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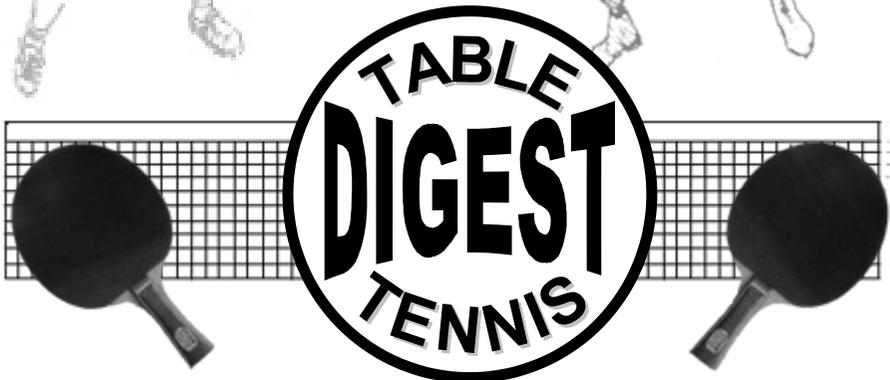
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Editorial

Another season due to start soon, we've just finished with the Olympics, with so many athletes doing their sport proud, thanks to all the money that has been ploughed into sport since Beijing, sadly, we can't say the same for Table tennis, even though pro rata, the same money has been spent on T.T., it must be Rio!! When you read this, the Paralympics will probably have finished, with a few T.T. medals to our name, any will do.

Ping Liverpool has been extended to run till the end of August, due to its popularity, not the same number of tables, just a few in popular areas, but that's a good sign, new Liverpool T.T. Development Officer Nikki Murphy has been putting lots of effort in at these venues hoping to find new interested players and directing them to L&DTTL Clubs, obviously, these new players will be heading for the lower divisions this season, but in a few more seasons, who knows where they'll be. North West Development Manager, Andrea Holt was pleased with the way Ping Liverpool had gone, but was rather critical of the support from L&DTTL rank and file, the regular 'helpers' don't need naming, but are Liverpool becoming a city of "can't someone else do it" players, the Co. Grand Prix has just finished, and the prestigious, once in a life time, Men's World Cup Finals, at the Echo Arena in September, still short of volunteers, (still not too late to apply).

There were plenty of reports and videos on the ETTA web site and John Langton's L&DTTL web site, you can still find links to them, but this one is the finale of the Ping competition, with others leading from it, at least a regular L&DTTL player won the Final.

<http://vimeo.com/47302867>

The videos show that Ping was indeed popular, but can the L&DTTL keep up the momentum and welcome all those new faces into our Clubs, even though we aren't geared up to it in our present form.

This season starts with 2 new Clubs and 7 new teams, this was before Ping Liverpool, so our player numbers are continuing to increase, mostly at the bottom end, with a lot of youngsters starting out from schools T.T., at least the falling off of a few years ago seems to have stopped. ETTA Individual Registrations still seems to be a problem, not so much registration in itself, just the fact of doing it. As soon as the ETTA AGM had decided on the fees (proposed senior player fee of £10 was rejected at the AGM and settled at last season's £6), Registration secretary Trevor sent out a memo to every Club Sec. or player that that re-registration could now be done via various ways, with a rider that re-registration must be complete before the season started, but 4 weeks on and over half the players haven't bothered!! It doesn't cost any more or less to do it early, and no one can turn round and say "I didn't know", is it another "can't someone else do it!"

We don't have an 11Up in this Digest, and maybe not for a few more, as contributor Paul Gittins has been diagnosed with severe arthritis, I got this e-mail off Paul a few days ago, the first I, and I'm sure, many of his playing admirers, new of his problem,

"Hi Roly, don't know if you've heard but I've been diagnosed with severe arthritis. It came out of the blue but has knocked me 4 six. I'm unable to drive & have limited use of my hands due to swellings. I won't be playing next season but I've signed on for the 5th Div. just in case there's a slight improvement, which is unlikely. I'll obviously be struggling to do the 11 Up articles until I get better. I'll keep you updated."

From someone else who can relate to being 'fit and ready one week to struggling the next for no apparent reason', I, and I'm sure all players, wish Paul a speedy and successful answer to his problem, capable of a few games in the 5th for starters.

Another shock we at BYM had was notification that Alan Chase had luckily caught himself early having a heart attack, I say luckily, because he had diagnosed himself with arm pains as 'getting old', but a friend advised him to get to Aintree A&E, where within a couple of hours, he was on the operating table at Broadgreen, and because he'd been caught early, and problem was accessible, he had stents put in via 'keyhole surgery', and home the next day, amazing can be the only word for it!

Mind you it doesn't happen like that to everyone, BSM player and Div. 1 reporter Ian McElwee has been waiting for months to have a By-pass opp, differing reasons, different needs, but the same worries, hope its soon Ian!! If you still haven't got tickets to watch the best T.T. players in the world perform at the Echo Arena, yes, just down the road, you still have time, The Lieherr Men's World Cup is on from September 28th to 30th, if you don't fancy paying, you can volunteer to help, but be there!!

England number 6 veteran, and top seed, Keith Williams, won the Halifax veterans singles title at the weekend, beating Richard Lightowler (Yorks) 8, 7, 4, in the final to chalk up his third success in the ten years the event has been staged, his victory earned him a cheque for £100. Well done Keith, he *is* getting older, but you wouldn't notice!!

The L&DTTL has a new Table Tennis Development Officer, Nikki Murphy, Nikki's contract is only for nine months (until March 2013) dependant on funding.

At present she is busy running PING Liverpool in the city centre, The event is proving very popular with the local business community, Nikki is aiming to get more 16+ participants involved in the sport and she hopes to set up clubs in the city centre and at Everton Park Sports Centre. She is currently visiting schools around the area publicising September's Men's World Cup at the Echo Arena and is looking forward to meeting players from the Liverpool league. (more pg.14)

Letter page (page 13) – Olympic Final Umpire (page 13)
Schools (page 12) – Ping Liverpool (page 14)
Bill Pierce (page 15).

Thanks again to all our Divisional reporters, (new volunteer for Div. 5 please!), to Don Davies for his reports, and for 'letters gratefully received'.

Have a good season

C.O.L G.P. (1st of the Season) Don Davies

Another successful City of Liverpool Grand Prix, with an entry of 290, was concluded on time on Sunday night and produced a number of thrilling finals although, sadly, none from Merseyside. Top seed Ryan Jenkins was looking to record a hat-trick of men's singles titles in the event but, his hopes were dashed in the quarter-finals by ninth seed David Meads from Durham. The six times overall national Grand Prix champion from Pontypridd, lost the opening game 11-3 before taking charge of matters, winning the



next two, 11-7, 11-8. Meads, who already had a victory over Jenkins on his CV and had dismissed (S5) Damien Nicholls (Sp) in the previous round, wasn't put off by this set back and powered through the next two, 8 and 8 for a fine victory over the world ranked 272. Third seed Paul McCreery (Ireland) glided quietly en-route to the penultimate round for the loss of just one game that to Adam Nutland in the last 16 before facing Meads where, after an opening game 12-10 success, took the next couple, 7 and 8 to earn a place in the final. In the bottom half of the draw, second seed Chris Doran kicked off the knock out stage with a 6, 7, 6, over Liverpool League player, Joe Killoran. Two further comfortable wins against Alim Hirji (Midd) took him to the last eight where after winning 6 and 6 against Scotland's Chris main, edged home 18-16 in the third. This set him up against former England international senior and number one junior, Michael O'Driscoll, originally from Yorkshire but now Herts', who has returned to the sport after being away for many years, reached the semi's having emerged from a thrilling clash with Ryan's brother, Stephen (S7) when standing within two points of going out in the last 16 when level at ten all in the fifth. There he faced Doran and after losing a tightly fought opening encounter, 11-9, he went

two down before reducing the deficit in the third 11-8 with some sensational play. The pair went neck and neck in the fourth but, at 11-11, the six foot three Northamptonshire man seized the initiative taking the next couple of points and like the Irishman, qualified for his first Liverpool men's final.

The opening two games produced some rip roaring play - Doran winning 12-10 which was countered by the Irish number one who levelled, via the same score. Back came Doran to forge a 2-1 lead, 11-8 but, McCreery wasn't letting go and fought hard to force the contest into a fifth and deciding game. McCreery continued to attack and although Doran fended off many shots on his backhand, he was unable to cope with the Irishman's stronger game who went on to win 11-7 and emulate the legendary Colum Slevin who won the title in 2004, beating Ryan Jenkins in the final.

Last 16: R Jenkins bt K Dolder 8, 7, 5; D Meads bt D Nicholls 8, 5, -6, -8, 8; G Dodd bt M Dodds 7, 6, -7, 9; P McCreery bt A Nutland 3, 4, 4; Q/F: Meads bt R Jenkins 3, -7, -8, 8, 8; P McCreery bt Dodd 2, 8, 7; O'Driscoll bt Shi 7, 8, 9; Doran bt Main 6, 6, 16; S/F: Doran bt O'Driscoll 9, 7, -8, 11; McCreery bt Meads 10, 7, 8;

Final: McCreery bt Doran -10, 10, -8, 9, 7

Veteran Singles O/F K Williams (La) bt J Magnall (IM) 5, 5, 0; T Cardwell (Np) bt G Whyman (Cv) 7, -10, 4, 4; J Walsh (He) bt D Rowell (Ca) 7, 6, 5; G Campbell (Sco) bt D Randell (Ha) -10, 9, 8, 3; S/F Campbell bt Williams 8, -12, 10, -6, 6; Walsh bt Cardwell 6, 6, 7;

Final: Campbell bt Walsh 2, 9, 6;

Men's Band 4 O/F B Fowler (Sco) bt C Morshead (Ng) -11, 9, -5, 10, 11; L Savill (K) bt J Davies -9, 8, 2, -9, 5; A Ward (Cv) bt S Gray (Sco) 9, 4, 8; C Agnello (Bel) bt M Finlay (Irl) 6, 5, 8; S/F Savill bt Fowler -10, -8, 8, 8, 5; Agnello bt Ward 7, 6, -8, 5; **Final:** Agnello bt Savill -9, 9, 9, -6, 3;

Men's Band 5 O/F I Brown (Irl) bt J Mills (Jey) 10, -8, 7, 9; O Yildirim (Turk) bt C Londesborough (Y) 5, 4, 4, K Reilly (Irl) bt S Fletcher (Ch) 3, -7, 10, -8, 9; T Wolff (Irl) bt K Foster (Irl) 9, 9, 7; S/F Yildirim bt Brown -5, -9, 2, 6, 12; Reilly bt Wolff 6, 8, -9, 7; **Final:** Yildirim bt Reilly 6, 5, 3;

Men's Band 6 O/F K Read (St) bt J Donnelly (Irl) 8, 2, 7; O Yildirim (Tur) bt I Brown 9, -5, 9, 8; C Murphy (Irl) bt P Wilkinson (Cv) -6, 9, -10, 7, 8; T Wolff bt K Foster (Irl) 6, 7, -6, -8, 5; S/F Yildirim bt Read 4, 6, -7, 5; Wolff bt Murphy -8, 8, 6, -6, 2; **Final:** Yildirim bt Wolff -7, 5, 3, -7, 8;

Men's Band 1

Round 1 K Williams (La) bt J Taylor (Ch) 9, 12, 5; D Lawrence (K) bt B Pegg (Sp) 5, -9, 6, 6; C Dalglish (Sco) bt C Cundy (Wal) -5, 9, 6, 6; C Main (Sco) bt, C Hardie (Sco) 4, -8, 6, -8, 6; M O'Driscoll (He) bt K Williams 2, 9, 9; Main bt Beering (K) 3, -5, 9, 9; Dolder bt Dalglish 7, 9, 14; Lawrence bt Harrison (Li) 6, -6, 7, 8; S/F O'Driscoll bt Main 2, 9, 4; Dolder bt Lawrence 7, 3, 10; **Final:** O'Driscoll bt Dolder 7, -10, 3, 4;

Men's Band 2 O/F

A Harrison (Li) bt L Rosenthal (La) 9, 7, 2; J Taylor (Ch) bt C Dalglish (Sco) -5, 7, 10, -9, 9; D O'Brien (Irl) bt M O'Flynn (Irl) 7, 6, 8; D Lawrence (K) bt J Knowles (Bk) 7, -11, 9, 8; S/F Harrison bt Taylor 8, 5, -9, 9; Lawrence bt O'Brien 9, 8, -5, -9, 9;

Final: Lawrence bt Harrison 11, 7, 8;

Men's Band 3, O/F Murray bt Morshead 5, 9, 6; O'Brien bt Savill 7, 9, 5; O'Flynn bt Band 7, 12, 9; Man bt Knowles 4, 6, 3; S/F Man bt O'Flynn -4, 6, 7, 6; O'Brien bt Murray 9, 7, 6;

Final: O'Brien bt Man 3, -3, 8, 8;

Division 1

Ian McElwee

The Ford's squad of Kevin Dolder (100% win record), Mal McEvoy (81.8%), Andy Taylor (75.3%) and Terry Turner (65.9%) remained unbeaten throughout the season to, once again, retain the championship. Their overall dominance of the division is further emphasised as they topped the doubles averages on 87.5%.

Crosby High B gave Fords a good run for their money for much of the season, however, they fell away drastically in the final weeks of the season with Paul Hutchings (89.2%) and James Bartello (70.7%) being unavailable. Aaron Beech had one of his best seasons to achieve an excellent 76% win record, Aaron had a very good night in the final match of the season when facing Merseyside Police, he remained unbeaten, including an excellent 5th set win over Jonathan Taylor.

Christ The King in 3rd place have proved difficult to beat, only losing 4 matches during the season, they pushed the Crosby High B team all the way at week 24 before going down 6/4. The following week they hammered a weakened BSM team 9/1 with Ken Jackson saving face with a 5th set victory over Joe Killoran. Keith Bird (75%) and Omid Khaiyat (72%) have both had excellent seasons.

BSM managed a respectable 4th place even though Gary Watson (75%) and Ken Jackson (73%) did not have a regular 3rd player in their team after the loss of Steve Green. Ken was one of the few players in the division to play in every match, Gary missed 3 matches due to work commitments, but when they played together they were a match for most teams. Tony Kendall joined them in their 10/0 victory over a weak CADWA side and Claire Peers came in for their 8/2 win at Crosby High A. Claire and Gary remained unbeaten on the night but Ken had a rare off night, losing to Gemma Lloyd and Jack Dempsey.

Crosby High were only 1 point behind BSM in 5th spot. Stewart Mudie had a great season losing only 5 matches to finish 4th in the averages on 91%, he lost 2 of these when his team went down 9/1 to Fords, losing out in 5 sets to Kevin Dolder and Michael Lunn (a tremendous win for young Michael). Normal services were resumed when he remained unbeaten, including an excellent victory over Jonathan Taylor, when his team drew at Merseyside Police. Joe Mullin had a good win over Jamie Hewitt and Robert Barker came into the Crosby side to get the better of Joe.

Keith Williams was once again Bootle YMCA's player of the season winning the most individual points in the



division (60) to end up with a magnificent 95%. He was well supported by Mat McCormick and the ever reliable Alan Chase when they beat CADWA 9/1, George Lennon saved the whitewash with a hard earned victory over Alan.

The Merseyside Police team promised much but in reality chugged along comfortably in mid table, Jon Taylor, as expected had a good season to finish on 82% and Joe Mullin more than proved himself in his first season at this level to finish on 50%.

Jon was in fine form when he won his 3 singles against 8th placed BSM A, the BSM A team was at full strength on this occasion with Dave Roberts, Claire Peers and Tony Kendall each winning 2 and Dave and Claire combining to take the doubles. Claire once again achieved the best averages (60%) amongst the female players in the division. With the problems encountered by the first team all 3 willingly played up as reserves to help out Dave ended up playing a total of 87 singles matches, (well in excess of any other player) to end up with a very respectable 52%.

CTK A finished next doing well to get a total of 98 points, although now working out of town Peter Lee proved what a good club man he is, managing to make himself available more often than not, he still gives 100% in every match and achieved a very respectable 55%. The team did tend to alter from week to week but new signing John Goodall (66%) had a fine victory over Terry Turner when they lost 9/1 to Fords.

Crosby High A did enough to stay clear of the lower teams in obtaining 94 points, the team of Gemma and Gavin Lloyd plus Rob Wylie ensured they were never in danger of relegation. Gemma achieved an excellent 45% to top the team averages, Gemma and Gavin were joined by student Adam Choi when they went down 6/4 to their first team, Adam beat both Jamie Hewitt and Robert Barker deuce in the 5th. Young Robert played his heart out, without any luck, and lost each of his singles in the 5th set. I'm sure that as the youngest player in the division he will have benefited greatly from the experience of playing at this level and next season such narrow losses may well be turned around.

CADWA finished 20 points off the dreaded relegation spots and on the surface this appears comfortable enough, however, they continuously struggled to put out a regular team. Without Tomasz Rzeszotko contributing 38 points from the 13 matches he played plus his contribution towards 12 doubles wins they would have been in a right

mess. They fielded 13 different players during the season and it appears that they need to sort out a regular team before the forthcoming season.

Like many teams before them Fords A found that after gaining promotion the gulf between first and second division is immense and they managed only 69 points from their 24 matches. It is no fun getting beaten more or less every week but congratulations go out to Michael Lunn who won 35 matches (64%), he achieved the most success of all the young players who appeared in the division and won his team's 2 points when they went down 8/2 to

Bootle YMCA, he displayed an excellent temperament to get the better of 2 other youngsters, Janay Gibson and Mat McCormick, with 5th set victories.

Not a lot of positives can be said in favour of Harold House who finished bottom of the pile. They just did not seem to have a regular side and matched CADWA in fielding 13 different players in the team, at week 23 David Hayes and Kevin Lewis both beat Paul Kinsey when they lost 8/2 to Fords.

Division 2

Paul Banks

At the end of what was called one of the toughest, most exciting seasons in a long time; all of the drama was as we predicted; played out by the leaders of the peloton. Wavertree Labour finished 17 points ahead of their nearest rivals but the interest was that no-one knew right to the end who was going to get runners up spot.

Wavertree Labour B

The third Wavertree team in the second division this season has found it a long hard ride and I think that it's not the losing that's hard – it's the nearly winning. Dong Xia, Lee Farley and Mario Giove have proved to be a tricky combination of players and you have to feel that more experience at his level would improve their averages. Most interesting in the final quarter for Wavertree was the 7-3 loss to CTK B with Dong taking Dave Tagg in three and Mario seeing off Dave and Peter Walsh Jnr. in four.

Marconi A

The second Marconi team also found this season to be a touch strong, Frank McCann, Peter Wass, Ian Wensley and Andy LLoyd posted 8-2, 9-1 and 10-0 defeats in the last three matches; Frank picking up a fifth set win against the very talented Josha Matthewman, Ian winning in the fourth (the fourth!!) against Dermot Tierney and Peter overcoming Colin Owens in the fifth.

Wavertree Labour A

The second Wavertree team have been dicing with adversity for a large part of the season but managed to pull themselves out of danger right at the end with 16 points out of the last four matches. Dave Harse, John Rowan and Roy Adams have been the mainstays for the team, but availability has been a factor in the teams final placing.

Harold House A have had a steady stable season; only 9 points off the ton for the duration. A fairly stable line up of Alec Bryce, John Hughes and Rod Mcpherson have won as many games as Wavertree A below them - but have



collected more points.

Crosby High have managed to make mid table status despite finishing 21 points behind the team above them, the team of Dave Evans, Roger Neal and Sylvia Graham have seemingly been on a squad rotation around the second division champion Jack Dempsey who has been increasing his rate of tin hats towards the end of the season.

Bootle YMCA A

Funny isn't it - Bootle YMCA have been at the sharp end of the division for most of the season and end up mid table, I suppose you can say this about most of the teams from mid table upwards but it does show the strength of our division when a consistent personnel of Alan Chase, Ted Birch and John Higham finish mid table, but three heavy losses at the end of the season put paid to any promotion thoughts for Bootle YM.

Merseyside Police A

Paul Gittins, Steve Gittins and Jon Dyson have settled in to a consistent line up and shown their ability by beating third place CTK 6-4 with a hat-trick for Paul on the night, and drawing with second place Marconi whilst being a player short - only Adrian Bramham able to take singles wins against them.

CADWA A

Mike Power, Graeme Black and Paul Evans have been the mainstays for the team over the season and were fighting for promotion over the majority of the season, Graeme Black only lost 3 matches all season, but occasional availability problems and their subsequent effect on the points harvest have affected their final position.

Bath Street Marine B

Ricky Brown, Fred Bainbridge and Dermot Tierney were joined by the promotion winning team from the third division to play out the remaining fixtures at the end of the season, the very useful Colin Owens and Rob Peat filling

the gaps where necessary. Fred and Colin were strong enough to win at Harold House on their own and Rob Peat took a great point at the hands of Roy Smith saving the whitewash at home to Wavertree.

Christ The King B

Right up to the very last week of play I thought that CTK were going to edge it and finish second in the division. The very talented team of Dave Tagg, Peter Walsh Jr, Joshua Matthewman and Peter Taylor looked in form beating Bootle YM 8-2, Marconi A 9-1, but then a loss to the Police 6-4 made the last game of the season slightly more interesting against the whipping boys of the division Wavertree B. Well this is why we play the game - for the drama and the excitement at the end of a great season; Mario Giove is the agent provocateur, the fly in the ointment, the sniper assassin!! Mario pulled off two wins against the promotion chasers and Dong chipped in with a win to effectively seal the fate of CTK B.

Marconi

Not that that takes anything away from Marconi, who have been strong throughout the season, but Bob Edwards, Ray Jackson, Chris Spedding and Adrian Bramham have all finished with strong averages - Adrian top with 75%. There was a nasty moment whilst playing wavertree with three more games to go and every point being invaluable - the

Preston Powerhouse Chris Spedding manages to lose 11-9 in the fifth to Paul Banks, thoughts of the previous season came flooding back when Chris threw it all away losing in the fifth to Claire Peers. So in the end it was immaterial but perhaps Chris can spend the close season improving himself psychologically in these high pressure games!!!

Wavertree Labour

Tom Hill has been not only the top player for the season in the division - but also a catalyst to his team mates, his success improved our success, one loss all season is a fantastic achievement and I am sure that this will translate very favourably to the first division next season. Tom was assisted over the season by Roy Smith, Mike Tierney and Paul Banks, the team finished off the season 17 points ahead of second place Marconi with three 9-1's, and a 7-3 win over second place Marconi.

So well done once again Wavertree Labour and Marconi on your success and let's see what transfers, team re-organizations and new rubbers take place in the close season.

Best Wishes

Paul Banks
Wavertree Labour=

Division 3

Mike Hughes

Match Week 23

Bath St Marine (D) v Bootle YM (B), a hard fought draw with man of the match being Shak Malik winning all his singles, Mike Hughes had a good win against BMS No 1 Andy Cheung winning in 4 sets, all in all a good nights table tennis.

CADWA (B) v Maghull, a good win for Maghull 7-3, matches 1,2and 7 all went to 5 sets and could have gone either way, but only 1 went CADWA's way, it was a tighter match than the score indicates.

Arriva v Police (B), a convincing win for the Police 9-1, with Mr Scotland saving the white wash, beating Terrie Nolan in 4 sets.

Harold House (C) v Bath St (C), a good win by HH 6-4 Looks a tight match with 4 games going to 5 sets, HH picking up 3 of the 4 games

Police (C) v Marconi (B), a strong win by Marconi 2-8, Len Dyson and Jon Moors, both picking up one game each to make the score more respectable, well played Marconi, Maghull (A) v CADWA (C), an easy win for Maghull 9-1, unable to pick a MOTM as the whole team appeared to play so well.

Match Week 24

Bath St (C) v Bath St (E), an 8-2 win for the (C) team, but good wins by Ted Cramsie and Keith Wright against Dave Stodern made the score more respectable, Ted also had



hard luck against Colin Owens, losing the 5th set 11-8 in a very tight match.

Police (B) v CADWA (B), a good win by the Police 8-2, with both Danny Russell and Len Dyson winning their 3 single matches, it's hard to pick a MOTM, but with Len going down in the doubles with Tom, I think Danny has just edged it.

Maghull v Bath St Marine (D), a good win for Maghull 7-3 with Peter Holmes being MOTM winning all 4 games he played in. Andy Cheung played well winning 2 of his 3 games for Bath St.

Bootle YM (B) v Maghull (A), a good win for the YM 8-2, Shakil Malik once again being MOTM for Bootle winning all 4 of his matches, John Langton played well beating both Bert Rivers and Eddie Preston both in 5 tight sets, Eddie Preston also deserves a mention beating both Rod Bulmer and Tom Downing also Bert Rivers beating them both, a good and friendly night of Table Tennis.

Marconi (B) v Harold House (C), another strong win for HH 2-8, Colin Singleton being MOTM for HH, winning all of his 3 matches. HH are playing consistently well as their league position shows especially after conceding the first game of the season, they are certain to finish 2nd as Bootle YM are unable to catch them.

CADWA (C) v Police (C) looked a tight match 5-5, with Josef Koudelik winning all 4 of his games for CADWA,

MOTM. A bit more effort by Len Dyson for the Police against Josef could have made it a win for the Police, the game going to 5 sets, when will Len learn to stop doing this fast top spin attacks and plump for a more defensive game ?

Match Week 25

Bath St Marine (D) v Police (B), a good win by BSM 8-2, Graham Turner MOTM winning all of his 3 singles, Tom Purcel deserves a mention winning 2 of his 3 singles, reported that he served well and played some lovely back hand shots, also reported that it was a lovely nights TT against a sporting Police team.

Harold House (C) v CADWA (C), another big win for HH 9-1, only Josef winning for CADWA to save a white wash, only 3 sets going to 5 games with CADWA losing twice. Bath Street (C) v Marconi (D), a 10-0 win for Bath St, only 2 games going to 5 sets with Bath St losing out both games. Bath St (E) v Arriva, a good 6-4 win for Bath St. a good win by Dave of Bath St. against Derek Scotland, a hard man to beat.

Police (C) v Bootle YM (A), a good win by the YM. 3-7 Shak Malik once more MOTM winning all his games, Mike Hughes had an outstanding win against Paula Anderson polishing her off in 3 games, the best win of my TT carrier so far, I have played against Paula for more years than I care to remember.

Maghull (A) v Maghull, a good expected win for Maghull, 3-7 against their A team, Peter Holmes MOTM winning his 3 games, John Langton deserves a mention winning 2 out of his 3 games only going down to Peter Holmes in a close 5 set game.

Match Week 26

Marconi (B) v Bath St (E), an easy win for Marconi, 9-1, with only Graham Turner for Bath St winning a set, saving a white wash.

Arriva v CADWA (B), a good win by CADWA 3-7, Ian Burrows being MOTM for CADWA, winning all 4 of his

games. Graham Rawlinson deserves a mention winning 2 of his 3 single games and was unlucky going down 9/11 in the 5th game to Ian Burrows. It looked a tight match with 5 of the games going to 5 sets and 2 going to 4.

Police (B) v Maghull (A), a strong win for the Police 8-2 with Terrie Ann Nolan, player,O,T,M winning all of her 4 games, this also looked a tight match with 5 games going to 5 sets and 3 going to 4,

Maghull v Police (C), a good win for Maghull 7-3 Peter Holmes MOTM for Maghull, winning all 4 of his games. Len Dyson played well winning 2 of his 3 singles and only going down in the 5th set to Peter Holmes 14/12, a few more loops may have seen Len home. Bootle YM (B) v Harold House (C), a strong win by Harold House 3-7, 2 excellent wins by Ste Wearden and Peter Findlater HH, against Shakil Malik, much to Bootle's surprise turned the usual draw into a HH win, well played HH.

CADWA (C) v Bath St (C), a really strong win for Bath St 1-9 with Josef saving the white wash for CADWA, both Colin Owens and Dave Stoddern laying claim to MOTM both winning all their singles games.

Once again my thanks to all who took the time to write match notes on the cards, makes reporting on the games that much easier.

Congratulations to Bath St Marine C, who left us all behind with 191 points, and Harold House who finished on 167 points to come second. Good luck to both teams in the second division.

Congratulations also to Shakil Malik who once again finished top of the averages, played 72, Won 66. Average 91.67 %

Best of luck to all for the coming season

Best regards Mike Hughes.

Division 4

Doug Baker

Top

As announced in the last digest, **Wavertree Labour 'C'** ran out winners by a country mile, you didn't really think Stan would drop some almighty clanger did you? No defeats and averaging 8-2 per match is quite a record.

(Anyone else spot that the winners of the 1st, 3rd & 4th division had the same number of points?) No surprise to see Paul & Neil Jennings and Robin Barker in the top 10 averages, they've also done tremendously well in doubles losing only 4 all season.

Paul Morgan showed nerve at Sefton Park; last game on when 9-0 up, pressure to not be the one to let the whitewash slip and up against a Derek Traynor out to avenge a 5 gamer with Neil. Paul lost the first /4, then got a grip winning the next 3, finishing with his own /4, not



very often Derek and Mike Perry lose all singles.

In the next game, a 7-3 derby win over Wav. Lab 'E', the 'E' turned out big gun Colin Fyles, but he wasn't able to breach the Jennings. Andy Bird bested Paul-M, but the 'E' star was John Williams beating Rob in 4 then Paul-J in 3, staking a claim for a higher ranking next season?

They eased up for the last two games playing a reserve in each, Paul Morgan completed a brace with victory over Arriva's Kristof, just after Kristof had given Neil a rare spanking in 3, only his

6th. Different twist the following week when Mr Morgan must have opened the bubbly too soon, losing to Marconi 'C's Dave McMahon & Frank Proffitt, both in 5, Frank made it consecutive weeks winning both his singles,

in the last game Paul-J secured match victory with a fine win over Paul Loftus.

Sefton Park had this to say about their visit by the League Leaders: "Some match this – totally outgunned in all departments. Well done Wav Lab 'C' worthy Divisional Champs".

Appropriately, final words to Captain Neil – "Finally made it to last game of season, time to rest me body, been a good season. Don't know what to expect in the 3rd Division, will my body last out?"

2nd / 3rd

The big interest for the armchair viewer would have been the run in for second place. At then end of week 22, Bath Street Marine 'F' were 4 points behind Huntsman Wood, both had free 3 matches ahead, both yet to meet Maghull'B' and Sefton_Park, both had to play a Wavertree Labour team; Huntsman away to the lower 'D' and BSM'F' home to the higher 'E'. Each had their last match at home, the teams stuck with their regular four to see them home; Huntsman; Joe Whittingham, Lee Madin, Paul & Steve Rees, and BSM'F'; Barry Davis, Ned Hassan, Billy Clayton & Colin Mitchell.

Well then, both teams carded 7-3's over Sefton Park, Joe W. went 2 down against Derek T. but won the set /9 /10 /9! two other sets were lost in 5!

In hindsight, it was the Wavertree and Maghull 'B' matches that were crucial. BSM'F' got a full house 10-Nil-er over Maghull'B', Ned held his nerve in two 5 Gamers and Billy beat Steve McGanity 11/9 in't 5th. Whereas Huntsman, in effect dropped 3, Joe having a 'mare' losing both singles to John-Mc & Steve-Mc and doubles to the same two whilst partnering Lee, Maghull played a different player at 4, but they both lost all singles & doubles, so no excuses there.

At Wavertree Labour 'D' Huntsman "only" drew, blame Ben Chen & Alf "sweet" Perry (taking the Rees' to pieces) for ensuring the visitors all lost a game.

By contrast BSM'F' won 6-4 hosting Wav_Lab'E' thanks to Colin winning both his singles. The doubles were the most hotly contested sets, both over in 5, shared one each. Barry & Ned /9 over Andy & John, and Stan & Dave beating Billy & Colin. This match was played two days prior to Huntsman's last game with Sefton, and they would need an 8-2 or better to get second place. But did they know what the target was? did they dare look? as it was that 7-3 tied the two teams on 149 points! OMGosh.

BSM'F' had 4 more wins and two fewer defeats (only 4 in total for the season), which indicates that Huntsman won well when they won, whereas BSM'F' were better at turning draws into victories, but that wasn't the deciding factor. The rules (21a if you want to look it up) gave the Runners-up spot to BSM'F' as they had beaten Huntsman (6-4) in both their contests (- I wonder if Huntsman were aware it might go down to this rule?). Congratulations to Bath Street Marine 'F', overtaking on the outside in the final stretch, the chaps deserved the success (after trying for so long in some cases!). Commiserations to Huntsman, but nonetheless a great 1st attempt in the 4th. The

consolation is that as there's four gaps in the higher divisions, it looks highly probable that they will be re-ranked into the 3rd next year (where they can aim to at least finish higher than BSM'F').

Bottom

A controversial note on the final tables, two teams had 10 points deducted for playing an ineligible player; not registered with the League or ETTA: Maghull'B' Alex Pierce (week 3 v Wav_Lab 'D'?) and Arriva'A' Graig Jago (not sure when / v. whom?), not only that but any points won would be given to the opposition. This was more of an issue to Maghull'B' as this dropped them into the relegation zone. However it was to the benefit of their C team, I'd anticipate some heated debate in the clubhouse about which set of players stay up/go down for next season! the 'C' ladies can point to the fact they beat the 'B' 6-4 at their last encounter.

Solicitations (!) to Bootle YMCA'C', who were most surprised to be here after finishing 5th in the 5th last season, but at least gave it a good go and enjoyed the experience. No wins, whereas the 4 teams immediately above them had 5 or 6 wins, shows the chasm. A 0-10 from Linacre, the team that came up with them as league champions, emphasises how hard they found it (though Alan Cameron almost surprised Charlie B. 12/10, 9/11 in games 4 & 5. The experience will make them a stronger proposition for the 5th next season and young Tom Doubtfire who beat Cadwa's Steve Graham 17/15 in the 5th game is a sign of hope (he also went on to beat Ged for his team's only points). Well done to Captain Steve Daniels in beating Marconi'C's Dave McMahon, whilst sympathy to Alan C for more bad luck in losing to Dave, 13/15 and 9/11 in games 4&5.

Other Notables-

Most improved player over the year would have to be John Williams as he came on leaps and bounds, averaging 4 wins out of 5, undefeated in his last 3 matches, including chalking up impressive wins over Pawel, Sue, Billy & Barry. On the Ladies side it's Amy Hutchings, as Stan lauds after their match (and his defeat by Amy): i) "Good friendly match, Amy continues to improve each week." and ii) Derek-T after theirs: "First time all season Maghull'C' has won both doubles, good match, well played young Amy a star of the future, well done Paul and Janette."

Well done to:

Wavertree Labour 'D's Alf Perry; the top No.4 in the Division and 5th in the overall averages.

Sue Hughes good wins over Wacek then Kristof.

Kristof & Pawel in beating Colin Fyles, both 11/6 in't 5th whilst in reply, Andy Bird defeated Kristof & Wacek. also Andy for only dropping 16 points to Sue Hughes.

Ken Roberts, just pipping Pawel in 5 games which were all won by just 2 points. both doubles were also won in the same way, one apiece (which was the closest Marconi'C' got to a 5th set).

From the drawn Maghull 'C' v Sefton Park match: Ray Jones bagging a brace from Janette and Sue, Sue beating Derek in 5 and Denise coming back from a 13/15 in't 4th v. Ian Findon to take the decider 11/9.

In the 7-3 win for Wav_Lab'D', winning both singles Francis & Ben (incl. Harry in 4).

Not a "bore draw" when WavLab'D' drew with Cadwa'D', yet again Ben & Alf were undefeated, Alf b'g Rob in 5 (incl. an 11/1) and Steve in straights. Ben walked the line v Graham, after losing the first two games he just took the next two both 12/10, he took Ian Laird with a 15/13 3rd Graham lost his compassion after a 13/11 2nd with Arthur, to win the 3rd to zero.

CADWA'D' in a great 9-1 win at Marconi'C', Paul Loftus saved complete red faces, ours was a thrown together team,

Division 5

This report is the last of last season, but also heralds the start of a new season, hoping to get all those players who have a complete break from T.T. over the summer, back into the 'mood'.

Sadly it's me again (the Editor), demoted from writing the 1st Div. report, (I didn't think it was that bad!) to now writing the Div. 5 report, mind you having played there myself last season, I know the commitment and desire to win is just the same. Ian McElwee has agreed to do the div. 1 report again while he awaits his Heart by-pass operation, a wait so frustrating for him, and our last recruit for the 5th Ged Howard has had to step down due to his commitment to teaching at Deyes High in Maghull, thanks to Ged for his contribution, maybe he will be back.

Anyway back to now, going into [week 23](#) there was still a clear winner, Sefton Park 'A', played 24, drawn 0, lost 0, 4 matches to go, and needing only 5 point to go through the 200 points barrier, with a squad of Peter Tod, Robbie Puddifer, Fred Cowley, Ian Findon and Ian Wood, their stamp was on top spot early on in the season.

The youngsters of Maghull 'F' Luke Courtney, Michael Stewart, Danny Hall and Harry McGanity!!, well young at heart, had a good 7-3 win against Wav. Lab. 'F's Gordon Langshaw, Eric Spencer, Adewuyi Olorunfemi (Femi), Sharon Mahon, and 'always help out' Ken Ray; Gordon, Eric and a doubles were Wav's 3 games.

Sefton 'A' entertained BsM 'G's Dave Noden, Keith Dudly, Barbara Alcock and Des Logan, who met Sefton's Peter, Robbie, Fred and Ian F. at their best, but well done to Dave, pushing Peter to 5, I know how 'well done' as Peter wipped me in three. But then, as in the Olympics, the result doesn't matter it's the taking part that counts, hmm! comment on the card was "another good night at the Park,(last home of the season, last 2 games away), good banter and humour all night. Best game was Peter v Dave, Dave having a season's worth of nets in 5 games".

The youngsters of Marconi 'D' Adrian McGrath!!, James Haskell, Andy Chaloner and Jack Nelson entertained 'learning the ropes' Waterloo to grab another 8 points in

Ian, Rob & Steve, including newbie Xianmin Change starring with his direct approach.

I'll take the last words from the last card (played 2nd May); Wav. Lab'E' versus Arriva'A', Wav_Lab'E' won 7-3 despite Colin Fyles losing to Kristof & Pavel, with his vision blurred by a nostalgic tear Captain Andy Bird writes "Is that really the last match of the season? Seem to have been playing for ever. Mind you not a bad match to finish on, usual friendly, but very competitive showing from the Polish guys, and quite a lot of generosity from the W.L. boys."

Let's hope next season is as good.

Editor

their push for promotion, it might have been 10 but were unfortunate to come up against the classical John Lau who's been helping out Waterloo with his vast experience, mind you Adrian and James pushed John and Paul Mainey to 5, to win a doubles, Graham Chellew and Bill Mainey, completing the Waterloo team.

Maghull 'E' visited Police 'E' where young Dominic Green had 2 good wins against Andy Mc. and Alan Smethurst, and another improving every match youngster, Jack Gittens getting one match off Wilf, but losing out to the experience of Andy, Neil Thomas beat Alan in 5 but then lost to young Phil Carlin in 5, Phil must have been in the mood having earlier beaten Eric Young (the real E.Y.) in 5 after being 2 down, I think the turning point was when his corner told him to wear ear plugs, a well earned 6-4 to Police.

Cadwa 'E's Jack Highton, Satish Ranka, Lewis Devonish and Shantanu Sing soon polished off Ariva 'B's Janus Wator, Josef Klamala, Danny Bellard and Ray Guy in a 10-0, no set going to 5.

Last match of the week was the youngsters of BYM 'D' (and me), Liam Shaw, Josh Cashmore and Saul Keelan at home to fellow promo. hopefuls Maghull 'D's Naresh, Jim A. Jim D. and Harry Mc., yours truly got his 2 singles and a double with Liam, best game of the night was Liam's battle with Jim D., winning in 5, but Liam couldn't get to grips with Naresh's 'exhuberance', comment on the card was "Not quite ready for the 4th!! Well played Maghull 'D' harrye winning his 2, the lads unable to handle his pushing"

[Week 24](#) starts with Arriva 'D' giving a walkover to Maghull 'F', due to work schedule, (keep them buses running boys). A changed Maghull 'E' Brian Gregory replacing skipper Andy Mc.at 1 with Alan S. Keith Whittaker and Wilf were at home to a strengthened Cadwa 'E', Peter Roberts coming in at 1, with Jack H., Lewis D. Shantanu S., well played Keith, picking up Maghull,s only 2 points. Alan S. took up Andy's pen to add the match comment, "come back quick Andy, Dad's Army missed your young qualities. Except for Keith who is playing well,

and looks fitter than ever! Still we had our normal good laugh, Alan”

Waterloo’s Paul M, Billy Humphray, Graham C. and Ron Bates went down 10-0 to a strong Police ‘E’ with dad John and Dominic Green, Jack Gittins and Eric Y. no one had told Graham and Ron to wear ear plugs, a good 10-0 for the Police.

Marconi ‘D’ start to make sure of the 2nd spot with Trevor O. joining the youngsters, James, Andy and Jack to pull in 9 points from BsM ‘Ds Albert P. Keith D. Barbara A. and Don G. 2 games going to 5.

Maghull ‘D’s Alan Chan, Naresh T. Jim D and Andy Cowell, met A high flying Sefton P. ‘A’s/ Peter T. Robbie, Fred , and Ian F., good wins for penholder Alan beating Robbie in 3, and Jim D. beating Ian F. in 3, Sefton march on!!

Wavertree ‘F’ s Gordon L. Eric S. Femi. And Sharon M. had a good 7-3 win over Sefton Park ‘B’s Eric Wood, Mike Poole, Barry Meyer and Robert Todd, Mike winning his 2 singles and his doubles with Eric for Parks 3 points.

Week 25

Sefton ‘B’s experienced team of Eric B, Mike P. Alan S and Barry M. visited a Maghull ‘F’ team of youngsters, no senior figure (Harry Mc.) tonight, , Luke C., Michael S., Phil C. and Danny H. all won their doubles, Sefton’s only consolation was in the second doubles winning in4, a good result for the juniors.

Marconi ‘D’ are keeping up the pressure on the promo spot, bringing in Ray Hibbs as well as Trevor O. and giving young Luke Olyumbo a run out with Andy Chaloner making the squad, they took on fellow chasers Maghull ‘D’, must have been a great match, Alan C. getting a good 3-1 win over a very experienced Ray, but losing to Trevor, Naresh losing Trevor and young Andy, Jim Ambrose losing to Ray and Luke, a good win for young Luke, and Jim Dickson beating both Andy and Luke (experience), doubles shared, so an important win for Marconi ‘D’

Police ‘E’ entertained BsM ‘G’ this week, young Jack G. turned out at No. 1 but lost bot to experience of Albert and Dave N. Neil T. beat Barb as did ‘young’ Eric, Mike F. lost to Dave N. but beat Des L., both in 3, Eric beat Barbara in 3, Barbara too much of a lady to tell Eric to ‘pipe down’, and Eric, 2 nil in front, lost 3-2 to Des, Bes must have found those ear plugs, so a good 7-3 win for BsM.

A settled Cadwa ‘E’ side entertained a settled Waterloo side, both had strong No. 1’s, Peter Roberts and John Lau, John being the 100 percenter, winning all 3, Jack H., Satish and Shantanu making up the squad for a good 7-3 win. John was ably assisted by Paul M , with Graham and George Chellew.

Arriva ‘B’s Januz, Josef, Danny and Ray had a good 6-4 win over Maghull ‘E’s Andy Mc., Alan S. Wilf G. and Tom Downing, Tom 100% at the table, combining with Andy Mc. in the doublesm Andy winning the other point for Maghull, Januz won his 2, Josef, Danny and Ray all won one with D & R winning the second doubles, a good win for the buses.

The young BYM ‘D’ squad of Liam, Josh, Saul and Tom entertained the experienced Wav. Lab ‘F’s Gordon L. Eric

S. Sharon M. and Bill Stanley, (good to see you back Bill), Liam beat Eric in a tough 5 gamer, Josh beat Sharon, Saul had a bleak night, and Tom won his 2, with a great win over Bill in 5, Gordon being the only 100 percenter, to give Wav. A good 6-4 win and put paid to BYM’s promo hopes!

Week 26

The Final week has arrived, 2nd. From top Marconi ‘D’ has played their last game in week 25 and will have to sit and bite their fingers and wait for the result of their closest rival Maghull ‘D’. Marconi’s last game was played on Friday, but the card didn’t reach Trevor soon enough!! to go into the week-end tables, so Maghull didn’t know what they needed in their last game on the Monday at home to Police, I suppose they could have rung around!! So with all the pressure on Mag ‘D’ they won but not by enough, Andy Mc. wasn’t playing so no report on the match card.

Andy was playing in the derby between Mag. ‘E’ & ‘F’, so we did have a full page report (damn!!), the youngsters took the oldies ‘to the cleaners’, with an 8-2 win, may have been a bit of a party atmosphere but might mean a bit of re-ranking here, I won’t try and report, Andy’s pen can do it for me. “A well deserved win for the ‘F’ team against a *slightly* weakened ‘E’ team. In young Michael Stewart they must have the most improved ‘player over the season’ candidate. E team captain Andy having to play with an injured knee, but didn’t distract from a good overall performance from the ‘F’ team. A long hard season for the ‘Dads Army’ ‘E’ team finally took its toll, a good doubles win by Captain Mainwaring (Andy) and Sargent Wilson (Gregory) over the young pups, and a battling win for the ‘E’ teams MVP (most valuable player Keith Whittaker (Frazer) over an improving Phil Carlin. Once again hero Wilf Gibson (Godfrey) played well under difficult circumstances. Corporal Jones (Smethurst) went AWOL this time, and we missed his humour & banter, all in all an enjoyable season! Andy McCourt”

I think I’ve found my next season’s Div 5 reporter, how about it Andy, and you can explain to all those who’ve never been in the forces what AWOL is!! Editor

Last match for Waterloo finished on a ‘good’ note , a good draw against Arriva ‘B’, for their first season in the League, 3 wins and 2 draws was good going, at present they think they will be a bit short of players for the new season, so anyone interested contact their secretary, match comment from Graham C. “All competitive games and a decider in the last at 5-4, going to 5 games and a tie break, match had everything – great stuff”.

Another last match draw, BsM ‘G’s Albert, Dave, Keith & Des. v Cadwa ‘E’s Jack, Satish, Lewis & Shantanu, match report was “ Great match, very competitive, Albert Parker and Shantanu in good form. Doubles victories gave Bath Street a fighting draw”

Final match for Wav. ‘F’ just happened to be against runaway winners Sefton ‘A’ who weren’t going to ease up, I bet the Park still got a choice of choc biscuits though, I’m sure Gordon, Eric, Femi & Sharon had a good night, Femi did well, pushing Ian F. to 5, losing the last 2 13 & 12. What can we say about Sefton ‘A’, unexpected, friendly, make you welcome, swept all before them, played 24,

drawn 0, lost 0, 213 points, and best of all, made a good cup of tea and coffee, good luck in the 4th.

Final card for me, my own team away to Sefton 'B', Eric, Mike, Alan and Ian W. surprising us, with a well earned draw, the BYM lads of Liam, Josh, Saul & Tom getting better each season.

Best wishes to all for another competitive new 2012 – 13 season

Roly

Welcome to the new players in the 7 new teams in the 5th, 2 teams from new Club QVC, and one team from new Club East Wavertree, and the players in the 4 new teams from established Clubs, good luck for an enjoyable season.

If any Clubs have too many players, ask around for vacancy's, it isn't poaching.

The Liebherr Men's World Cup Table Tennis



28-30 Sep 12

The World Cup is coming to Liverpool!

Liverpool will play host to a wealth of top international athletes, when **The Liebherr Men's World Cup Table Tennis** event heads to **Echo Arena** from 28 -30 September.

This will be your chance to see Olympians competing in the North of England and as the first major tournament after the Olympics, The Liebherr Men's World Cup could see the competitive debut of the new Olympic Champion.

The tournament will consist of an elite group of 19 players, made up from the Olympic and World Champions, four Intercontinental Champions (Africa, Latin America, North America and Oceania), a home nation wild card, an international wild card and the highest ranked international players.

England's Paul Drinkhall has been selected to play in the Men's World Cup in Liverpool next month. The England number two registered a great win at the Olympic Games, beating Singapore's Yang Zi - ranked at 54 in the world. 19 year old Liam Pitchford has also been invited to the list of top class entries, Pitchford chalked up a career best win

Women's Singles: Rd. 1 E Vickers (Dy) bt H Dawson (Irl) 5, 6, 2; A Givan (Irl) bt A Phillips 4, 7, 11; J Dawson (Cv) bt S Timlin (Irl) 10, 8, 5; J Gibson (Ch) bt R Bayley (IOM) 4, 4, 10;

Q/F M Phillips (Wal) bt J Dawson 6, 5, -5, -13, 6; Givan bt Y King (Sx) 7, 2, -9, 12; K LeFevre (Cv) bt Vickers 4, 5, 8; C Whyte (Cv) bt Gibson 10, 6, 4; Givan bt Whyte 9, 10, -3, 10;

Le Fevre bt M Phillips 9, 8, 7; **Final:** Le Fevre bt Givan 8, 6, 1;

Women's Band 1 Q/F A Phillips (Wa) bt S Collier -9, 1,5, -8, 8; M Phillips (Wal) bt J Gibson (Ch) 8, 4, 6; S/F Y King (Sx) bt A Phillips 4, 9, 8; M Phillips bt K Hughes (Wo) 8, 10, -10, 8;

Final: M Phillips bt King **1-11, 11-7, 11-1, 13-15, 11-7;**

Women's Band 2 S/F C Whittaker (Sco) bt K Hughes (Wo) -11, 4, 6, -8, 8; E O'Reilly (Irl) bt L Elliot (Sco) 12, -9, 7, 10; **Final:** O'Reilly bt Whittaker -8, 9, 13, -9, 9;

Women's Band 3 Q/F L Zhu (Sk) bt N Finn (Y) 7, -9, 4, -7, 11; Z Cheesman(Y) I Diederrich (Ger) -8, 13, -8, 7, 9; G Muda (Mi) bt J Bromley (Y) 5, -9, 9, -8, 9; K McGlone (Irl) bt

P Orzechowska -9,-9,8, 7,4; S/F McGlone bt Muda 4, 4, 6; Zhu 5, 5, 6; **Final:** Zhu bt McGlone 5, 9, 4;

Open Doubles Preliminary Rd.

K Dolder (La)/J Taylor (Ch) bt D Barna (Sy)/A Forshaw (Sy) 8, 5, 11; B Pegg (Sp)/J Hurdley (Sp) bt G + F Potjewyd (So) 2, -5, 4, -7, 1;

1st Rd. C Doran (Np)/D Nicholls (Sp) bt Dolder/Taylor Dodds/Short (Ys) bt A + M Phillips (Wal) -5, 10, 5, 5; C Main (Sco)/C Hardie (Sco) bt C Hallows (Ch)/E Vickers (Dy) 8, 3, 7;

D Meads (Cv)/A Hirji (Mi) bt B Pegg (Sp)/J Hurdley (Sp) -8, 9, 6, 8;

S/F Doran/Nicholls bt Dodds/Short 9, 13, 7; Meads/Hirji bt Main/Hardie 2, 7, 6;

Final: Doran/Nicholls bt Meads/Hirji 12, -8, 11, 6;

Schools



Deyes High pupil serves up a smash in national competition

Deyes High School pupil Amy Hutchings, of year 8, has finished third in a national table tennis competition.

On Saturday 21st April, Doncaster Dome was filled with just under 300 competitors from all areas of the country for the English Schools' Table Tennis Association Butterfly Individual Championships.

Amy qualified for the event through winning the Merseyside Schools U13 tournament in Formby last month so was representing all of the region's schools.

In Doncaster, Amy finished top of the group stage before defeating highly ranked opposition in the quarter finals. Unfortunately, Amy was knocked out in the semi-finals by eventual winner, London North's Hiba Feredj.

Amy, who plays for the Maghull T.T. Club in the Liverpool Table Tennis League in a family team that includes Mum and Aunt, was delighted with

her performance at the national championships, the largest one day table tennis competition in England.

The lone defending title holder was, Marcus Giles (London South) looked set to be tested all day if he was to hold on to his national Under 13 Boys title. He beat Rob Barker (Merseyside) and Crosby High T.T. Club in the quarter-final, then in a tremendously close 3-1 match beat Tom Jarvis 3-1.

2012 U11-14s National Championships

Congratulations to three youngsters who play regularly in the L&DTTL, Rob Barker (U13) from Crosby High, Amy Hutchings (U14) from Maghull, & Jess Whittingham (U14) from Huntsman Wood, who all won through their local rounds to appear in the National Finals at Sheffield.

Merseyside Schools Games

The Annual Merseyside School Games were arranged and set up for both indoor and outdoor sports with large contingents from as far as Halton and Wirral in all sports. The table Tennis was organised to play in the main hall of the Wavertree Sports Centre and the outdoor sports, where else, the outdoor arenas and fields!! But the weather was so atrocious that every sport had to be played indoors!!! The T.T. was relegated to the indoor running track, a long narrow room, but credit to the organisers and the young competitors, they just got on with it, no cancellations.

The following 'thank you' e-mail was sent out by the School Sports Development Manager -:

Date: Fri, 6 Jul 2012 19:22:43 +0100

Subject: Merseyside School Games

Hi all,

Just wanted to take some time to send my sincerest thanks for your support today!

It wasn't the easiest of days due to the weather which in the end almost made it a completely different event. I loved the attitude to getting through it and carrying on with your sport as it should be done - (especially after so many requests to cancel all outdoor sports)! Superb.

Dave Simms / Nathan - I dont know how you dealt with such massive changes in Tennis and Quadkids in the way you did. Absolutely brilliant! Thank you so much for changing and adapting to the extreme! Brilliant!

The feedback I received and over heard was great! All the children and young people loved it - and that is what it is all about! All sports were fantastic, we and the LOC couldn't ask for more.

As always, its been a pleasure working with you. You really made the School Games great today!

Thank you!--

Kind Regards

Calum Donnelly

Development Manager (Sport)

Merseyside Sports Partnership



Letters

Dear Roly

I visited Joyce and Peter Barton at the weekend, and they gave me the digest to read, as they knew I would be interested having played in the league myself years ago. Known then by Barbara Hayton, Joyce being my sister.

How to feel old in one fell swoop, reading Ted Birch saying he had been playing for 50 years, I remember him as a little lad first starting, how he could have been playing that long I do not know, cos I am still only 29. I wish.

It was great to read some of the names of people I played a long side of, some still with us and others not. Like my old mate Mabel Frances (Neary), Eileen Mansell and Billy Clayton & Ted Gilmore to name a few.

One of the digests mentioned the sad news of Peter Hurworth passing away, Peter and I won the Mixed doubles title in the Business Houses one year, and we both played for the same club Wavertree Labour. I also played for Crawford's Ladies, and Otis Elevator then, oh those were the days.

Those days there was a ladies league, with names playing like Mabel, Moya Jones, Muriel Cox, Lill Wynn, Reggie Royle, Barbara Cain, Judy Crafter and Betty Black to mention just a few, some great memories for Joyce and I, we often chat about those days and the fun we had.

When I lived in South Wales for a time, playing inter city games, who should be at one of them but Ralph Gunnion, a great surprise. We had a great time catching up with what was going on back in Liverpool. We Scousers don't half get around.

I am now living down in Leicester, no table tennis these days, but am playing Lawn Bowls, my nickname being Demolition Doreen, for my competitive spirit.

You never lose it no matter what sport you end up playing. You still want to win.

My regards with fondness for memories passed to all that remember me.

Keep the digest coming, I will still be an avid reader now I know I can get it on line.

Thanks to all at the Digest for taking me back in time

Keep up the good work, its great to see it still going after all this time. Well Done

Barbara Hayton (nee Horsely)

The 2012 Olympic Games



Great Britain had a representative in the Olympic Men's Singles Final, as ETTA umpire Tom Purcell (Merseyside Police T.T.Club) realised his dreams by officiating on the biggest stage at the ExCeL Arena.

Tom, part of a select panel of 24 International elite umpires to officiate at this year's Olympic Games, was given the privilege to oversee the final ahead of his fellow peers.

He said: "It is by far a long way the highlight of my career, it's nice to be chosen. It's an endorsement to all of my training and my selection based on my experience."

Tom, who has been playing table tennis since the age of 12 and who has umpired around the world in events including the European Championships and the Men's World Cup Final last year, found just before the Final of this once in a lifetime opportunity.

He commented: "I found out the evening before last when the schedule came out for yesterday. I was delighted. We would all like to be chosen for the final but for it to actually happen is very exciting."

The London Olympics has brought about several benefits for the host representatives with the crowds not only being receptive to the players, but also for the home officials – something Purcell has been a beneficiary of throughout the first week.

He enthused: "It is hard to take it in. All the British umpires in here have been getting very good applause." He added: "I know my family is recording the final and they're all very pleased. I've already received a number of texts of congratulations from my friends."

Having also been selected to umpire at the [Liebherr Men's World Cup](#) in his home city of Liverpool (at the Echo Arena on 28-30th September), Tom can look forward to an exciting and prestigious end to 2012.

Ping! Liverpool



The success of Ping! over the last 4 weeks has meant that the Ping! Parlour in Clayton Square shopping centre in the Liverpool city centre is staying open until the 31st August. We have 4 tables in there and have regulars who now come in to play as well as the general public who have heard about it and who want to have a go. This is a great opportunity for me to point the people who want to continue in the direction of the clubs in Liverpool, (such as the Waterloo Club who you mentioned).

Not only that but I am now looking to start sessions where the legacy tables have gone as the 40 tables that were around Liverpool for the Ping! programme have now been moved to permanent homes with the hope they will bring in new interested players who want to then go on to join a club.

I am hoping to link with the L&DTTL very soon as I am looking to get new members into the TT clubs that already exist. I understand that not every club is looking for new members but for the ones that are, I am hopefully going to get the people who go to play on the legacy tables and who are interested in playing for a club to the clubs that are already around.

Currently I am still going to the Ping Parlour each week day afternoon and with the TT World Cup coming up in September, I am quite busy with booking tickets for that and promoting it as I have been given the task of being in charge of the Activity Area at the Echo Arena giving the people who are there to watch the World Cup a chance to have a go and play. Once I have visited some of the legacy tables at the venues where the number of people who want to continue playing or want to play for a club are high, I will be looking to meet with yourself to discuss which clubs are looking for new players.

Thanks

Nikki

Nicola Murphy | Liverpool Table Tennis Development Officer

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The Opening Days PinG launch in Liverpool's Williamson Square was a great success, the eight open air tables attracting a couple of hundred of both young and 'mature' players during the seven hours the tables were available. One surprise visitor to the square was former Liverpool and Lancashire player, John Rankin who hasn't played in the Liverpool league for a number of years but still showed touches which saw him reach the Liverpool Closed men's singles final on three occasions. Jonathan Taylor, Joel Webb, Rob Davies and ten year old Sam Walsh from Wirral together with ETTA staff, Brian Kean, Katy Dixon, Mike Moir plus new Liverpool TT Development Officer Nikki Murphy, all weighed in with invaluable help throughout the day.



N.W. Regional Development Manager, Andrea Holt said she was disappointed with the response from the LD TTL in that only two players turned up to the volunteer workshop despite the publicity. The two players who she wanted to name were **Andy Cowell from Maghull and Ken Roberts of Wavertree Labour**. These two guys have spent most days at the Ping parlour Clayton Square headquarters since the project started. Andrea said the free TT was a good idea and raised the profile of the game within the City.

Link for 32 tables left behind -: <http://www.ldttl.co.uk/legacy.pdf>



Bill Henry Pierce
Deceased 5th June, 2012

Bill Pierce made his mark in the sport while playing for Wallasey Juniors' at Manor Road YMCA, Wirral, in the 1940's, the club being a nursery for many excellent young players. He lived in Park Road,

Wallasey and was educated at Oldershaw Grammar School.

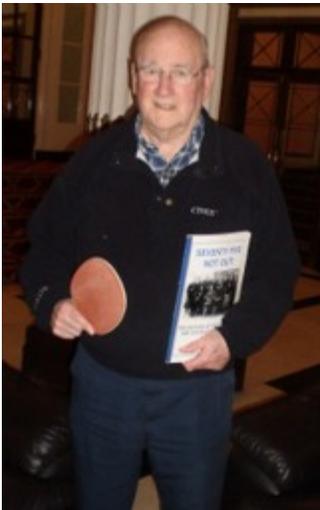


Bill Pierce

Photo from 75 Not Out

He was soon selected to play for Liverpool in the 'Lancashire League' before being nominated to attend England trials which led to selection for England for a junior tour of Sweden in 1949. There he played a couple of international matches plus a number of provincial encounters and following the tour, the team joined the senior squad at the Stockholm world championships. In one of the many tournaments entered, he reached the Yorkshire open men's final and although beaten -18, 18, -19, -19, by Manchester's England international Ron Allcock, Bill notched a fine semi-final win over his coach Bobby Roberts, the Liverpool men's doubles champion in 1935 and 51 and the father of Neil, the 1974 Liverpool Closed junior champion.

One of his most memorable singles victories came in the semi-finals of the 1953 Wirral Closed when he was hot favourite to claim the title. Opponent, Ron Grayson took the opening game 21-14, Bill winning the next 21-17. The decider developed into a tremendous contest - Grayson forging leads of 10-1 and 19-9, Bill, though, fighting back to level at 20 all after saving a match point. The next ten points were equally shared, Bill eventually claiming an amazing 27-25 victory. The final seemed an anti-climax with Bill overcoming former Liverpool men's first team player and Closed doubles finalist, Roy Jones, 21-16, 21-14. Bill won the Liverpool Closed junior title in 1948 and 49 while adding two more Liverpool successes in 1960 and 61, claiming the doubles title with E Davies.



An RAF man, Bill was also a fine cricketer and opened the batting for Port Sunlight and in the report I read, scored 100 at Ainsdale in the 1950's although the match went to the Seaside's which earned them the title.

I met Bill and his wife Maureen at the Liverpool Adelphi hotel in February this year (2012) when on a visit from his home in Midhurst in Sussex. He recalled players' from his club African Oil Mills and in particular John Coveney plus those he played against which included Jack McCaig and Bernie Hand while others, I only knew about from reading *Seventy Five Not Out, The History of the Liverpool League* by former League Secretary, A.J. (Tony) Harris, a copy of which I presented to Bill who was 80 in 2011.

Don Davies
Chairman

Liverpool & District
Table Tennis League

Bill Pierce 2012

Final League Tables for Season 2012 - 13

Division One	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Fords	24	22	2	0	191	49	191
2 Crosby High B	24	19	1	4	172	68	172
3 Christ The King	24	16	4	4	155	85	155
4 Bath St Marine	24	14	1	9	139	101	139
5 Crosby High	24	15	4	5	138	102	138
6 Bootle YMCA	24	9	3	12	122	118	122
7 M/Side Police	24	12	3	9	118	122	118
8 Bath St Marine A	24	7	3	14	110	130	110
9 Christ The King A	24	8	0	16	98	142	98
10 Crosby High A	24	7	0	17	94	146	94
11 Cadwa	24	7	2	15	89	151	89
12 Fords A	24	3	3	18	69	171	69
13 Harold House	24	3	2	19	65	175	65
14 Free	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Division Two	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Wavertree Lab	22	17	2	3	155	65	155
2 Marconi	22	14	4	4	138	82	138
3 Christ The King B	22	12	3	7	134	86	134
4 Bath St Marine B	22	12	3	7	127	93	127
5 Cadwa A	22	10	7	5	125	95	125
6 M/Side Police A	22	12	4	6	123	97	123
7 Bootle YMCA A	22	11	2	9	116	104	116
8 Crosby High C	22	7	3	12	95	125	95
9 Harold House A	22	6	3	13	91	129	91
10 Wavertree Lab A	22	6	2	14	86	134	86
11 Marconi A	22	5	4	13	84	136	84
12 Wavertree Lab B	22	1	1	20	46	174	46
13 Free	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14 Harold House B	Withdrawn Record Expunged						

Division Three	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Bath St Marine C	24	20	3	1	191	49	191
2 Harold House C	24	21	1	2	167	73	167
3 Bootle YMCA B	24	13	6	5	143	97	143
4 Marconi B	24	13	4	7	135	105	135
5 M/Side Police B	24	13	1	10	132	108	132
6 Maghull	24	12	2	10	120	120	120
7 Arriva Nth West	24	9	2	13	115	125	115
8 Maghull A	24	9	2	13	108	132	108
9 Bath St Marine D	24	9	3	12	107	133	107
10 M/Side Police C	24	8	3	13	104	136	104
11 Cadwa B	24	7	1	16	91	149	91
12 Cadwa C	24	4	3	17	76	164	76
13 Bath St Marine E	24	1	3	20	71	169	71
14 M/Side Police D	Withdrawn Record Expunged						

Division Four	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Wavertree Lab C	24	23	1	0	191	49	191
2 Bath St. Marine F	24	17	3	4	149	91	149
3 Huntsman Wood	24	13	5	6	149	91	149
4 Cadwa D	24	13	5	6	139	101	139
5 Wavertree Lab E	24	14	3	7	135	105	135
6 Sefton Park	24	10	7	7	128	112	128
7 Arriva N.W. A	24	11	4	9	115	125	115
8 Marconi C	24	8	3	13	108	132	108
9 Linacre	24	6	4	14	104	136	104
10 Wavertree Lab D	24	6	5	13	102	138	102
11 Maghull C	24	5	4	15	87	153	87
12 Maghull 'B'	24	5	5	14	84	156	84
13 Bootle YMCA C	24	0	1	23	49	191	49
14 Free	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Division Five	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Sefton Park A	24	24	0	0	213	27	213
2 Marconi D	24	19	2	3	165	75	165
3 Maghull D	24	17	3	4	157	83	157
4 Bootle YMCA D	24	13	4	7	150	90	150
5 Cadwa E	24	12	4	8	127	113	127
6 Arriva N.West	24	12	2	10	122	118	122
7 Maghull F	24	11	4	9	122	118	122
8 Bath St Marine G	24	6	6	12	98	142	98
9 Wavertree Lab F	24	7	2	15	95	145	95
10 Maghull E	24	3	6	15	85	155	85
11 M/Side Police E	24	5	3	16	78	162	78
12 Waterloo	24	3	2	19	75	165	75
13 Sefton Park B	24	3	4	17	71	169	71
14 Free	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<i>Fines to Date 2010 - 11</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Total</i>
Walk Overs Vets Cup	£6	£6
Ineligible Player	£0	£0
Player Short	£3	£105
Walk Overs League	£6	£72
Walk Overs Cup	£6	£12
Played Out of Order	1.50 PP	£15
Late Score Card	£3	£69
Total		£279.00

<i>Fines to Date 2011 - 12</i>	<i>Fine</i>	<i>Total</i>
Late Score Card	£4	£44
Player Short	£3	£84
Walk Overs 3 A-Side	£9	£108
Walk Overs 4 A-Side	£12	£12
Walk Overs Cup 3 A-Side	£9	£36
Walk Overs Cup 4 A-Side	£12	£12
Played Out of Order	1.50 PP	£0
No Stamp On Score Card	£2	£2
Total		£298.00