

April 2025



**READING
& DISTRICT
TABLE TENNIS
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER**
Editor: Derek Wavell

Ian Cole and Graham Mendick faced each other twice during the Reading Closed tournament - in the Men's Singles and the Veteran Singles. You are invited to see the [VIDEO](#). Battles of speed and spin!

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Division 1 Singles Final | H Gehlot vs G Mendick |
| 2. Women's Doubles Final: | W.Porter/K.Maksimenko vs
A.Slobodskoy/ L.Forster |
| 3. Men's Singles | Ian Cole vs G Mendick |
| 4. Under 40 Singles: | Pej vs Jordan |
| 5. Women's Singles | Louise F vs Wendy Porter |
| 6. Junior Singles: | Pej Vig vs Holly Ranson |
| 7. Mixed Doubles: | I.Cole + Pallavi vs D.Moses + W. Porter |

Direct links [to](#) videos

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This Newsletter gives results of several tightly-fought tournaments, as well as the year-end outcomes of the Reading League.

Some people (including me) find long lists of game scores offputting, even though they may be vital to look up for matches we are interested in. So I've tried something new - hiding each row of numbers behind a coloured star to click on. Like this - click it..



Plenty of photos and videos here again. All my own doing - so you know who to blame! But admit it, you're a good-looking lot. And some players even give a nice smile for the camera as they play their shot 😊.

Derek Wavell



Notes from our Chairman

Another Season flies by!

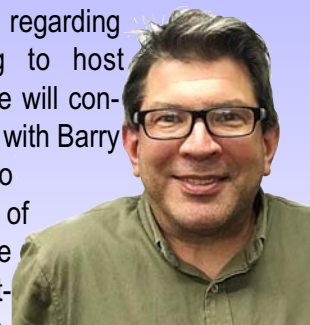
Thank you to all the players, parents and volunteers for another year of supporting table tennis in Reading.

It was a super-exciting end to the season - All divisional champions were unclear until the final match (except div 4)! But congratulations in the end go to Kingfisher A, Tidmarsh B, Sonning Sports B and Springfield B for winning their respective divisions.

If you could all kindly please ensure that Wednesday 4th June is noted in your calendars for our AGM and awards evening at Tilehurst Royal British Legion starting at 7pm. As well as some necessary formalities it promises to be a fun evening with the trophy giving, bar, quiz and free buffet. It would be great to try and set the record of getting all of the Reading Closed, team competitions and divisional winners and runners-up collect their trophies (and saving some extra work in the process).

We anticipate some important updates and announce-

ments which may benefit from your voice at the AGM. We are aware of the development regarding Kingfisher no longer wishing to host Reading league matches and we will contact you in the near future. Also, with Barry Carter leaving us we are yet to receive any interest for the role of treasurer which is crucial in the formation of our league committee. Our accounts are not so complex and the role is not too onerous for the majority of the time, so any interested parties should contact a committee member.



Congratulations to Prayrit and Theo for representing Reading juniors and winning the zonal Carter Cup to qualify for the National final in July. Similarly our senior team of Mitch Neagu, Vince Nemes and Dan Moses will be competing in the Wilmott Cup, so we also wish them all the best of luck.

All the best

Martin Adams



Secretary's message. We are so near the end of the season. The schedule is complete but the theme of match postponements has continued with Div 3 being the only one complete at the time of writing. Good luck to those final few games to bring the season to a close.

5 seems to be a common number between the divisions with the teams that struggled most with their players or venue availability all needing to re-arrange that many times.

As I look back upon the season the statistic I used in December has carried through with Division 2 being the

closest division by far with only 58 points from first to last place. Div 1 and 4 have nearly double that with 110 and 101 points gap. The Div 1 gap would have been enough to challenge for the win in Div 2. Division 3 has finished at 64 points so it got a lot closer as the season went on.

To bring our season to a close in traditional fashion we have the Reading Masters around the time this will come out, the best of luck to all who are invited to play. Then we have our Awards ceremony and AGM on the 4th June at TRBL. It was great to see so many players and families last year, please reserve the date and come along to make it another evening to remember.

Regards

Alistair

Wally Allanson

February 1935 - March 2025

Saying Goodye to a Distinguished Old Friend

Wally was such a gentleman and a high-class defensive player. Having been brought up on Merseyside he moved to the Shillingford area around 1980 and found his table tennis home at the Sonning Common and Peppard club. He was the driving force in winning the League title in 87-88 and

91-92 as well as winning the veteran's singles in 1988. He was ranked in the top 100 men in England well into his 50's and represented Gillette Reading and OLOP in the British League. He chose to stop playing table tennis competitively around the year 2004 when his condition started to seriously affect his reactions. We send our condolences to his friends and family.

Martin Adams

[See tribute from Jon Samuel](#)



DIVISION ONE

by Martin Adams

What a season we've just witnessed! It went down to the final match for the title and there's still an unresolved relegation battle (Please note we extended the deadline to ensure the final fixture could take place and the final positions are fair-and-square!). It was a pleasure to act as DFS for another year.

We've also finalised the line-up for the Reading Masters which takes place on Saturday the 26th April starting at 12pm at Kingfisher. There promises to be some fine play for any specta-

Khakhamov) is almost pointless ;-). As well as the final impressive run-in, we managed an 8 - 2 away win against Sonning Common & Peppard 'A', effectively ending any outside chance they had to challenge. I managed a very rare win over Dan Moses although he wasn't firing on all cylinders.

Runners-Up **Kingfisher B** made us work for it and they undoubtedly include the best two players the league has witnessed for a good few years in Mitch Neagu and Vince Nemes who both remained convincingly unbeaten and we wish them

luck in representing Reading in the Wilmott Cup, the men's national competition for leagues, in May (with finals in July if qualified). Jacek and Ewelina are fantastic additions to division 1 and Jordan backed the team up well all season. It's slightly unusual to see

Graham, Julian and Cath play so few in a season having played in most of last season's matches – perhaps they will revert to running a team between them in 25-26!

To 3rd and Sonning Common and Peppard A who kept in touch until the final few weeks when they lost out to KFA 2-8. Other than Dan who uncharacteristically lost a couple he per-



KINGFISHER A - MARTIN ADAMS, RISHAAN SAWANT, HARI GEHLOT

tors as the ten qualifiers compete - including Daniel Moses, Robert Hansell, Theo Kniep, Martin Adams, Hari Gehlot, Jacek Piechocki, Mike Childs, Shashwat Somani, Jordan Huang and Chris West (who takes Kate Maksimenko's awarded place as leading Division 2 average).

It generally played out that **Kingfisher 'B'** were always a match or two ahead in terms of fixtures and seeing if **Kingfisher 'A'** could muster up enough points (27 needed from 30 at one stage) in the final run-in. It turned out that KFA made no errors in securing all 30 to end up 5 points ahead of KFB.

So your Champions for another season are **Kingfisher 'A'** – Martin Adams and Hari Gehlot played most of the fixtures, mainly since drawing up a rota in advance for the others (Ross Saxby, Rishaan Sawant and Dmitry



JACEK PIECHOCKI OF KFB



IAN COLE OF SC&P A



MITCH NEAGU OF KFB

	DIV 1	PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Kingfisher A	20	15	1	4	159	41	159
2	Kingfisher B	20	19	1	0	154	46	154
3	SC&P A	20	13	3	4	142	58	142
4	Kingfisher C	20	8	3	9	94	106	94
5	Kingfisher F	19	11	2	6	92	98	92
6	Sonning Sports A	20	4	4	12	91	109	91
7	Kingfisher E	20	6	3	11	88	111	88
8	Kingfisher D	20	7	3	10	81	119	81
9	Tidmarsh A	20	4	4	12	71	129	71
10	Tilehurst RBL A	19	5	4	10	68	122	68
11	SC&P B	20	2	2	16	49	150	49



haps normally shouldn't and Ed Lush becoming unavailable, they didn't quite have the strength in depth with Gary Morgan, Ian Cole and Jason Roberts unable to defeat the 80%-ers this time around.

4th (at least for now) is **Kingfisher C** – They recovered



PALLAVI URANKAR

from 8th to rise up steadily since the halfway point and once again the epitome of team-togetherness and consistency. I've been really impressed with Nigel Keedy – despite playing the least of the lot he has recorded a 2 or 3 in every one of his appearances. Pallavi and Harry are great additions to the division and Phil Mead's and Alan Cummings' performances have peaked just as the season is coming to a close!

5th with a match still to play is **Kingfisher F** – After their very first match, toppling champions KFA 6-4, I believed they could win the league. However, with coaching and schooling commitments they could not keep their squad together for all matches and unfortunately even ended up conceding some fixtures. But well-done Prayrit for giving it a go with an all-junior team. Theo Kniep remains my tip for the top – and sister Chloe's results are also starting to bear fruit (Danny Dockree, Phil Mead etc). Ryan Chung didn't appear so much but Aarav Parva more than made up for it.

6th is **Sonning Sports A** – Remarkably they only won four of their twenty matches, but Captain Bob Woodmansee at least has something to smile about after the club's highest ever finish. Hardly Surprising when Robert Hansell is in your team – He managed to take revenge over Dan Moses 3-0 and thus finish top of the averages of those that played half the matches or more. When paired with Dave Croucher they are a top 3 prospect. Even without him they



MAN TO BEAT - DANIEL MOSES

managed two 5-5 draws with SC&PA where Nick Sears also added some useful points including Ian Cole plus doubles wins with Rob. Graham Diplock picked up some crumbs and having played every match for 6 straight seasons before this one, my Wycombe league colleague Paul Savage only played once in 2025.

7th and surpassing my expectations are **Kingfisher E** – Given the starting line-ups you might have easily expected

this squad to struggle - but there was one name you may not have recognised – Shashwa Somani – Well we recognise it now! He has qualified for the Masters by contributing in every single one of the eleven matches he played in, scoring two or three in every appearance except vs KFB. Gordon Cho has also been a key addition to boost their win rate and Parvin Baishkiyar, Adrian Cretu and Clive Gold have consistently picked off the bottom 30% or so (plus a great start to the season by Wayne Alleyne) to ensure relegation was never a discussion point.

8th is **Kingfisher D** – Similar to last season they did enough to stay 10 or so points above the relegation spots. Again, it wasn't entirely down to Mike Childs who finishes another fine season by qualifying for the Masters. Tak Chan's results have been improving recently (Danny Dockree, Duncan Groves, Antony Baker) despite ending up under 20% and Mike Douglas when available supported admirably.

Now for the unresolved part – **Tidmarsh A** in 9th have completed their matches and must wait for the final fixture to determine their fate – they are just 3 ahead of Tilehurst RBL who have one fixture remaining against KFF. It's testament to the strength of the league that a class act like captain Duncan Groves finds himself on just 18% this time around. Lee Calcutt is doing ok though and with Antony Baker, Dale Ballard and Rob McMillan in their ranks I'm a little surprised they find themselves here but they have failed to string that much-needed convincing performance together against the other sides around them and sit without an overall win since January.

Tilehurst RBL A in 10th must still play KFF on 14th April – If they can score three or more points they will take 9th spot. It really would be The Great Escape – they were looking down and out but a revival from Keith Winter, Jon Willis and Marc Brent has given them hope after four draws and a win since Christmas.

Finally in 11th It wasn't to be for **Sonning Common & Peppard B** this season. Captain Danny Dockree (45%) was often struggling for a complete team and only he and Jon Abbott (40%) managed over 12% with Tim Raby, Daniel Artene and Angus Jones playing the unfortunate victims of a strong division one this season.

DIV 1 LEADING AVERAGES

Vince Nemes	Kingfisher B	24	24	100.00%
Mircea Neagu	Kingfisher B	17	17	100.00%
Robert Hansell	Sonning Sports A	30	28	93.33%
Ross Saxby	Kingfisher A	15	14	93.33%
Daniel Moses	SC&P A	43	39	90.70%
Jacek Piechocki	Kingfisher B	29	26	89.66%
Martin Adams	Kingfisher A	45	38	84.44%
Julian Telford	Kingfisher B	18	15	83.33%
Sam Kwok	Kingfisher F	12	10	83.33%
Shashwat Somani	Kingfisher E	33	27	81.82%
Hari Gehlot	Kingfisher A	54	43	79.63%
David Croucher	Sonning Sports A	24	19	79.17%
Ed Lush	SC&P A	19	15	78.95%
Kate Maksimenko (S)	Tilehurst RBL A	9	7	77.78%
Nigel Keedy	Kingfisher C	21	16	76.19%



READING CLOSED TOURNAMENT

by **Eric Van Looy**

Thirty-seven players signed up to play in the R&DTTA Closed on 16 February 2025, with a whopping 134 matches in 14 different events to get through. The schedule was kind this year, the volunteer umpires were even



more plentiful, and we managed to get everything finished in about 12 hours! The following report will try to capture the highlights, but is unable to mention each single set. We got things going at 9 am with the Divisional events:

Division 1

In the Division 1 Event, the group winners would face the 1st and 2nd seed in the semi-finals.

In Group A, Hari Gehlot (Kingfisher TTC) edged out Pallavi Urankar (Kingfisher TTC) 3-1. Julian Telford (Kingfisher TTC) [3] secured victory against Pallavi with a 3-1 score. Hari defeated Julian in straight games, finishing at the top of the group.

In Group B, Graham Mendick (Kingfisher TTC) defeated Wayne Alleyne (Kingfisher TTC) 3-0. Jingshun Huang (Kingfisher TTC) [4] also won against Wayne, finishing with a 3-0 scoreline. Graham claimed victory in the decisive match against Jingshun, winning 3-1.

The semi-finals featured Hari Gehlot taking down Jacek Piechocki (Kingfisher TTC) 3-0. On the other side, Graham secured a true upset against top seed Daniel Moses (Sonning Common & Peppard) 3-1.

The final was a fiercely contested five-game match. Hari clinched the Division 1 title with a narrow 3-2 victory over Graham. (NB - this DIVONE FINAL video was already previewed in February).



GRAHAM MENDICK

HARI GEHLOT

Division 2

Three Groups in Division 2, with group winners and the best 2nd player to go through to the semi-finals.

Group A began with Akeel Nazir Mir (Kingfisher TTC) [1] defeating Muharrem Aydin (Kingfisher TTC) 3-1. Akeel continued his winning streak against Nick Lean (Tilehurst RBL), winning 3-0. Muharrem secured second place by overcoming Nick 3-0.

Group B witnessed Holly Ranson (SC&P) edge past Ajay Yesi (Kingfisher TTC) in a dramatic five-game match. Bill Stamatou (Tidmarsh TTC) [2] dominated Ajay in straight games and outlasted Holly in another thrilling encounter.

In Group C, Huzeyfe Borazan (Kingfisher TTC) [4] defeated Andrew Adair (Kingfisher TTC) 3-0. Eyup Odemis (Kingfisher TTC) [3] claimed victory against Andrew 3-0 and narrowly defeated Huzeyfe 3-2.

Huzeyfe stunned Akeel in the semi-finals, winning 3-1. Bill defeated Eyup 3-1 to reach the final. In a hard-fought match, Huzeyfe prevailed over Bill in five games, securing the Division 2 title.



HUZEYFE BORAZON



Division 3

Three group winners in the Division 3 Event would join 1st seed Brett Hastings in the semi-finals.

Group A began with Gopikrishna Ponnappalli (OLOP) defeating Harry Bullock (OLOP) in a tight five-game match @. Gopikrishna also won against Graham Stark (OLOP) [2], finishing with a 3-1 score @.

In Group B, Huseyin Cihan Celik (Kingfisher TTC) edged out Alona Slobodskoy (OLOP) in a five-game contest @. Simon Brookes (OLOP) [3] secured a win against Alona 3-1 @ and defeated Huseyin 3-0 @.

In Group C, Louise Forster (OLOP) overcame Patrick McIntosh (OLOP) in a five-game match @. Louise lost narrowly to Mark Robert Carless (OLOP) [4], finishing 2-3 @. Patrick defeated Mark 3-1 @.

In the semi-finals, Brett Hastings (Sonning Sports) defeated Patrick 3-0 @ while Gopikrishna triumphed over Simon 3-0 @. Brett outlasted Gopikrishna in the final, winning 3-1 @ to claim the divisional title.



BRETT HASTINGS

Division 4

Two groups in Division 4 allowed us to put two players per group to advance to the semi-finals.

Pehej Vig (Kingfisher TTC) [1] dominated **Group A** with wins against Curtis So (Kingfisher TTC) 3-0 @ and Anish Shukul (OLOP) [3] 3-0 @. Anish defeated Curtis 3-0 @ to take second place.

In Group B, Krishiv Shukul (OLOP) [4] won against Isaac Doel (OLOP) 3-0 @ and tri-

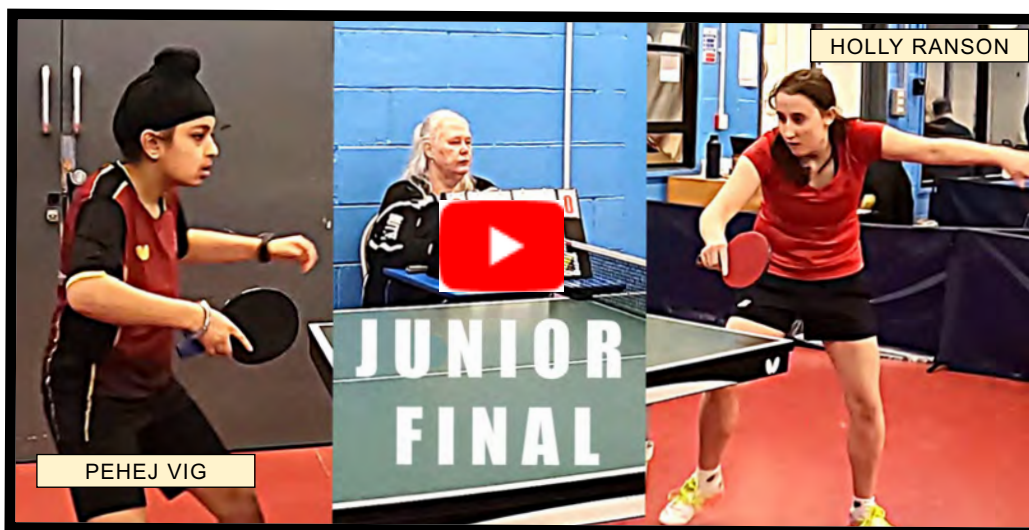


PEHEJ VIG

umphed over Houron Tsun (Kingfisher TTC) [2] in three games @. Houron defeated Isaac 3-0 @ to secure second place.

Pehej beat Houron **in the semi-finals** 3-1 @, while Krishiv overcame Anish in a five-game match @. In the final, Pehej defeated Krishiv 3-1 @ to become the Division 4 champion.

With all Divisional Events done, we then moved swiftly on to the age-restricted and open events.



PEHEJ VIG

HOLLY RANSON

Juniors

The Junior Singles semi-finals saw Pehej Vig dominate Curtis So with a 3-0 victory @, while Holly Ranson also advanced with a straight-games win against Krishiv Shukul .

In the **final**, Pehej displayed incredible determination, coming back from two games down to defeat Holly 3-2 @ and claim the Junior title, his second of the day.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO CONTINUE WITH READING CLOSED TOURNAMENT](https://www.tabletennis365.com/Reading/Pages/Newsletters/)



DIVISION TWO

by John Willcocks

The promotion race went to the last week of the season with OLOP 'A' leading and Tidmarsh 'B' hot on their heels. On the Monday night Tidmarsh 'B' had a useful 8 – 2 win which meant that OLOP 'A' then needed a 7 – 3 win to clinch the title. However, they could only manage a 6 – 4 defeat and had to settle for the runners up spot.

At the bottom of the table Tidmarsh 'C' were relegated when they still had a couple of matches to play. Kingfisher 'H' looked to have given themselves a chance of avoiding the drop when they won their last match 7 – 3 which meant that Kingfisher 'G' needed nine points from their three remaining matches. However, in the first of those they recorded a remarkable 10 – 0 win to secure their Division 2 status.



OLOP 'A' only won one of their last five matches and this run of results meant that they just missed out on the title and had to settle for runners up spot. **Chris** had their best average of 83% but he played fewer matches than the rest of the squad and if he had played in a couple more they might have finished top. Darek averaged over 70% an Alistair and Dave also had solid seasons so they are a very good team at this level. It will be interesting to see what happens next year in Division 1.

Original Prediction – 3rd Finishing Position - 2nd
Best Recent Performance – Dave Godfrey with a three straight win over Jason King

OLOP 'B' only lost once in the second half of the season and this good run of form saw them finish a very creditable third. The last time they played in Division 2 they were relegated so their improvement is remarkable and they could easily be promotion contenders next season. Sanket and Binit finished with averages in the mid sixties and they were well backed up by Pradeep who had 42% and the improving Shawnik

Original Prediction - 9th Finishing Position - 3rd
Best Recent Performance – Binit Bhaskar with a fine maximum against SC&P 'C'

Kingfisher 'I' had a mixed end to the season with three wins, two draws and two defeats. Earlier in the season it had looked like they could mount a promotion challenge but this did not quite materialise. They are a pretty strong all-round team with averages ranging from 33% to 69%. Akeel finished with the highest average and he was

DIV 2	PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Tidmarsh B	18	11	2	5	108	72	108
2 OLOP	18	10	3	5	105	75	105
3 OLOP B	18	8	6	4	100	80	100
4 Kingfisher I	18	8	5	5	100	80	100
5 Springfield A	18	9	1	8	93	87	93
6 SC&P C	18	5	6	7	90	90	90
7 Kingfisher G	18	7	6	5	89	91	89
8 Tilehurst RBL B	18	7	4	7	83	97	83
9 Kingfisher H	18	3	4	11	75	105	75

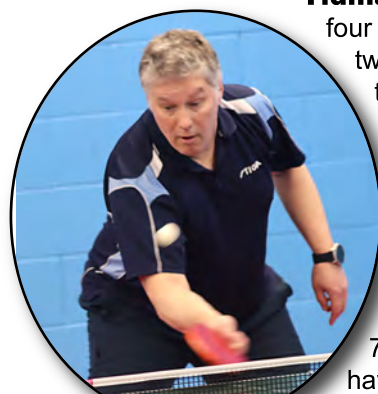
It's been a challenging season with some teams needing to postpone a number of matches but in the end they were played and I would like to thank the captains for making sure that happened.

Tidmarsh 'B' lost three of their first four matches but then only lost on two more occasions throughout the rest of the season, and those losses were 6 -4. Three good wins in their last five matches was just good enough for them to clinch the title. **Simon, Barry and Bill** have had very good seasons and they have all averaged 70% plus and Francois and Mike have offered them good support so they are worthy champions

Original Prediction –7th

Finishing Position - 1st

Best Recent Performance – Barry Carter with a great maximum against the in-form OLOP 'B' including an unbelievable scoreline against Pradeep Desh



BILL STAMATIOU



HUZEYFE BORAZAN WITH EYUP ODEMIS

closely followed by Huzefye who only played seven times. Like OLOP 'B' they look like a team who could contend for the title next season.

Original Prediction - 2nd Finishing Position - 4th
Best Recent Performance – Huzeyfe Borazan recovering from two games to one down to beat Nigel Maltby 12-10 in the fifth on a night when all of his sets were marathons that went to five.



WENDY PORTER AND KATE MAKSIMENKO OF TILEURST RBL B

Springfield 'A' had a slightly strange end of the season as they only played three times after early February. Those three matches saw them win once but lose twice including a very heavy defeat in their last match. Jason and Mat had fine seasons and ended with averages of 77% and 74% and although Rob and Peter had decent first halves of the season their form dropped in the second half. During the first part of the season they looked like they could mount a promotion challenge but that rather petered out.

Original Prediction - 4th Finishing Position - 5th

Best Recent Performance – Mat Hickman with a great win in five against Darek Kaminski

SC&P 'C' were my pre season favourites to go up but to do so they really needed Simon Berry to play regularly and in the end he only played in eight matches which was not enough if they were going to contend at the top of the division. The majority of their matches ended up with close results and they had a lot of draws and 6 – 4's . Simon ended up with 95% which is an illustration about why he was missed so much when he was unable to play, Nigel played almost every week and finished with a creditable 65% and Malcolm and Holly gave good support.

Original Prediction – 1st Finishing Position - 6th

Best Recent Performance – Simon Berry recovering from two games down to beat Huzeyfe Borazan 11-9 in the fifth

Kingfisher 'G' had a terrible start to the season and although their form improved before Christmas they still looked like they had a lot to do to avoid the drop, particularly as injury and other availability issues started to mount up. However, skipper Andrew was very successful at finding and using reserves and remarkably his reserves averaged 85% on the nine occasions they played. Satej finished on 67% and Abhay just under 50% but Andrew, Neil and Ian were only able to get averages of around 30%.

Original Prediction – 9th Finishing Position- 7th

Best Recent Performance – Reserve Pehej Vig with a fine maximum against SC&P'C' including beating Nigel Maltby in five

Tilehurst RBL 'B' had a slightly strange end to the season, not playing at all in February but then twice after the regular season finished. After a solid first half of the season illness and other availability issues started to take their toll and at one stage it looked like they might struggle to fulfil all of their fixtures. However, their deadline signings of Luca Bianchi and Wendy Porter enabled them to play all of their matches with full teams. Kate finished on 100% but she was only able to play once after the end of November and late-signing Luca had 67%. CJ improved as the season went on and had almost 40%, Nick won once most weeks and your DFS started the season well but illnesses saw a drop in form and an average of below 50%.

Original Prediction - 6th Finishing Position - 8th

Best Recent Performance – Luca Bianchi recovering from two games down to beat Huzeyfe Borazan in five.

Kingfisher 'H' could never quite recover from a poorish start to the season and although it occasionally looked like they might avoid the drop it was not to be. Glen had a solid season finishing on 63% and Eapen and Nkhil had averages of 40% plus. Stephen had a good finish to the season and averaged 33% but Ajay and Qing could only manage 27% and 29%. So, there was never really quite enough support for Glen to enable them to avoid relegation.

Original Prediction – 10th Finishing Position - 9th

Best Recent Performance - Stephen Leggett with an impressive maximum against Springfield 'A'

Tidmarsh 'C' looked likely to be relegated for a while and a run of five fairly heavy defeats sealed their fate, although they did manage a creditable draw in their last match. They struggled with injury and other availability issues for a lot of the season and had to postpone a number of matches and play reserves. Sayali finished with their top average of 57% and Ian and Simon won regularly but Richard and Stuart found things tough at times.

Original Prediction – 5th Finishing Position - 10th

Best Recent Performance – Simon Craig with a three straight win over Bill Stamatiou

DIV 2 LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Kate Maksimenko	Tilehurst RBL B	26	26	100.00%
Pehej Vig (S)	Kingfisher G	12	12	100.00%
Simon Berry	SC&P C	22	21	95.45%
Chris West	OLOP	29	24	82.76%
Jason King	Springfield A	39	30	76.92%
Simon Barter	Tidmarsh B	36	27	75.00%
Mat Hickman	Springfield A	42	31	73.81%
Darek Kaminski	OLOP	44	32	72.73%
Barry Carter	Tidmarsh B	31	22	70.97%
Bill Stamatiou	Tidmarsh B	33	23	69.70%
Akeel Mir	Kingfisher I	36	25	69.44%
Dave Sanket	OLOP B	31	21	67.74%
Satej Jaywant	Kingfisher G	30	20	66.67%
Dave Sanket	OLOP B	23	15	65.22%



BERKSHIRE INTER-TOWN TOURNAMENT 2025

by *Duncan Groves*

Reading League's representative team retained the Barbara Peisley trophy on Sunday 23 March at Cippenham, defeating representative teams from the Newbury, Maidenhead and Bracknell leagues.

This year's Berkshire Inter Town tournament was held later than usual and near the end of the season. However, many of Reading's top players agreed to take part in what turned out to be an enjoyable and successful day.

Reading finished with 22 points (out of a maximum of 24), comfortably beating Newbury (17), Maidenhead (12), and Bracknell (9).

In the Senior Division 1 contest, Mircea (Mitch) Neagu partnered Daniel Moses - two of the County's strongest players. After two straightforward wins over Maidenhead and Bracknell, they faced a strong Newbury pair of Dave Barr and Deb Bhattacharya. Despite being 9-4 down in the first set, Mitch defeated Dave 12-10, 11-7, 11-7.



Reading Senior Division 3 team [above] comprised Danny Dockree and youngster, Pehej Vig, who plays his table tennis in Reading league 4. A late call-up to the team, Pehej played superbly in all his matches and was unlucky to lose in four sets to Bill Stamatiou and 16-14 in the fifth set to Chloe Ireland. He partnered Danny to a doubles win over Newbury too, in a 3-2 team win. Danny was too strong for all his singles opponents.

As Bracknell was unable to field a team in this division, and the three teams managed to beat each other, the points were decided on countback. Based on set difference, Maidenhead finished first in the division, with Newbury second and Reading third.



FROM NEWBURY: DAVE BARR & DEB BHATTACHARYA

Both Dan and Mitch had comfortable straight set wins over Deb. Then Daniel Moses stepped up to play Dave. Although they have played together many times, this was the first time the pair had faced each other competitively. Dave's defensive play troubled Daniel in the first set but Daniel squeezed over the line, 13-11, then stepped up his game to take the next two sets 11-6, 11-7.

Mitch and Daniel also won the doubles to record their third 5-0 victory and take full points for Reading.

Reading's Senior Division 2 team of Prayrit Ahluwalia and Ian Cole [right] proved equally dominant, running out 5-0 winners over Newbury and Maidenhead and 4-1 victors over Bracknell. Prayrit showed his class in winning all six singles matches against good quality opposition. Ian finished with five wins, including a five-set win over Parminder Singh when two sets down. His only loss was in his final singles match against Pallavi Urankar.



PRAYRIT & IAN (DIV 2 SENIOR)



Martin Adams and Hari Gehlot paired up for the Reading team in Veteran Division 1. After comfortable wins over Bracknell and Maidenhead, the team [above] encountered the Newbury pair of Paul Rattue and Jon Clarke. Paul proved troublesome for Martin in the opening match and was 2-1 up in games as well as ahead in game 5. In a tense finish, Martin edged the match 12-10 in the fifth game. Although both Jon and Paul took a game off Hari, Reading ran out 5-0 winners, to match the scoreline in the other two matches.

Reading also came out on top in the Veterans Division 2 contest, thanks to a clean sweep of singles wins for Inter Town stalwarts, Graham Mendick and Julian Telford. Graham had to recover from 2-1 down in sets to beat Peter Blyth from Bracknell. Otherwise, there were solid wins for the pair and two doubles wins from three matches.

Finally, in Veterans Division 3, Reading recorded a narrow win over Newbury to seal maximum points. Both teams had won their previous two matches over Maidenhead and Bracknell so this proved the decider. Nick Sears edged Fallon Rust 12-10 in the fifth set in the opening singles. This proved the decisive match as Fallon later defeated Duncan Groves to keep the match alive but two singles wins over Andy Jeffery meant that the doubles proved a dead rubber.

As the organiser of the tournament this year, I would like to express thanks to players of all teams who helped set up



and put away tables and showed patience and good humour throughout.

Summary of Inter Town Results for Reading league:

Senior Division 1

Maidenhead 0 Reading 5

Bracknell 0 Reading 5

Reading 5 Newbury 0

Senior Division 2

Newbury 0 Reading 5

Reading 5 Maidenhead 0

Bracknell 1 Reading 4

Senior Division 3

Newbury 2 Reading 3

Reading 2 Maidenhead 3

(Bracknell did not field a team)

Veterans Division 1

Maidenhead 0 Reading 5

Bracknell 0 Reading 5

Reading 5 Newbury 0

Veterans Division 2

Newbury 1 Reading 4

Reading 5 Bracknell 0

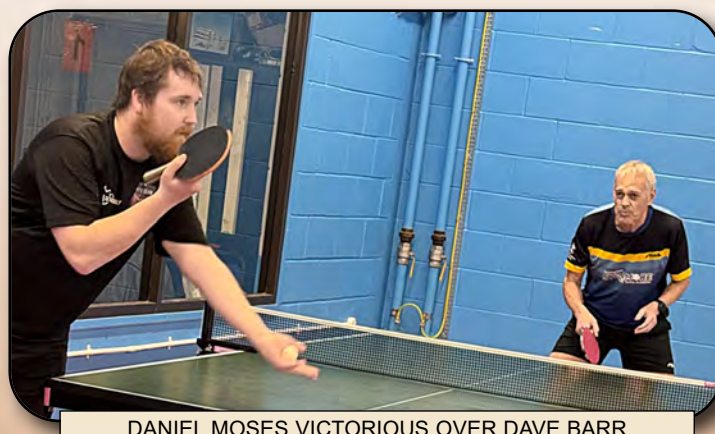
Reading 5 Maidenhead 0

Veterans Division 3

Reading 5 Bracknell 0

Reading 5 Maidenhead 0

Newbury 2 Reading 3



DANIEL MOSES VICTORIOUS OVER DAVE BARR



READING CLOSED TOURNAMENT PART TWO

Under-40s



DANIEL MOSES

The Under-40 Singles offered thrilling matches from the quarter-finals onward. Holly edged out Harry Bullock in a tight five-game match @, Jingshun Huang secured a convincing 3-0 victory over Houron Tsun, top seed Daniel Moses advanced with a dominant performance against Huseyin Celik, and PehejVig defeated Patrick McIntosh 3-1 @ to book his place in the semi-finals.

In the semi-finals, Daniel overpowered Holly in straight games, while **Pehej (left) caused one of the major upsets of the day by securing a hard-fought victory against Jingshun (Jordan) in a five-game thriller @**



The final saw Daniel Moses dominate Pehej, winning 3-0 @ to take the Under-40s title.

Veterans

The round of 32 began with Eyup Odemis defeating friend and teammate Muharrem Aydin 3-0 Graham Stark pulled off an upset by beating 12th seed Huzeyfe Borazan 3-2 @ Also Alona Slobodskoy took the scalp of a higher seed by defeating 14th seed Alankar Urankar in another five-game match @.

In the last 16, Ian Cole defeated Anish Shukul 3-0, Brett Hastings edged past Ajay Yesi in a gruelling five-game match @, Jacek Piechocki outplayed Graham Stark 3-0, while Hari Gehlot won convincingly against Alona 3-0 @. In the quarter-finals, Ian narrowly defeated Graham Mendick 3-2 @ in a high-quality set. Jacek defeated Brett 3-0, Hari won a tightly contested match against Pallavi Urankar 3-1 @, and Julian Telford advanced with a straightforward 3-0 win against Akeel Mir.

The semi-finals saw Hari overcome Julian 3-1 @, while Jacek secured his place in the final with a decisive 3-0 win against Ian @. In the final, Jacek clinched the title with a hard-fought 3-0 victory over Hari, after a truly majestic 3rd game @.



JACEK PIECHOCKI

Over-50s



HARI GEHLOT

The Over-50 Singles began with swift victories in the last 16. Andrew Adair defeated Alona Slobodskoy 3-0, while Simon Brookes also took three to beat Louise Forster.

In the quarter-finals, Ian Cole defeated Mark Carless 3-0, Simon pulled off a surprise victory against third seed Bill Stamatiou, winning 3-1 @. Brett Hastings bested Andrew in straight games, while top seed Hari Gehlot dispatched Anish Shukul 3-0 as well.

In the semi-finals, Hari defeated Brett 3-0 @, and Ian proved too strong for Simon, winning 3-0 @.

The final saw Hari and Ian engage in a thrilling five-game contest. Hari emerged victorious, winning 3-2 @to claim the Over-50 title, his second of the day.



Over-60s

In the semi-finals, Andrew Adair defeated second seed Mark Carless 3-1 @. On the other side, Nick Lean overcame top seed Simon Brookes in straight games @.

The final between Andrew and Nick was an intense contest that went to five games. Andrew emerged as the champion after stopping Nick's comeback with a dominant 5th-game win @.



ANDREW ADAIR

Mixed Doubles

The Mixed Doubles event was one of the largest in years, featuring several closely fought matches.

In the quarter-finals, unseeded family pairing Louise Forster and Harry Bullock upset the fourth seeds Holly Ranson and Simon Brookes in an exciting five-game match @.

The semi-finals saw second seeds Wendy Porter and Daniel Moses defeat third seeds Ekaterina Maksimenko and Nick Lean 3-1 @. In the other match, top seeds Pallavi Urankar and Ian Cole comfortably beat Louise and Harry in straight games @.

The final featured a clash between the top two seeds. **Wendy and Daniel** [right] secured the title after an entertaining 3-1 victory over Pallavi and Ian @.



THE FINAL: WENDY PORTER, DANIEL MOSES, IAN COLE AND PALLAVI URANKAR

Men's Doubles

The Men's Doubles event delivered exciting matches from the very start. In the last 16, Akeel Mir and Ajay Yesi defeated Isaac Doel and Alankar Urankar 3-1 @. Eyup Odemis and Bill Stamatiou fought back from two games down to beat Huseyin Celik and Graham Stark 3-2 @. Hari Gehlot and Pehej Singh Vig, seeded fourth, secured a 3-0 victory against Mark Carless and Brett Hastings. In the quarter-finals, Graham Mendick and Julian Telford defeated Muharrem Aydin and Huzeyfe Borazan 3-1 @. Hari and Pehej advanced with a 3-0 win over Andrew Adair and Wayne Alleyne. Second seeds Jingshun Huang and Jacek Piechocki beat Eyup and Bill 3-1 @, and Ian Cole and Daniel Moses, the top seeds, defeated Akeel and Ajay in straight games.

The semi-finals saw Graham and Julian prevail in a tense five-game battle against Jingshun and Jacek @. Meanwhile, Ian and Daniel outplayed Hari and Pehej in straight games @.

In the final, Ian and Daniel overcame Graham and Julian in a thrilling five-game contest @ to claim the Men's Doubles



JULIAN TELFORD



Women's Doubles

In an engaging final, Louise Forster and Alona Slobodskoy emerged as champions, defeating **Kate Maksimenko and Wendy Porter** 3-1 @



READING CLOSED TOURNAMENT

Women's Singles



PALLAVI URANKAR

VIDEO)

In the semi-finals, Pallavi Urankar outplayed Louise, winning 3-0 (11-5, 11-6, 11-2). Ekaterina Maksimenko claimed her spot in the final with a 3-0 victory over Holly @

The final match featured a showdown between Pallavi and Ekaterina. Pallavi overcame an initial setback to win 3-1 @, securing the Women's Singles title.

Men's Singles

The Men's Singles delivered captivating sets throughout the competition.

In the round of 32, Patrick McIntosh delivered an early upset, defeating 16th seed Simon Brookes in five games @. Unseeded Mark Carless also caused an upset, beating 15th seed PehejVig @

In the last 16, top seed Daniel Moses defeated Patrick with ease, winning 3-0 @. Akeel Mir and Bill Stamatiou engaged in a fierce battle, with Akeel prevailing 3-2 @. Ian Cole defeated Eyup in a competitive four-game match @. Graham Mendick secured a 3-0 win over Brett Hastings @.

The quarter-finals showcased the strength of the top players. Daniel defeated Akeel in straight games @. Graham secured a 3-1 win over second seed Jacek @. Ian advanced with a 3-1 victory against Julian Telford @. Hari Gehlot completed the semi-final lineup with a 3-0 victory over Jingshun Huang @.

In the semi-finals, Ian edged out Graham in a tightly contested five-game match @. Daniel defeated Hari decisively, winning 3-0 @. VIDEO

The final featured a thrilling encounter between Daniel and Ian. Daniel secured the title with a 3-1 victory @, cementing his status as the top seed, and winning his fourth title that day.



IAN COLE vs GRAHAM MENDICK

READING CLOSED TOURNAMENT

One-Shot Event

This informal event featured almost all of the players and some of their children in support. The event was held for the second time, and was again received very well. The format was very simple: a straight KO event where each set consisted of just one single point.

The crowd was rowdy, the players nervous, and upsets were applauded! In the end it was Nick Lean who secured the coveted Belgian Beer first prize by beating Simon Brookes in the final.



DIVISION THREE *by Huzeyfe Borazan*



Welcome to the fourth and final newsletter of Division 3! As anticipated, this year presented one of the most thrilling races we've witnessed in recent times. Four teams remained in contention for the top honours until the last fixtures and the very last match, generating excitement all the way to the final point played. The champion was determined literally in the last game of the last season, during the fifth set! Wow, what an exciting season this has been was!

Champions: Sonning Sports 'B' (134 points)

Runners-Up: Our Lady of Peace 'C' (133 points)

A Spectacular Finish!

Sonning Sports 'B' clinched the title by a single point, edging out Our Lady of Peace 'C' in a season-long head-to-head battle. Hats off to both teams for their consistent, high-level performances. Our Lady of Peace 'C' was the leader of the division for almost the entire season, but they lost the title in the last game. Sonning Common and Peppard 'D' (129 points) and Pangbourne WMC (122 points) were also in the mix, creating a four-way showdown that will be remembered for seasons to come.

Relegation Drama

At the other end of the table, the fight for survival was equally tense. Several teams hovered near the bottom spots, and only in the very last matches were the relegation places determined. Kingfisher 'J' and Sonning Sports 'C' took turns lingering near safety, while Tilehurst Methodists 'A' also found themselves uncomfortably close to falling down. Ultimately, two teams from this trio (Sonning Sports 'C' and Tilehurst Methodists 'A') ended up relegated. Still, even those teams exhibited resilience, earning valuable points and demonstrating enhanced performance in the latter half of the season.

Team-by-Team Overview

As always, let's take a look at the team performances. Below is a quick recap of each team's season, highlighting their key players, important matches, and notable achievements.

Sonning Sports 'B'

Champions (1st place, 134 points)

An incredible campaign! After initially falling behind OLOP 'C,' they narrowed the distance and eventually surpassed them by just one point. Their decisive finish—marked by impressive high margin victories—earned them a well-deserved title.

• Key Players:

Tim Challendler and **Brett Hastings** led the charge, both boasting high win percentages and multiple POM awards.

• Key Matches:

A critical 8–2 victory over OLOP 'C' mid-season flipped the script in the title race.

The 9–1 victory in their last match (versus Pangbourne WMC) showcased their champion's mentality right at the end.

Our Lady of Peace 'C'

Runners-Up (2nd place, 133 points)

Though they dominated the early stages, a couple of slips in the latter half opened the door for Sonning Sports 'B.' In the first half of the season, they were very comfortable at the top of the table. They finished just one point short—an incredibly tight margin that was very disappointing for them!

• Key Players:

Daniel Dzieciol and **Graham Stark** maintained excellent averages (both around 77%).

• Key Matches:

An 8–2 win over OLOP 'D' late in the season kept them on top and secured them the promotion spot.

Narrow losses to direct rivals proved costly in the grand scheme.



GRAHAM STARK OF OLOP C

Sonning Common and Peppard 'D'

3rd place (129 points)

Always in the conversation for the top spots, SCP 'D' ultimately fell just short in a fiercely competitive four-way battle. Nonetheless, their consistent play turned heads and kept them well within range of the title for most of the season.

	DIV 3	PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Sonning Sports B	20	16	1	3	134	66	134
2	OLOP C	20	17	0	3	133	67	133
3	SC&P D	20	14	2	4	129	71	129
4	Pangbourne WMC	20	13	1	6	122	78	122
5	OLOP D	20	8	2	10	91	109	91
6	Tidmarsh D	20	6	3	11	91	109	91
7	Tilehurst Meths B	20	7	4	9	87	113	87
8	SC&P E	20	6	4	10	87	113	87
9	Kingfisher J	20	4	5	11	79	121	79
10	Sonning Sports C	20	3	1	16	77	123	77
11	Tilehurst Meths A	20	3	3	14	70	130	70



IAN DAVENPORT

- **Key Players:**

Jeremy Willis stood out with one of the division's best winning percentages (~87%).

Ian Davenport also delivered crucial points in big matches.

- **Key Matches:**

A **strong 8–2** over Tilehurst Methodists 'A' consolidated their top-three standing

They notched key

wins against Pangbourne

WMC and battled Sonning Sports 'B' to tight finishes.

Pangbourne WMC

4th place (122 points)

A **solid season** from a team capable of challenging the best. Despite momentarily pushing into the top three, they didn't quite maintain the momentum to overhaul the leaders in the closing weeks. They did not have a title chance in the last match, but they had the opportunity to promote even though it was a long shot.

- **Key Players:**

John Simmonds (71% win rate) and **Clive Taylor** (77.5%) each posted stellar results.

- **Key Matches:**

A **highlight 8–2 victory** over OLOP 'C' signalled their intent to be in the title race.

Late-season losses to Sonning Sports 'B' and SCP 'D' ultimately kept them from a top-two finish.

Our Lady of Peace 'D'

5th place (91 points)

Steady if unspectacular, OLOP 'D' managed to cement themselves in the top half. Occasional upsets against top teams showed their potential, but a run of mid-season defeats ended any promotion hopes.

- **Key Players:**

James Smith, **Louise Forster**, and **Patrick McIntosh** shared the load with similar win rates.(50–55%)

- **Key Matches:**

They pulled off a couple of surprise results against higher-ranked teams, including a tense match up 6–4 vs. Tidmarsh 'D.'

Late wins ensured they stayed clear of any lower-table drama.

Tidmarsh 'D'

6th place (91 points)

Closely matched with OLOP 'D' on points, Tidmarsh 'D' showed improvement in the latter stages after a rocky start. Their ability to pick up draws and narrow wins kept them comfortably in mid-table.

- **Key Players:**

Ray Webb (over 60% wins) proved crucial,

consistently picking up points in must-win games.

- **Key Matches**

An **8–2 triumph** over Tilehurst Methodists 'A' significantly boosted their standing.

Battling draws against mid-table rivals demonstrated their resilience.

Tilehurst Methodists 'B'

7th place (87 points)

They remained on the edge of mid-table security and potential danger for much of the year. Ultimately, their ability to grind out results, particularly in derbies, boosted them to a stable finish.

- **Key Player:**

Nigel Rowland (78% win rate) was a standout, crucial in turning around several close matches.

- **Key Matches:**

A **remarkable 9–1 victory** over their own A team was the season's turning point, giving them momentum to avoid a relegation scare.

Sonning Common and Peppard 'E'

8th place (87 points)

Sonning Common and Peppard 'E' had a mixed season. Although never truly safe, they managed to do just enough to avoid the drop zone, thanks to sporadic yet well-timed victories and draws.

- **Key Player:**

Gerry Bacon paced the team with around a 54% win rate, often anchoring the lineup.

- **Key Matches:**

A **5–5 draw against Sonning Common & Peppard 'D'** was a morale boost, showing they could challenge the top sides.

A couple of key wins over bottom-tier teams helped them stay afloat.



PATRICK MCINTOSH OF OLOP D



Kingfisher 'J'

9th place (79 points)

Kingfisher 'J' was near the mid-table earlier in the season, but a difficult second half caused them to slide dangerously close to the bottom. Their final position reflects a campaign that promised more than it delivered.

- **Key Player:**

Neil Abbott put up a strong 66% win rate, though the squad's frequent rotations hindered consistency.

- **Key Matches:**

Several 5–5 draws showcased their competitiveness but left them short of the wins needed to climb higher.

A critical 3–7 loss to Sonning Sports 'C' late on highlighted their struggles to convert close matches. This defeat could cost them relegation.

DIV 3 LEADING AVERAGES

James Miller	Sonning Sports C	51	47	92.16%
Jeremy Willis	SC&P D	39	34	87.18%
Brett Hastings	Sonning Sports B	51	40	78.43%
Nigel Rowland	Tilehurst Meths B	32	25	78.13%
Clive Taylor	Pangbourne WMC	40	31	77.50%
Daniel Dzieciol	OLOP C	48	37	77.08%
Ian Davenport	SC&P D	38	29	76.32%
Graham Stark	OLOP C	42	32	76.19%
Tim Challenger	Sonning Sports B	42	32	76.19%
John Simmonds	Pangbourne WMC	46	33	71.74%
Neil Abbott	Kingfisher J	30	20	66.67%
Anthony Reeve	SC&P D	53	35	66.04%
Ray Webb	Tidmarsh D	45	28	62.22%
Jes Eassom	Tilehurst Meths A	45	27	60.00%

Sonning Sports 'C'

10th place (77 points)

Despite finishing near the bottom and, unfortunately, being relegated, this team rarely got blown out. They accumulated a respectable total of points, just not enough to escape the danger zone in a tough division. Their improved performance in the second half almost miraculously helped them stay in the division.

- **Key Player:**

James Miller boasted a division-best 92% win rate, a remarkable achievement amid a struggling team.

- **Key Matches:**

Multiple 4–6 losses illustrate how close they were to turning matches around.

Beating Kingfisher 'J' (7–3) near the end was a highlight, but it came too late to change their fortunes significantly.

Tilehurst Methodists 'A'

11th place (70 points)

A season of constant challenges, Tilehurst Methodists 'A' couldn't gather enough points to move out of last place. They showed flashes of improvement but found themselves outpaced by the tighter, more consistent squads above them.

- **Key Player:**

Jes Eassom (60% win rate) stood out as the bright spot, fully recovering from injury to post solid numbers and 5 POM awards.

- **Key Matches:**

An impressive 8–2 shock against Kingfisher 'J' indicated their potential.

Unfortunately, a string of late-season losses cemented their position at the foot of the table.

Looking Ahead

Champions and Runners Up: Sonning Sports 'B' dethroned OLOP 'C' by a thrilling one-point margin. They will be competing in Division 2 next season, and good luck to them. I expect relegated sides from Division 2, along with **Sonning Common & Peppard 'D'** and **Pangbourne WMC**, to be contenders again in this division next season.

- **Relegated Teams: Sonning Sports 'C'** and **Tilehurst Methodists 'A'** are both strong teams that have experienced a series of unfortunate matches. I believe they will return stronger very soon.

Thank You and Good Luck

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the captains who made a great effort to arrange the matches to be played on time and to ensure that postponed matches were arranged smoothly. Only a handful of matches were played later, and that is due to the diligent efforts of the captains, as some of the matches were played earlier if there was a hall availability is

I congratulate all teams for their valiant efforts and sportsmanship throughout the season. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the new teams from Division 2 and Division 4 for the upcoming season.

I hope to see you all at the AGM trophy presentation evening in June; otherwise, see you next season!



TEAM HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

LOWER DIVISIONS TOURNAMENT

by Louise Forster

Two Finals with but a Single Champion!

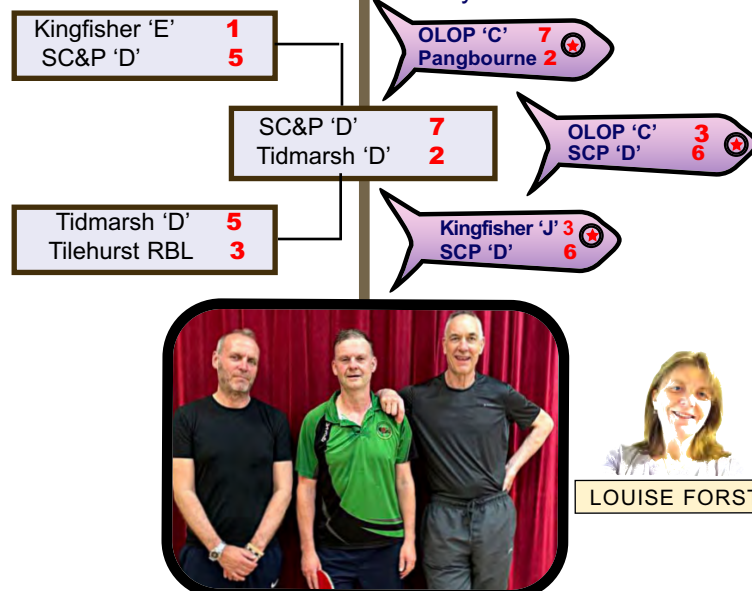
This season 27 teams entered the **Team Handicap** competition, and 15 teams entered the Lower Division Knockout, both competitions reached their conclusions early in April when the finals were played.

First up on Monday 7th April we had the final of the Team Handicap hosted by SC&P D against Tidmarsh D. The Sonning Common and Peppard team had defeated last years reigning champions (Kingfisher E) in their semi-final, whilst Tidmarsh D had a good win against Tilehurst RBL in their semi to reach the final.

The final was very closely matched in terms of starting handicaps, but the **SC&P D team of Anthony Reeve, Jim Warren and Ian Davenport** proved too strong for the Tidmarsh team (Ray Webb, Chris Webb and Terry Hardie) and won the match 7 – 2, with Ray Webb taking the 2 for Tidmarsh. Well done to SC&P D on winning this years Team Handicap competition.

Whilst still revelling in their Team Handicap victory, the SC&P D team were out again the following evening to take part in the final of the **Lower Divisions Knockout competition**, where they met last years winning team of OLOP C. This was always going to be a strongly contested match given that these two teams came second and third in the race for Division 3 champions this season. On the night the SC&P D team of Anthony Reeve, Jim Warren and Ian Davenport were on form and won the match 6 – 3 against the OLOP full team of Simon Brookes, Graham Stark, Mark Carless, Daniel Dzieciol and Gopi Ponnappalli. Congratulations to SC&P D on their win, this also means that they are the first team in the nearly 60 year history of these competitions to win both titles in the same season - the same CLUB has sometimes won both previously, but never the same TEAM!

It's been another great year for the team competitions, thank you to all teams that took part and played all matches in a good sporting fashion and hopefully had some fun along the way.



RAY WEBB OF TIDMARSH



THE DOUBLE-WINNING SC&P TEAM - IAN DAVENPORT, ANTHONY REEVE AND JIM WARREN



LOUISE FORSTER



IAN DAVENPORT OF SCP



TEAM HANDICAP WINNERS AND RUNNERS UP: DANIEL DZIECIOL, SIMON BROOKES, GOPI PONNAPALLI, JIM WARREN, IAN DAVENPORT, MARK CARLESS, ANTHONY REEVE AND GRAHAM STARK



DIVISION FOUR

by Mick Mitcham

Congratulation to Springfield 'B' for winning Division 4 with 144 points and runner up Kingfisher 'L' with 125 points.

We had 90 matches

12 x 10 – 0, 13 x 9 – 1, 13 x 8 – 2, 22 x 7 – 3, 15 x 6 – 4, 14 x 5 – 5 and 1 void

Springfield 'B' Finished 1st with 16 wins 1 draw and only 1 loss, with 144 points.

What a last 3 matches on their way to being champion!

A 10 – 0 away win over Tilehurst RBL 'C' then a 10 – 0 win at Sonning Sports 'E' and their last match a 9 – 1 win over their 'C' team.



ROB ATTACK, BENSON SHIU AND LUDO COUILLARD OF SPRINGFIELD B

All 5 players have got a POM award. No other team managed this!

Ludovic 22/24 91.6% 5 POM,

Marcello 29/33 87.8% 4 POM,

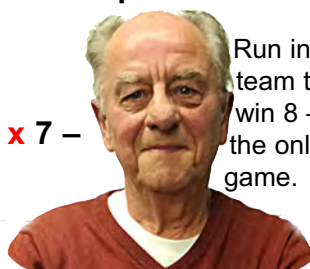
Steve 21/24 87.5 % 2 POM,

Robert 31/38 81.5% 1 POM B

Benson 22/38 57.8% 2 POM.

DIV 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Springfield B	18	16	1	1	144	36	144
2 Kingfisher L	18	13	3	2	125	55	125
3 OLOP E	18	11	3	4	106	74	106
4 Tilehurst RBL C	18	9	3	6	102	78	102
5 Kingfisher K	17	8	2	7	87	83	87
6 OLOP F	18	7	2	9	85	95	85
7 SC&P F	18	4	3	11	78	102	78
8 Springfield C	18	3	5	10	63	117	63
9 Sonning Sports D18	3	2	13	57	123	57	57
10Sonning Sports E17	1	4	12	43	127	43	43

Kingfisher 'L' Finished 2nd with 13 wins, 3 draws and 2 losses, with 125 points



Run in to end of season: an 8 – 2 win over their 'K' team then 7 – 3 win at SC & P 'F' and last match a win 8 – 2 at 3rd place OLOP 'E'. Kingfisher 'L' are the only team in the division 4 to get POM at every game.

The star player of the season is Pehej 43/43 100% 13 POM, and he played up in division 2 12/12 100% ,



PEHEJ VIG

3 POM, Noah 14/14 100%

3 POM, Atinc 24/27 88.8%

2 POM, Sue 12/29 41.3%,

Ian 11/37 29.7%,

Peter 0/6 0%.

Our Lady of Peace'E' Finished 3rd with 11 wins 3 draws and 4 losses with 106 points

They went to SC & P F and got a 8 – 2 win then home to score a draw v Sonning Sports 'E' and last match away to Kingfisher 'L' and a 8 – 2 loss.

Pat 29/36 80.5% 6 POM,

Fitz 29/39 74.3% 3 POM,

Derek 10/21 47.6% 1 POM,

Wade 18/39 46.1% 3 POM,

Susan 9/27 33.3%.

Tilehurst RBL 'C' Finished 4th with 9 wins 3 draws and 6 losses with 102 points

10 – 0 Home defeat by Division winners Springfield 'B' and then a 9 – 1 win at Springfield 'C' and last match a draw at home with Kingfisher 'K'.

Geoff 25/34 73.5% 5 POM,

Paul 21/31 67.7% 1 POM,

Linda 16/26 61.5% 3 POM,

Jim 19/37 51.3%

John 8/26 30.7%.



Kingfisher 'K' finished 5th with 8 wins 2 draws and 7 losses with 87 points

Their last 3 matches were a 7-3 win over OLOP 'F', a 5-5 draw away to Tilehurst RBL 'C' and a 6-4 win with only 2 players over Springfield 'C'.

We had a void match with Sonning Sports 'E'.

Walter 20/24 83.3% 4 POM,
Houren 29/42 69% 3 POM,
Emrah 20/30 66.6%,
Mick 6/9 66.6% 1 POM,
Moto 1/6 16.6%,
Curtis 3/33 9.68%



HOURON TSUN

Krishiv 14/24 58.3% 1 POM,
Adi 7/27 25.9%,
Kaushik 3/21 14.2%.

Sonning Common & Peppard 'F' Finished 7th 4 wins 3 Draws and 11 losses with 78 points

Lost 8 – 2 to OLOP 'E' then 7 – 3 to Kingfisher L and a great 10 – 0 win in their last match to Sonning Sport 'D'.

David 30/37 81% 6 POM,
Alistair 13/31 41.9%,
Simon 7/18 38.8%
Derek 12/36 33.3%,
Graham 3/31 9.68%.

Springfield 'C' Finished 8th with 3 Wins 5 Draws and 10 Losses with 63 points.

Lost their last 3 matches, 9 – 1 at Tilehurst RBL, C 9 – 1 at their 'B' team and a 6 – 4 loss at home to Kingfisher 'K'.

Richard 23/36 63.8% 5 POM,
Shas 14/27 51.8%,
Paul 17/33 51.2%,
Adele 5/27 18.5%,
Akshatha 0/9 0%
James 0/27 0%.

Sonning Sports 'D' Finished 9th with 3 Wins 2 Draws and 13 losses with 57 points

A good draw away to Springfield 'C' then a loss at home to a Kingfisher 'K' and in the last match big 10 – 0 defeat to SC & P 'F'.

John 14/29 48.2% 2 POM,
Michael 10/27 37%,
Phillip 6/20 30,
Peter 7/24 29.1%
Mike 2/15 13.3%
Kev 1/12 8.3%,
Nick 1/20 5%.

Sonning Sports 'E' Finished 10th with 1 Win 4 draws and 12 losses with 43 Points

Lost at home to Tilehurst RBL C 7 – 3 and then 2 10 – 0 defeats to Springfield 'B' and SC & P 'F'. the last match was void v Kingfisher 'K'.

Kc 13/21 61.9% 3 POM,
Dave 12/36 33.3%,
Mo 10/39 25.6% 1 POM
Stephen 3/12 25%,
Arun 1/18 5.56%,
Derry 0/21 0%.

DIV 4 LEADING AVERAGES				
Player	Team	P	W	%
Pehej Vig	Kingfisher L	43	43	100.00%
Noah Reid	Kingfisher L	14	14	100.00%
Abhishek Saraf	OLOP F	30	28	93.33%
Ludovic Couillard	Springfield B	24	22	91.67%
Atinc Erguven	Kingfisher L	27	24	88.89%
Marcello Caramma	Springfield B	33	29	87.88%
Steve O'Connor	Springfield B	24	21	87.50%
Walter Aldridge	Kingfisher K	24	20	83.33%
Robert Attack	Springfield B	38	31	81.58%
David Riddle	SC&P F	37	30	81.08%
Patrick Daniels	OLOP E	36	29	80.56%
Fitz Licorish	OLOP E	39	29	74.36%
Geoff Johnson	Tilehurst RBL C	34	25	73.53%

Our Lady of Peace 'F' Finished 6th with 7 wins 2 draws and 9 losses with 85 points.



KRISHIV SHUKUL

The only team to beat Springfield B with a 6 – 4 win!
 Great result then back down to earth with a 7 – 3 loss at Springfield 'C' and then a 6 – 4 loss at Kingfisher 'K'.
Abhishek 28/30 93.3% 8 POM,
Anish 18/30 60%,



Personal memories of Wally Allanson from Jon Samuel...

Wally was a good friend and my memories of him are of a quality player who had a very mischievous sense of humour. As many players found out, it was easy to hit a winner past this classy defender, provided you were prepared to hit at least six or seven previously to open up the opportunity. As a fellow defender, although nowhere near as talented, I learnt a lot from watching Wal frustrate opponents, and he fitted in so well with the Sonning Common set up. At one time, the team were able to field 4 county players which made them a tough nut to crack.

Aside from Wal's brilliant defensive skills, he would also ensure any dropshot would be threatened with a classy backhand kill...

But he also had a tremendous sense of humour. I remember after one game Brian Halliday, the Sonning Common captain tipping out some biscuits on a plate. With the opposition standing round, Wally asked me if I had tried the biscuits "with the chocolate on the bottom"? as they were delicious. I duly obliged, and agreed with Wal that they were very tasty, much more so than those with chocolate on the top. The pair of us tucked in voraciously. The opposing



WALLY ALLANSON

team turned to Brian and asked "How on earth do you put up with those two every week?" Brian sighed and shrugged his shoulders, unable to provide a sensible reply.

Some people may not know, but Brian Halliday had an intense dislike of gardening. Sadly, when he became disabled Wally and myself set an objective of taking our teammate out to a garden centre for a visit. All attempts failed, with Brian being none too happy with the whole idea, and sometimes even swearing at us, although we meant well. One day, after Brian had had a bit of a meltdown when it seemed a trip to Nottcutts was finally going to happen, Wally grasped the situation.

"The reason Brian will not go with us, is because he feels he is imposing on us and does not want to put us out" explained Wal. "That must be it" I agreed. Wally explained to Brian that "we knew what was going on, and we would be very happy to take him out one day and that it would be no trouble". Brian's reply, while fairly short, cannot be repeated here.....

There were of course numerous other occasions where Wally's sense of humour brightened up the room, but these are just a few good examples.

Jon

Last words following the Reading Closed

By Eric Van Looy

This was my last season as tournament organiser. Everyone in the R&DTTA would love these tournaments to continue for years to come, so here is a summary of what we are looking for:

What?

The RDTTA organises 2 closed tournaments per season, the Individual Handicap and Reading Closed, held around the first/second Sunday of January and a suitable Sunday in February/March respectively.

The workload?



Only on the tournament day itself is a continuous 6 (Handicap) to 10 hours (Closed) of your time required: handing out scorecards, entering results, ... (reminding people to play/umpire 😊)

However, the workload in the run-up to the tournament is light!

1. Approx 30 mins to set up a tournament in the tool, publish it online, and ask the webmaster to send out an email to the membership announcing that entries are open
2. A 5-minute check every couple of days (up until the entry deadline) to download entries, ensure that those entries are valid, and upload those validated entries onto the tournament site. You may have to email entrants once in a while to check things, but these are rare occasions.