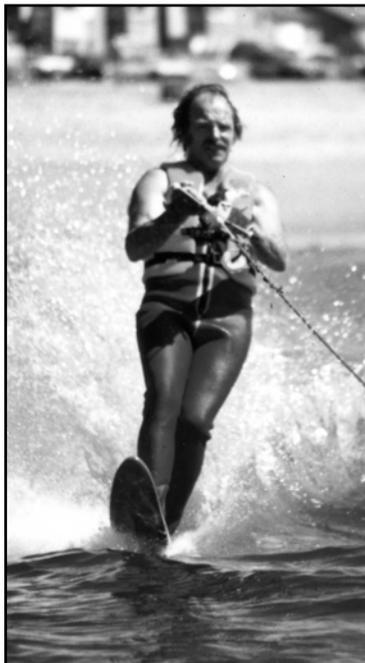
Eric as you will see him now at the other end of the table, but don't let him talk you out of the game!!

10. What changes in the game would you like to see ?

The introduction of a 6th Division . Then I might win a few games

11. Coaching tip ? Don't watch me !!

Eric hasn't given his age away, but in the December 2004 Digest Aigburth TT Club wrote to the Digest celebrating Eric's 80th birthday, so a quick count would put him in his 87th year, and still playing a 'mean' game, keep it up Eric, and hopefully your mates at Sefton Park can write to me celebrating your 90th!!
Editor



1979 saw Eric churning up the waters of Conway Bay with Deganwy in the background, before the days of the Jetskis.

OBITUARIES

Jack Power - Cadwa

'I would just like to thank all those people who sent such kind words of comfort to me following the death of my father. I received cards, emails and letters from many fellow TT players and every single one of them was greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank all those who were able to attend my fathers funeral. I know some members could not be present for personal reasons. My dad would have been extremely proud at the level of support we all received. Thank you all once again.'

Mike Power.



Norman Cook - Bath Street

Norman Cooke a very active member of Bath St through the 60s, 70s, and 80s passed away on 19th Jan 2011. He had not been in the best of health in his latter years, but joined in the Wednesday social mornings, and brought along his grandsons to watch them play.

I am not sure when Norman joined the club; all such records were lost when founder member Alex Gould passed away some 6 years ago. I do remember however he was a good clubman; we played together in the same team for two or three seasons. Norman did not suffer fools gladly and was not afraid to give advice etc. when we were partners in the doubles, telling me in no uncertain terms "

You played the wrong shot there". He also enjoyed his bowls and played indoor bowls in the winter for Brownmoor Park, the short mat suited him, and I remember losing to him.

Just a few weeks ago I met him in the supermarket and he seemed very sharp and we had a good chat, It was quite a shock to learn of his passing so suddenly. We even, in the late 90s coaxed him to try a few matches which he tried for a while but had to retire eventually, he was also for a time, a member of the club committee. He will always be remembered and we have his photograph in the club photo gallery of days gone by.

Ron Georgeson
President Bath St Marine Table Tennis Club.
1st Feb 2011.



Eugene Berger - Bath Street

Eugene Berger a long time member of Bath St Club has also passed away, coincidentally on the same day as Norman Cooke, on the 19th Jan. I believe he was in his mid 80's.

Eugene never looked his age and never changed his appearance in all the years I knew him. In his earlier career at the club he was a hard man to beat, relying on a strong defensive chop on both wings, and coming in with a killer backhand if anything loose was presented. You had to have patience to beat him, and he defeated many a young player with his style. His last matches were in the late 90s and he was still winning his games.

He was Polish and was a very young man in Poland when the country was invaded by the Nazis. He lost his parents and joined the resistance movement and recounted many of his involvements in the resistance. I heard the same tales many times, but never quite the same on each occasion. He settled in Manchester and played local league there, coming to Bath St about mid 60's. His command of English was very good, quietly spoken and I have never heard of anyone since who could say in a few sentences what it would take somebody else many minutes.

He suffered a stroke a few years ago, but made a good recovery and still came down for a knock on Wednesday mornings. The senior members adored him and he got many a hug from Barbara. Sadly he could not make the Xmas party last Dec, having sold his house he went to live with his son. Eugene did not like umpiring at matches and sometimes it was inevitable he would have to score especially in doubles, he hated it and I am sure he made deliberate mistakes, knowing we would not ask him again. He again is on the wall in Bath St's picture archives.

Ron Georgeson
President Bath St Marine Table Tennis Club.
Feb 3rd 2011.



Peter Usuf Rumjahn 1918 - 2010



Peter was born on 22nd September 1918 in Liverpool. He was the first son of Dr. Jaffir and Amy Rumjahn.

At the age of 14 his father was sent from his home in Hong Kong to Liverpool with specific instructions that he be educated at Liverpool Institute and then Liverpool University qualifying as either a Dentist, Doctor or as an Accountant. He graduated as a Doctor and after also gaining an MD he practised as a GP in Walton. He was held in high esteem and was also recognised as a prolific sportsman both at school and university gaining his “blues” in ice hockey, hockey, athletics and cricket amongst other sports.



This love of sport was inherited by Peter and also by his younger brothers Ted and Ronnie.

The family home was the Bingle in Mill Lane, West Derby, until the property was requisitioned by the army because it was situated at such a high point and it had a tower. When the house was demolished the site became the present netball and tennis courts at Holly Lodge School.

The family then moved to 77 Queen’s Drive, Walton, which was also the surgery together with the practice in Roby at the home of Ted and his wife Kay.

All three brothers attended the Liverpool Institute, following in their father’s footsteps, and together with their father all gained numerous sporting honours. Until two years ago Peter always attended the Liobians annual dinner.

After school Peter was called up to serve the country in the King’s Own regiment. He was stationed at Lancaster and then at Carlisle. Middle brother Ted joined Peter, mainly to strengthen the forces’ sports teams.

Peter was a weapons training instructor and therefore stayed throughout the war in the UK, at one stage training the newly established R.A.F. regiment on the East coast.

After the war Peter trained as an ophthalmic optician and was employed by St Paul’s Eye Hospital in the sight testing and dispensing department, progressing to Head of the department. He was involved in testing post-operative patients and he saw the development of eye surgery with increasing success rates over the years. On his retirement after 32 years the Liverpool Echo paid tribute to his testing of 198,000 patients.

Peter still lived with his parents long after his father’s retirement, faithfully looking after them at their home in Huyton. His leisure time was dominated by sport. He played hockey for Lancashire and the North. He regularly played for the Northern Club, being a member for 72 years and he was made a Life Member after 50 years’ membership. After his playing days he took up the whistle, umpiring matches all over the country. Apparently the pavilion flag is flying at half mast, as a tribute to him.

He played tennis for Liverpool and will be remembered as a member of Vagabonds and Fairlawn.

His first notable honours, at a young age, were in table tennis representing Liverpool, Lancashire, the North and gaining international honours representing England. He succeeded in many tournaments all over the country and in Northern Ireland. He played alongside his brothers representing one of the oldest clubs in the Liverpool & District League, Rafters. After his competitive playing he also captained the Liverpool City team, in a non-playing capacity and was also a Vice President of the League.

He was passionate about his cricket, playing for Northern and for the famous Rabbits team, set up by his father, at Huyton Cricket Club along with brother Ted.

After his playing days Peter avidly continued to follow sport and eventually he became a member of West Derby Golf Club, where his golf, some would say, was “rubbish”. However, he did score a hole in one at the age of 75 but unfortunately this was not in a competition.

Peter met Doris in his tennis “hey days” at Fairlawn. Their first official “date” was a trip to Didsbury to the Northern Tennis Tournament, where they witnessed Rod Laver’s first appearance playing in the UK. Peter was considered a “good catch” because he had a car to drive there!

Eventually he married Doris in 1979 and Peter was very proud of his stepdaughter, Deirdre, whom he encouraged in her career as an ophthalmic surgeon. Deirdre’s first work experience was, in fact, at St. Paul’s with Peter.

After their wedding he joined Doris living in Melwood Drive ever since, and they spent many happy days at the golf club.

Peter’s penchant for Morris Minor cars is well acknowledged, with his proud ownership of many over the years and his kit model car still sits in the lounge, in pride of place

Despite 90 years of rude health Peter latterly suffered greatly from a very rare skin condition, Bulous Phemigoed, which proved very debilitating and greatly restricted his mobility. He spent the last three months in hospital, receiving excellent care and died peacefully in his sleep.

He will be missed by so many, including nephews Les and Jeff, myself his niece and our families.

Everyone will agree that Peter was a true gentleman, respected and loved by so many.

Jan Davies (nee Rumjahn)

Peter Ross 1941 - 2010



Peter was born and raised in the Crosby area and is survived by his Mother Sadie, his Wife of 46 years Celia, his Daughters Joanne, Susan and Jane and 6 Grandchildren.

From an early age he always displayed a love of sport playing football, cricket, tennis and table tennis during his school years. This love of sport continued on leaving school, playing football and cricket for the school old boys' teams for many years before becoming involved on the club committee and the organisational aspects of the club teams. He also took up crown green bowls playing with his Father in both the Liverpool and Crosby leagues. Golf also took up a lot of his time, practising at every opportunity to get his handicap down to a very respectable 11.

Upon leaving school he started work for the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance as a clerical officer and after a few years attained promotion to the supervisory grades. Within the department they had a sports association named HASSRA (Health and Social Security Association). Peter, because of his immense involvement in various sporting aspects (playing and organising) was offered the full time role of North West sports and social secretary in 1970 and continued in this role for 26 years. The role encompassed organising teams, matches and competitions on behalf of the North West region for every conceivable sport. He was totally involved in a role he loved and travelled the country to support and organise his teams. He was particularly proud of managing the regional football, ladies hockey and netball teams in winning numerous national competitions. His success in HASSRA led to him increasing his workload taking on a similar role with the National Civil Service Sports Council (CSSC). In this role amongst other responsibilities he became Manager of the national civil service athletics team which included many international athletes. He was awarded certificates of merit by both national HASSRA and CSSC **“in recognition of highly meritorious and sustained service of outstanding quality given generously”**. These are the top awards for anyone employed by these bodies and believe me were fully deserved.

When he was a young man he was involved in the music scene on Merseyside and for a time was Comperé at the Kingsway Club in Southport. Amongst a galaxy of stars he introduced on stage were the Beatles. This was after their return from Hamburg and just before they took off nationally. However, musically his great idol was Buddy Holly, he and Celia went to see him on his one and only English tour when Buddy appeared at the Philharmonic Hall. It is fair to say, Peter probably became his biggest fan, he must have recordings of every song ever recorded by Buddy usually in triplicate on vinyl, tape and CD. He and Celia have been to see the stage version of the Buddy Holly story on at least a dozen occasions at various venues throughout the country.

Before joining Bath St table tennis club in 1976 he played for Brownmoor Park TTC, after a few years at Bath St he became involved in assisting Alec Gould in the running of the club and eventually took on the role of Chairman, a role he continued up to his death. He was very much instrumental in keeping the club afloat and negotiating for the use of our current premises at Marine FC when the old club premises closed. Probably his proudest moment in table tennis was when he partnered Ken Jackson to win a national over 60's veterans' tournament.

His other great love was Liverpool FC for whom he had a season ticket back in their second division days, he had become very disillusioned with their playing standards in recent years and for the last couple of years had advocated for the sacking of Rafa Benitez to be replaced by Kenny Dalglish. Knowing Peter's force of personality perhaps he persuaded someone up there to grant his wishes or is it just coincidence that “King Kenny” returned to the role of Manager within weeks of Peter's death? I know which version I prefer to believe.

Rest in Peace Peter.

Ian McElwee

Bath St. Marine TT Club



ETTA INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION UPDATE

18th January 2011

Please find attached an update on the processing of Individual Membership applications and news of further developments to the system. We recognise that there have been a number of difficulties for Leagues, Clubs and individuals with the registration process for which we sincerely apologise. Every effort has been made to solve the problems encountered and we welcome your continued patience and support in the coming months as the system is developed further.

Since the launch of IM Connect (the brand name for the new IM Customer Relationship Management system) in July 2010, we have processed 17500 Individual Membership applications. In addition, we have received electronic returns (Spreadsheets) from over 100 leagues, which will be processed later in January 2011. Including "Honorary Members" (free Associate membership for officials of Local leagues and Clubs, there are now just over 19,000 registered members of the ETTA being held on the new IM system.

Security technology has been added (19th November 2010) to the ETTA Connect website to give additional protection to the personal details held on the Connect system.

Membership cards will be produced for every member of the ETTA, except "Honorary" Associate Members. Membership cards last for a single season.

Membership Cards have been produced and despatched to over 2500 licensed players.

We have sent out nearly 400 cards to all Associate members who have applied so far.

We have produced and despatched cards direct to just under 12000 league players, who had applied direct to the ETTA, by the 17th December 2010. *Leagues which have returned electronic spreadsheets to the ETTA will be sent a 'bulk' consignment of membership cards for all other players for whom they have submitted affiliation fees to the ETTA. These cards will be sent out later this month. League Secretaries will receive cards for those players who have nominated that league as their Primary (or sole league) and have not registered direct with ETTA.*

You (as a League Secretary) will not receive any membership cards from the ETTA if you have asked all the players in your league to register direct with the ETTA and they have done so, successfully.

What will happen next?

All the League data received electronically will be uploaded, league by league, on to the IM Connect database. Once this work is complete, we (at the ETTA) will be able to audit the full list of ETTA members for the first time.

This audit will involve us checking league individual membership (IM) on a league by league basis, against AFF 2 returns and previous IR returns, to verify we have no "lost" IM records. This could lead to the following scenarios

A league has no Individual Member records on the IM Connect database – action on the ETTA to contact the League Secretary immediately to ascertain how IM records were being submitted i.e. a bulk return from the league or members asked to register direct to the ETTA.

A league has substantially fewer Individual Member records on the IM Connect database than the AFF 2 return would indicate or IR records submitted in previous years – action on the ETTA to contact the League Secretary immediately to ascertain how IM records were being submitted immediately i.e. a bulk return from the league or members asked to register direct to the ETTA.

A league has a membership quota which tallies (approx) with the AFF 2 return or previous IR returns – action on the ETTA to set up full access by the League Secretary to the data held for that league, by issuing a unique username and password for the Internet based Membership Manager (see details below) to the League Secretary, or by sending the League Secretary a spreadsheet of the details or a paper list of the Individual Membership for that League.

In each case above, the ETTA will work with and support the League Secretary to complete a precise IM audit of the League data, including additions, deletions and amendments to the data, by providing electronic and/or paper copies of each league's membership.

Future Developments

From early February 2011, League secretaries and other league officials (designated by the League Secretary) sharing the league username and password access information will be able to view and amend their own league player and associate membership data using an Internet based membership access route, which we are calling the "Membership Manager". This Membership Manager will show, for any league, all the players registered for that league irrespective of the method of affiliation. League Secretaries and their designates will have a unique username and password to access the Membership Manager. League Secretaries and their designates will **only** be able to view/amend IM records for members of their league.

An update audit now exists within the IM Connect system so that we can track and record changes to IM records – important when there is a variety of different sources of member record updates, e.g. the Individual Member, the League Secretary and the ETTA (when changes are taken by telephone and post).

Finally, the agreed league data held within the IM system will form the basis of the league data for the new season 2011/12. Further details of this will be sent later this season.

Any player missing from the list will not be affiliated for the current season (2010/11) and should not play in the league, until they pay their IM fees. However, existing and new players can still affiliate for the current season via the league or direct with the ETTA (online or by telephone) until 15th May 2011.

Further updates will follow over the remainder of the season and in preparation for the renewal of memberships for season 2011/12.

Schools Table Tennis

U 13 SEFTON TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

(after round 2 of fixtures)

GAMES

Pos		Pld.	Won	Lost	Diff.	Pts
1	Savio A	4	35	3	32	35
2	St Marys	4	27	13	14	27
3	Formby A	4	19	21	-2	19
4	Savio B	4	16	24	-8	16
5	Meols Cop	4	14	26	-12	14
6	Formby 'B'	4	7	31	-24	7

U16 SEFTON TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

(after round 2 of fixtures)

GAMES

Pos		Pld.	Won	Lost	Diff.	Pts
1	Formby A	4	28	10	18	28
2	Formby B	4	24	11	13	24
3	Meols Cop A	4	22	18	4	22
4	St Marys	4	21	18	3	21
5	Savio A	4	19	11	8	19
6	Savio B	4	19	15	4	19
7	Meols Cop B	4	13	22	-9	13
8	Crosby High	4	8	31	-23	8
9	Formby C	2	6	14	-8	6
10	Birkdale	2	4	14	-10	4

The Sefton Schools table tennis league is in its third year now and is going from strength to strength. We are delighted to have such a great set up in Formby with the high school hosting the league every month and Dave Graham from Formby Table Tennis Club being on hand every month to support the players and ensure they make the transition into local table tennis clubs. The commitment from the schools and teachers involved is amazing. The boys that attend the league every month thoroughly enjoy the camaraderie and team spirit that has developed between the schools over the years - most of them don't get a chance to play any other sport for their school so it is really important that there is a competitive outlet for schools table tennis.

Sadly with the recent funding cuts to school sport the role of the competition manager is being made redundant. Our challenge in the near future will be to keep the league running without the current organiser of the league. This will undoubtedly be a huge undertaking but one I am sure we can win!

Cathy Robinson

Sefton Schools Competition Manager

I don't have any information on how the Table Tennis Leagues are progressing in Liverpool Schools, I have tried contacting Paul O'Leary (Schools Sports Competition Manager) via e-mail and phone, but without success, so I'm thinking the worst, that his position has already been terminated, sad really as he had done such a brilliant job of getting inter school competition on a firm footing, hopefully I'm wrong, and it's only a breakdown in communication.
Editor

What a start to 2011 for Halton TT Club Member Jack Hunter-Spivey. Aged only 15 he has just earned his place in the British Table Tennis Disabled World Class Performance Squad 2011. He was presented with his GB tracksuit by Club Chairman Karen Tonge MBE who has plotted Jack's progress since he joined the club as a result of being inspired by London winning the 2012 Games.

He is now attending the English Institute of Sport at Sheffield once a week for extra coaching, Liverpool John Moores University 2 mornings for strength and conditioning as part of his TASS funding The Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme, or TASS as it is better known, is a Government funded programme to support and fast-track young sporting talent, the potential medal winners of the future. and Jack was nominated by BTAD. TASS athletes that are awarded a scholarship will receive sporting support and services TASS provides athletes with a tailored package of services

compromising of services such as Coaching, Strength and Conditioning, Lifestyle Support, Physiotherapy and access to a medical scheme TASS supports potential medal winners of the future. Sports Aid have also assisted Jack during the last 6 months to attend events Jack has now to work hard to stay in the Squad to fulfil his original dream to play in 2012 Paralympic Games but is now well on the journey. He now has to meet very tough targets set and expected by UK Sport to reach the top 30 in the World by July 2011 and play in foreign events.



Jack has just signed to play for Sefton Park TT Club in the L&DDTL, initially in the 5th Div. But don't expect him to stay there, I don't think it will be amiss of me to say to those who play him, that the unassuming youngster in the wheelchair at the other end of the table will be out to batter you, try and do the same to him, I'm sure he'll appreciate it, within the few extra Rules concerning wheelchair play that is,
Welcome to the L&DDTL Jack! Editor

League Cups

Div. Round 2 results

Division 1. Readman Cup

CHRIST the KING	1	v	5	BATH St.MARINE
FORDS	5	v	1	BOOTLE YMCA
M/SIDE POLICE	3	v	5	CROSBY HIGH 'B'
CROSBY HIGH	5	v	1	CROSBY HIGH 'A'

Division 2. Rumjahn Cup

MARCONI	4	v	5	FORDS 'A'
BATH St. MARINE 'A'	5	v	1	MAGHULL
HAROLD. HOUSE 'B'	5	v	2	M/SIDE POLICE 'A'
MARCONI 'A'	0	v	5	BATH St. MARINE 'B'

Division 3.Hyde Cup

WAV. LABOUR 'C'	5	v	2	BOOTLE YMCA 'A'
BOOTLE YMCA 'B'	2	v	5	M/SIDE POLICE 'B'
CADWA 'A'	5	v	3	BATH St. MARINE'D'
M/SIDE POLICE 'C'	5	v	4	MARCONI 'B'

Division 4. Forrest Cup

SEFTON PARK 'B'	5	v	4	SEFTON PARK 'A'
ARRIVA Nth.WEST 'A'	5	v	0	M/SIDE POLICE 'D'
CADWA 'B'	2	v	5	MANWEB
BATH St. MARINE 'E'	1	v	5	ARRIVA Nth.WEST

Division 5. Stamp Cup

BOOTLE YMCA 'D'	4	v	5	LINACRE
WAV. LABOUR 'E'	4	v	5	MARCONI 'D'
MAGHULL 'D'	2	v	5	BATH St. MARINE 'F'
MAGHULL 'C'	3	v	5	BOOTLE YMCA 'C'

Div. Semi Final Draw

Division 1. Readman Cup

CROSBY HIGH 'B'		v		BATH St. MARINE
FORDS		v		CROSBY HIGH

Division 2. Rumjahn Cup

BATH ST. M. 'B'		v		FORDS 'A'
BATH St. M. 'A'		v		HAR.HOUSE 'B'

Division 3.Hyde Cup

M/SIDE POLICE 'B'		v		CADWA 'A'
WAV. LABOUR 'C'		v		M/SIDE POLICE 'C'

Division 4. Forrest Cup

MANWEB		v		ARRIVA N.W.
SEFTON PARK 'B'		v		ARRIVA N.W. 'A'

Division 5. Stamp Cup

LINACRE		v		BOOTLE YMCA 'C'
MARCONI 'D'		v		BATH St. M. 'F'

Frank Murphy Handicap Cup

2nd Round RESULTS

H/Caps	HOME	match scores	AWAY	H/Caps
78	M/SIDE POLICE 2	433 v 409	BATH ST. MARINE 5	141
60	MARCONI 1	386 v 387	M/SIDE POLICE 1	91
25	M/SIDE POLICE 3	398 v 439	ARRIVA N.W. 1	178
112	BATH ST. MARINE 6	387 v 367	CROSBY HIGH 1	26
214	CADWA 2	399 v 410	CADWA 1	33
155	MANWEB	449 v 518	LINACRE	199
274	ARRIVA N.W. 2	449 v 491	BOOTLE YMCA 2	113
192	SEFTON PARK 1	300 v 337	BOOTLE YMCA 1	M 41

ROUND 3 RESULTS

H/Caps	HOME	match scores	AWAY	H/Caps
199	LINACRE	444 v 461	BATH ST. MARINE 6	112
minus 41	BOOTLE YMCA 1	337 v 279	BOOTLE YMCA 2	99
33	CADWA 1	394 v 409	ARRIVA N.W. 1	178
88	M/SIDE POLICE 2	420 v 393	M/SIDE POLICE 1	91

Roly Wright Cup Secretary 04/12/2010

F. M. Cup - SEMI FINAL DRAW

HOME		AWAY	
BATH ST. MARINE 6		v	ARRIVA N.W. 1
BOOTLE YMCA 1		v	M/SIDE POLICE 2

ETTA is developing a grant management process that involves a 2 stage application process with timelines detailed below. Potential applicants may register an interest to be sent a stage 1 application form by providing an email contact to diccon.gray@etta.co.uk

Reply to the above from Barrow T.T. Club Secretary Tristran Swan

Barrow Table Tennis Centre is not on a long term lease, but a six month rolling lease. It is thought that the centre will cease to exist from September 2012 (possibly earlier, possibly later) as a result of the building of a new Academy on the existing school site.

The Academy will be built on the current school fields and the existing school building and table tennis centre will be handed over to the council (that is my understanding – plans for the buildings are unknown). As a result, table tennis in Barrow will be evicted from the centre and will have to move into a shared multi-sport venue built as part of the Academy.

As the ETTA points out in this document:

“It could be concluded from this that two thirds of Table Tennis clubs hire facilities, have limited control and therefore uncertainty about their future.”

“67% of clubs hire their facility and therefore do not have control over it; this can restrict the potential to grow participation and increase levels of satisfaction for players and volunteers.”

Those involved in table tennis in Barrow are uncertain. No one knows what will happen and as a result there is a fear to invest and put things into action.

posted 24.11.10 by Tristran Swan - Secretary Barrow TT League

Players Conduct and Behaviour

All table tennis players play for the enjoyment of the sport. They play to win and the vast majority do so with good spirit and good manners. A minority of players play to win at all costs. They are bad losers and bad sportsmen. We will never do away with this type of player but what we can do to try to control it and on the odd occasion when players' conduct oversteps the boundary we must have procedures in place to punish the bad behaviour.

Qualified umpires control matches at ITTF, ETTA and other authorised competitions. The umpires have full control of matches and can use yellow cards to caution players about their behaviour and red cards to award penalty points to opponents if the bad behaviour continues during the game. In extreme cases the Referee has the power to disqualify players from competitions. In local leagues the same control is not in place. The Laws and Regulations about players' behaviour do not count in local leagues. The vast majority of players who umpire games do so willingly to support the match. They have the most basic knowledge of the Laws and Regulations but do not have the confidence or willingness to call a foul service or warn a player about his behaviour for fear of upsetting the players and creating a "bad atmosphere" during the match.

The ETTA, over the last few years, has noticed a growing trend amongst players, particularly young

players, to be very noisy while playing the game and to be more aggressive during matches. The ETTA has asked umpires at tournaments to crack down on this type of behaviour.

Unfortunately this trend of noisy, aggressive behaviour is creeping into local league matches. Nearly every player will occasionally swear or shout at the result of a point. It is usually intended to oneself and quickly forgotten. However, there are examples of players continually shouting or swearing at the result of a point or displaying aggressive behaviour. This is seen by all the players in the match but in the vast majority of occasions nothing is said to the player and no further action is taken.

It is the responsibility of all players, particularly captains and coaches, to make sure those players in their teams or under their control behave in a manner that does not bring the game into disrepute. Nobody likes to see bad conduct during a game but if we do not challenge such behaviour we will end up with a group of players who behave like petulant, Premiership footballers and spoil the game for all the other players.

Tom Purcell
International Umpire
Merseyside Police TTC

TABLE TENNIS TICKETS FOR THE 2012 OLYMPICS

The **ETTA** has been allocated some tickets ahead of the global public ballot, which will take place in March 2011.

If you want to get tickets ahead of this worldwide ballot, can you please contact Alex Harwood at alex@harwoodltd.co.uk for details and an application form. This form to be returned to the BTTF Company Secretary at 90, Broadway, Letchworth, Herts, SG6 3PH by 4th March 2011.

Table Tennis will take place at EXCEL in London from 28/07/2012 to 8/08/2012. There will be a number of sports in the same venue so it will generate a real Olympic Atmosphere.

The ticket prices, dates and times have been in the public domain for some time and range from £20 to £125 per session, with either 2 or 3 sessions per day. Payment for all tickets will be required by 28th March 2011, including a postal charge of £2.50.

If ETTA members do not take up this offer, unsold tickets will be returned for the global public ballot.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for members to be part of the Olympics on home turf, so do not miss out. Please get your applications in as soon as possible as our allocation is going very fast.

DIVISION 1					
	Name	Club	P	W	Ave
1	DOLDER Kevin	Fords	25	25	100.00%
2	WILLIAMS Keith	Bootle YMCA	39	38	97.44%
3	HUTCHING Paul	Crosby High B	39	36	92.31%
4	FORD Chris	M/Side Police	24	21	87.50%
5	MUDIE Stewart	Crosby High	31	26	83.87%
6	WATSON Gary	Bath St Marine	42	33	78.57%
7	TAYLOR Jonathon	M/Side Police	36	28	77.78%
8	McEVOY Mal	Fords	27	21	77.78%
9	TAYLOR Andy	Fords	34	26	76.47%
10	BIRD Keith	Christ The King	38	29	76.32%
11	BEECH Aaron	Crosby High B	45	31	68.89%
12	PERCIVAL Wayne	Bootle YMCA	15	10	66.67%
13	YANG Jasmine	Harold House A	32	21	65.63%
14	HEWITT Jamie	Crosby High	25	16	64.00%
15	LUNN Michael	Crosby High	27	17	62.96%
16	BARTOLO James	Crosby High B	39	24	61.54%
17	TURNER Terry	Fords	19	11	57.89%
18	WHELAN Tony	Christ The King	30	17	56.67%
19	FONG Miles	Harold House A	44	24	54.55%
20	JACKSON Ken	Bath St Marine	33	18	54.55%

DIVISION 2					
	Name	Club	P	W	Ave
1	PEERS Clare	Bath St Marine A	33	31	93.94%
2	JACKSON Ray	Marconi	15	14	93.33%
3	THABET Ahmed	Christ The King B	18	16	88.89%
4	ROBERTS Dave	Bath St Marine A	42	37	88.10%
5	TAGG Dave	Christ The King B	33	27	81.82%
6	ADAMS Roy	Wavertree Lab A	24	19	79.17%
7	CLEARY Graham	Fords A	41	32	78.05%
8	WHALLEY Steve	Harold House B	36	28	77.78%
9	KENDALL Tony	Bath St Marine A	39	30	76.92%
10	WEARDEN Tim	Fords A	18	13	72.22%
11	BRYCE Alec	Harold House B	36	24	66.67%
12	LEWIS Kevin	Harold House B	33	22	66.67%
13	TIERNEY Dermot	Bath St Marine B	27	16	66.67%
14	BRAMHAM Adrian	Marconi	21	14	66.67%
15	McELWEE Ian	Bath St Marine B	39	24	61.54%
16	BUCHANAN Alex	Crosby High C	18	11	61.11%
17	EVANS Dave	Crosby High C	33	20	60.61%
18	SPEDDING Chris	Marconi	30	18	60.00%
19	KINSEY Paul	Fords A	28	16	57.14%
20	HUGHES Bob	Fords A	30	17	56.67%

DIVISION 3					
	Name	Club	P	W	Ave
1	CHASE Alan	Bootle YMCA A	33	32	96.97%
2	DAVIES Alan	Sefton Park	27	23	85.19%
3	EVANS Paul	Cadwa A	27	23	85.19%
4	MALIK Shakil	Bootle YMCA B	54	44	81.48%
5	ADAMSON Paula	M/Side Police 'C'	21	17	80.95%
6	MULLALLY Tony	Marconi B	15	12	80.00%
7	TIMEWELL Alan	Cadwa A	30	23	76.67%
8	NOLAN Terri-Anne	M/Side Police B	33	25	75.76%
9	PEAT Rob	Bath St Marine D	39	29	74.36%
10	BIRCH Ted	Bootle YMCA A	36	26	72.22%
11	POWER Mike	Cadwa A	24	17	70.83%
12	OWENS Colin	Bath St Marine D	36	25	69.44%
13	FARLEY LEE	Wavertree Lab C	39	27	69.23%
14	McPHERSON Rod	Harold House C	30	20	66.67%
15	XIA Dong	Wavertree Lab C	36	23	63.89%
16	BULMER Rod	Maghull A	33	20	60.61%
17	GIOVE Mario	Wavertree Lab C	39	23	58.97%
18	LAIRD Ian	Sefton Park	30	17	56.67%
19	SINGLETON Colin	Harold House C	18	10	55.56%
20	ALLEN Mike	Bootle YMCA A	15	8	53.33%

DIVISION 4					
	Name	Club	P	W	Ave
1	MULLIN Joe	M/Side Police D	24	23	95.83%
2	JENNINGS Neil	Manweb	24	21	87.50%
3	BURROWS Ian	Cadwa B	20	17	85.00%
4	SCOTLAND Derek	Arriva Nth West	26	22	84.62%
5	STONE Larry	Arriva Nth West	24	20	83.33%
6	FYLES Colin	Wavertree Lab D	12	10	83.33%
7	HASSAN Nedim	Bath St Marine E	8	6	75.00%
8	HORNBY Brian	Arriva N.West A	8	6	75.00%
9	PERRY Alf	Manweb	8	6	75.00%
10	TRAYNOR Derek	Sefton Park A	18	13	72.22%
11	CHRISTIE Phil	Maghull B	14	10	71.43%
12	CRAMSIE Ted	Bath St Marine E	24	17	70.83%
13	McMAHON Dave	Marconi C	22	15	68.18%
14	HUGHES Harry	Arriva Nth West	24	16	66.67%
15	KOUDELIK Josef	Cadwa C	28	18	64.29%
16	WEBB Paul	Cadwa C	28	18	64.29%
17	ROLLINSON Graham	Arriva Nth West	22	14	63.64%
18	BONDEK Wacek	Arriva N.West A	24	15	62.50%
19	LUNT Ian	Cadwa B	18	11	61.11%
20	PYE Geoff	M/Side Police D	18	11	61.11%

DIVISION 5						
	Name	Club	P	W	Ave	Rk
1	HIGHAM John	Bootle YMCA D	8	8	100.00%	1.00
2	REEVE Harry	Linacre	26	24	92.31%	1.00
3	DAVIS Barry	Bath St Marine F	24	22	91.67%	1.92
4	HOWARD Ged	Cadwa D	22	20	90.91%	2.27
5	CHARCENKO Alex	Linacre	28	25	89.29%	3.43
6	PIERCE Arthur	Sefton Park C	21	18	85.71%	1.82
7	CLAYTON Bill	Bath St Marine F	24	20	83.33%	1.00
8	HASSAN Nedim	Bath St Marine G	18	15	83.33%	1.00
9	BRADSHAW Charles	Linacre	29	23	79.31%	2.33
10	WRIGHT Roly	Bootle YMCA D	23	18	78.26%	1.17
11	WHITTINGHAM Joseph	Huntsman Wood	28	21	75.00%	1.00
12	DICKSON Jim	Maghull C	12	9	75.00%	4.00
13	CHAN Alan	Maghull C	22	16	72.73%	2.82
14	ABDULJAWAD Joud	Cadwa D	18	13	72.22%	1.30
15	McCOURT Andy	Maghull C	19	13	68.42%	3.10
16	GEDDES Jim	Bootle YMCA C	22	15	68.18%	3.18
17	REES Paul	Huntsman Wood	27	18	66.67%	2.64
18	DANIELS Steve	Bootle YMCA C	24	16	66.67%	1.00
19	HUTCHINGS Jannette	Maghull D	20	13	65.00%	2.50
20	WILLIAMSON Gary	Bootle YMCA C	17	11	64.71%	1.78

Top 20 Player averages

Up to

17th February 2011

League Tables as at 16th February 2011

Division One		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Fords	14	13	0	1	109
2	Crosby High B	14	11	1	2	100
3	Crosby High	14	11	2	1	99
4	Bath St Marine	15	7	3	5	87
5	Christ The King	14	7	2	5	80
6	M/Side Police	14	6	2	6	74
7	Crosby High A	15	6	3	6	71
8	Bootle YMCA	15	5	3	7	69
9	Christ The King A	15	5	1	9	57
10	Harold House A	15	5	1	9	56
11	Cadwa	13	2	1	10	47
12	Harold House	13	2	3	8	43
13	Wavertree Lab	15	2	0	13	38
14	Free	0	0	0	0	0

Division Two		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Bath St Marine A	14	12	1	1	117
2	Fords A	14	10	2	2	92
3	Harold House B	13	9	1	3	86
4	Christ The King B	13	10	0	3	82
5	Marconi	12	9	0	3	72
6	Bath St Marine B	14	7	0	7	70
7	M/Side Police A	12	5	0	7	60
8	Wavertree Lab A	14	5	1	8	53
9	Crosby High C	11	4	3	4	51
10	Marconi A	14	1	1	12	38
11	Maghull	13	1	1	11	37
12	Bath St Marine C	14	0	2	12	32
13	Free	0	0	0	0	0
14	Free	0	0	0	0	0

Division Three		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Bootle YMCA A	13	11	1	1	93
2	Wavertree Lab C	14	8	3	3	88
3	Cadwa A	13	8	3	2	85
4	Bath St Marine D	13	6	2	5	75
5	Sefton Park	12	9	1	2	74
6	Harold House C	14	4	3	7	71
7	M/Side Police B	14	6	2	6	65
8	Bootle YMCA B	14	3	4	7	64
9	M/Side Police C	12	5	1	6	56
10	Marconi B	13	3	3	7	45
11	Maghull A	13	2	0	11	38
12	Wavertree Lab B	13	2	1	10	36
13	Free	0	0	0	0	0
14	Free	0	0	0	0	0

Division Four		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Arriva Nth West	13	11	2	0	94
2	M/Side Police D	12	10	2	0	80
3	Cadwa B	12	5	3	4	75
4	Cadwa C	14	7	2	5	75
5	Bath St Marine E	14	7	4	3	74
6	Manweb	14	7	0	7	70
7	Sefton Park A	14	5	2	7	69
8	Arriva Nth West A	13	7	1	5	64
9	Marconi C	14	5	1	8	63
10	Maghull B	13	2	1	10	50
11	Wavertree Lab D	12	2	2	8	46
12	Sefton Park B	13	1	0	12	30
13	Free	0	0	0	0	0
14	Free	0	0	0	0	0

Division Five		P	W	D	L	Pts
1	Linacre	15	13	0	2	116
2	Bath St Marine F	14	10	2	2	98
3	Bootle YMCA C	15	9	2	4	95
4	Cadwa D	14	10	2	2	94
5	Huntsman Wood	14	9	1	4	78
6	Maghull D	13	9	0	4	77
7	Maghull C	14	7	1	6	74
8	Bath St Marine G	15	3	3	9	59
9	Marconi D	15	3	1	11	55
10	Arriva Nth West B	15	5	0	10	53
11	Wavertree Lab E	15	3	4	8	52
12	Bootle YMCA D	15	1	5	9	52
13	Sefton Park C	14	1	1	12	37
14	Free	0	0	0	0	0

<i>Fines to Date</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Walk Overs Vets Cup	1	£6	£6
Ineligible Player	0	£0	
Player Short	21	£3	£63
Walk Overs League	3	£6	£18
Walk Overs Cup	2	£6	£12
Played Out of Order	3	1.50 PP	£9
Late Score Card	12	£3	£36
Total	42		£144

Fines at this stage last year were £129. !!
 Thanks again to Fixture Secretary Trevor Owens, who constantly updates these tables, and sends out weekly to all who ask, and to web master John Langton who displays them on the L&DTTL web Site every Wednesday / Thursday