



## READING & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER Editor: DEREK WAVELL

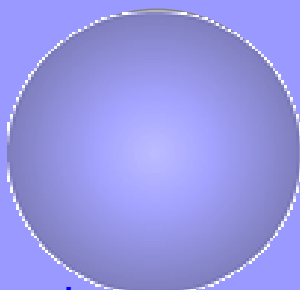
Didier Garçon, photographer, in the frame.

*All photos in this issue are by him.  
except this one ;-)*

## NOW FOR PART TWO

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*The first half of the season is ended. We have all walked the course, and the next time round will be the real thing.*

*At present if you look at the five divisional lineups you will find - three Kingfisher teams in the first two of each, three OLOP teams, two from Tidmarsh and one each from Pangbourne and Curzon. Well done everyone - can you keep it up?*

*This issue's cover star is Didier Garçon, the photographic genius who has in recent years shown us how great we all look with a bat in our hand. For once it is Didier's turn to take the spotlight - and we thank you, Didier, for your hours of dedication and high skill!*



*Good luck and have a good year*

*Derek*



## Key Facts from the RDTTA Secretary

**Reading Closed Championships** - The Reading Closed Championships are being held on **Sat/Sun 14/15 Feb (Senior/Veterans)** and **Sat/Sun 21/22 Feb (Juniors)**. The closing date for entries is Friday 31st January.

**Entry Forms** available via the website and should be returned to the **Championships Secretary WENDY PORTER, c/o Our Lady of Peace TTC, 338 Wokingham Road, Earley, Reading RG6 7DA. Tel: 07745 331743**, or they can be e-mailed to Wendy at [wendyasporter@gmail.co](mailto:wendyasporter@gmail.co).

Nigel Maltby



## Notes from our Chairman

by Nigel Rowland

Following the appeal from your committee to **use reserves instead of postponing matches**, where possible, I am very pleased with the response from the majority of captains to try and adhere to this request. **Well done to all, please can I ask you to keep this going.** From an interest point of view, I have been looking at how other leagues in the country administrate this. Some deduct points for failing to play the match by the appointed date and others provide bonus points.



On another note, I was speaking with **Dave Chard** from **Sonning Sports** the other night. He has telling me about the lack of youth in their club and how they are thinking of drumming up support by carrying out leaflet drops to houses in the surrounding area. **If you know of anyone who may be interested in playing table tennis in the Sonning area please get in contact with Dave** via Bob Woodmansee whose details are in the book.

Have a great Christmas and New Year.

Nigel Rowland





# THE BERKSHIRE CLOSED

by Derek Wavell



On the weekend of 6th-7th December, a record 44 competitors took part in the **Berkshire Closed** competition. There were 8 different sections to the competition, to cater for both genders and different ages, and for doubles too. Most Reading tournaments are free, but for this one there was an entry fee of £4.00. The compensation was - cash prizes, mostly in the order of £20.00.



ELENA TANT

The result was a challenging and varied experience. Players of all standards took part, including many from beyond the boundaries of the Reading league. But the top Reading stars were also performing at their best - and had to compete with all standards in full group stages.



ORGANIZER  
ALLAN BRUTON



BILL BAVISTER

## THE WINNERS

Men's Singles	Winner	Daniel Moses	Runner up Federico Viterbo
Ladies Singles	Winner	Celia Hooker	Runner up Sue Purton
Veterans Singles	Winner	Hari Gehlot	Runner up Ian Cole
Graded Singles	Winner	Djordje Milovanovic	Runner up Angus Jones
Mixed Doubles	Winners	Daniel Moses & Wendy Porter	
	Runners up	Sue Purton & Hari Vennapusa	
Men's Doubles	Winners	Federico Viterbo & Hari Gehlot	
	Runners up	Trung Tran & Daniel Moses	
Ladies Doubles	Winners	Wendy Porter & Sue Purton	
	Runners up	Celia Hooker & Jenny Tanner	
Under 21	Winner	Siad Cole	Runner up Joe Barraclough



CELIA HOOKER

As usual our champion photographer **Didier Garçon** was there to record the occasion - and he took enough photos to supply this whole Newsletter, and illustrate the reports on all five Divisions of the Reading League (see below).

**Men's Singles:** the quarter-finalists were almost the top 8 players in the Reading first

division, and narrowed down to **Federico Viterbo**, **Krasi Ivanov**, **Daniel Moses** and **Ian Cole** for the semi finals.

In the **final**, **Federico Viterbo** won the first game 11-1 - but **Daniel Moses** succeeded in winning the next 3 games, and the title, in hair-raising rallies.

**Veterans Singles:** **Steve Miller** and **John Barclay** were knocked out in the semis, leaving **Hari Gehlot** and **Ian Cole** to fight for glory. After a match of great skill and tenacity, **Hari** succeeded in winning the title again.



HARI GEHLOT



SUE PURTON, SANDRA SHEPHERD, SCARLETT JONES, ELENA TANT



ANDREW SMITH, SIAD COLE



JENNY TANNER



IAN COLE

**Mens Doubles** - Hari Gehlot and Federico Viterbo beat Steve Miller and Phillip Zeng in the final.

**Mixed Doubles** - in the final, Wendy Porter and Daniel Moses beat Sue Purton and Hari Vennaposa over 4 games.



THE LONELINESS OF RESPONSIBILITY - JAN POLNIK



DANIEL MOSES & TRUNG TRAN

**Ladies Doubles** - Wendy Porter and Sue Purton beat Celia Hooker and Jenny Tanner in the final.

**Under 21 Singles** - the winner was Siad Cole and the runner-up Joe Barraclough.



# Team Handicap Competition 2014-15

organised by Duncan Abbott

The Team Handicap is a knockout competition open to all teams in the Reading & District League. All players are given handicaps by the RDTTA Handicap Committee based on their recent results. In a Team Handicap match the three players from one team play all players from the other team, 21-up, taking into account the relevant handicaps. There is no doubles contest. Corresponding rounds must be played by week comencing:

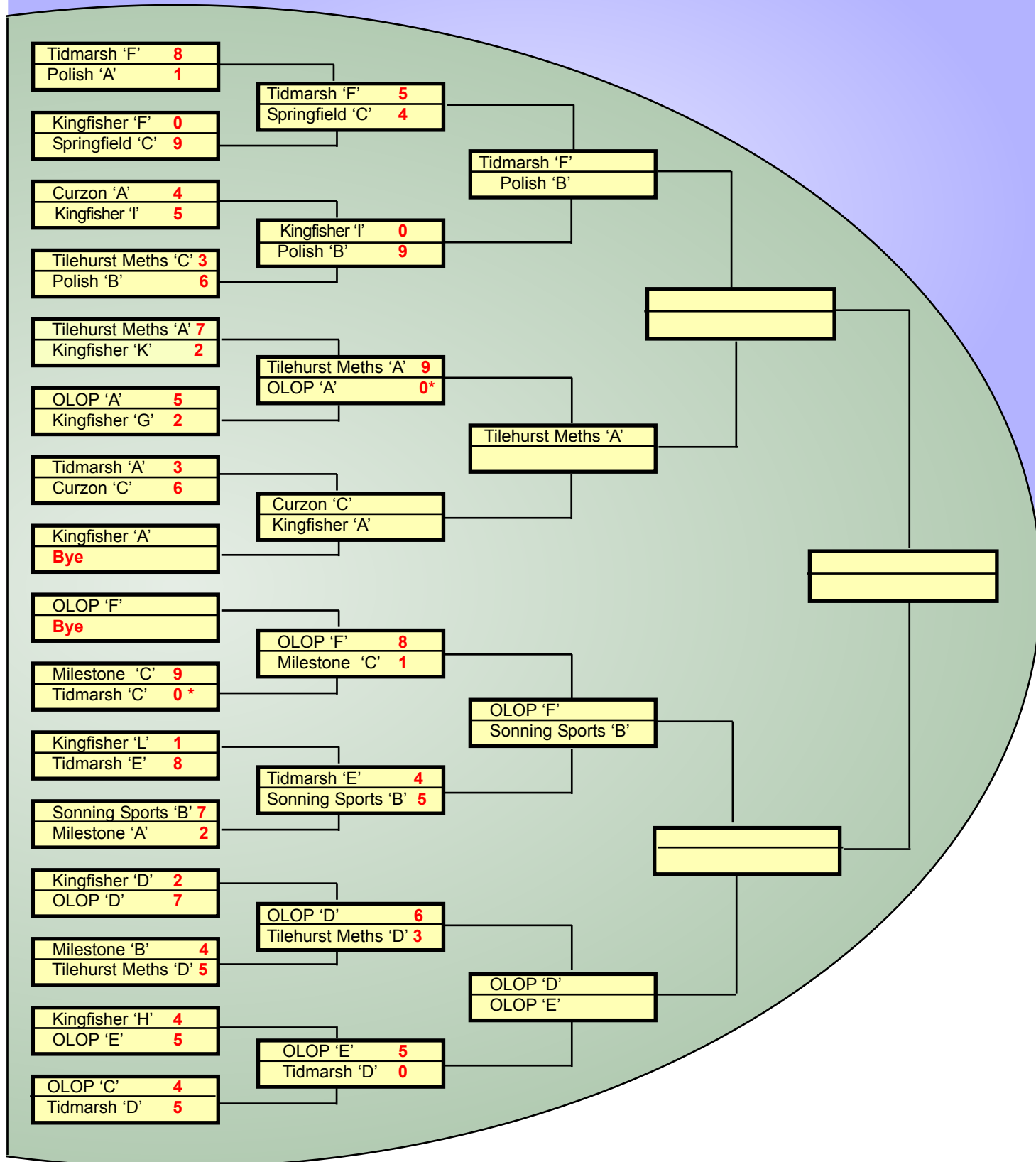
24 Nov

15 Dec

16 Feb

30 March

8 April



\* Conceded

# DIVISION ONE *by Nigel Maltby*

W

elcome to the Christmas edition and your second report of the comings and goings in Reading's top table tennis division.



HARI GEHLOT

We can all now wave the top 5 teams goodbye as they sail off into the distance. For the remaining 7 teams relegation remains a looming 'threat', more than a threat for some (e.g. SC&P 'B'!). Who will eventually fill those bottom two places is still far from clear. YMCA have pulled themselves together lately while both Kingfisher 'C' and Our Lady of Peace 'B' have grabbed useful recent wins recently to lift themselves up the table. That pretty much leaves 4 teams - Wokingham 'A', Tidmarsh 'B', Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' and Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' in most



DANIEL MOSES

difficulty.

So what's been happening then? Big, big matches at the top to start with:

## **Kingfisher 'A' v Our Lady of Peace 'A'**

The two championship favourites battled out a thrilling 5 - 5 draw. Daniel Moses caught Hari Gehlot cold in the opener to win 11-8 11-4 12-10, however Kingfisher responded through a fine Federico Viterbo treble that included five-game victories over both Danny Moses and Trung Tran. Kingfisher won a tense doubles set 18-16 8-11 13-11 11-7 but the match wasn't decided until the final set of the night when Hari Gehlot recovered to beat Daniel McTiernan 13-15 11-7 11-6 11-8 to grab a draw for his team. The result of course leaves the championship title still wide open.



FEDERICO VITERBO

## **Kingfisher 'A' v Kingfisher 'B'**

Federico Viterbo beat Andrew Smith (1 - 0). Martin Adams held off Mark Banks 9-11 11-6 11-2 9-11 11-6 (1 - 1). Hari beat John Barclay (2 - 1). Andrew beat Mark 12-14 13-11 11-8 11-9 (2 - 2). Feds beat John (3 - 2). Martin stunned Hari 11-3 11-6 11-9 (3 - 3). Doubles to Feds & Hari - just 13-15 11-8 14-12 8-11 11-6 (4 - 3). Mark defeated John (5 - 3). Andrew edged a fine win against Hari 11-6 11-9 15-17 7-11 11-9 (5 - 4). Feds held his nerve to beat Martin for the match win 10-12 11-8 11-7 11-7 (6 - 4 to the 'A' team).

**Our Lady of Peace A v Kingfisher B** was postponed.

**Kingfisher 'A'** will have mixed emotions, disappointed not have to beaten Our Lady of Peace 'A', but relieved they didn't lose - so they are still very much in it. A trip to YMCA followed and they returned comfortable 10 - 0 winners, Mark Banks and Tony Reynolds winning everything 3-straight while Hari also won his three but dropped a game to Pete Bradley on his way to an 11-1 9-11 11-2 11-3 win. The 6 - 4 win against Kingfisher 'B' was crucial - well done Federico. Other than that they have had easy wins against Wokingham 'A', Tidmarsh 'B', and their 'C' team club mates,





TRUNG TRAN

where as well as the normal hat tricks from Hari and Mark, reserve Bernhard Schnerderle chipped in with excellent wins against Lisa Williams 11-9 11-5 5-11 11-13 11-5 and Andrew Parker 11-7 11-6 12-10. It continues to look good for Kingfisher 'A' with the return showdown v OLOP 'A' obviously key.

**Team Stats: Federico (100%), Hari (87%), Mark (84%), Tony (73%), Stuart (60%)**

**Our Lady of Peace 'A'** will have been more disappointed than Kingfisher 'A' with their recent 5 - 5 draw, having led for much of the match and being 5 - 4 ahead. However home advantage is now theirs for the return match next Spring. Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' were sent packing 10 - 0, Trung, Danny and Daniel all with trebles, as were YMCA, Trung, Danny and Krasi this time on the mark. Danny Moses, Daniel McTiernan and Ian saw a similar winning scoreline against Sonning Common & Peppard 'B', while Ian dropped a set to Hari Vennapusa, but the team still won easy enough against a less than full strength Kingfisher 'D' side 9 - 1. OLOP continue to look very strong. All their team have very high winning averages and their sets difference is

extremely good with just 7 against. On this basis they now have to be firm favourites for the title.

**Team Stats: Krasi (100%), Daniel Moses (94%), Ian (89%), Trung (87%), Daniel McTiernan (78%)**

**Kingfisher 'B'** ran out 10 - 0 winners at Our Lady of Peace 'B', John Barclay, Andrew Smith and Martin Adams maintaining their team's 100% record. A first real test arrived with the visit of Tidmarsh 'A'. Impressive maximums from Martin and Andrew saw them ease to a 7 - 3 win, however John will have been disappointed by his zero which seriously dented his previously good average. Andrew and Martin both won twice against Kingfisher 'A' but the 6 - 4 loss will mean they will have to beat their rivals next half to stand any chance of the title. Andrew and John both got maximums in their 9 - 1 win over YMCA, John needing five games to see off Pete Bradley having earlier scored an impressive 13-11 6-11 11-6 12-10 victory over Dave Streak. Martin and Andrew are seriously good players of course, but can the team break into the top two?

**Team Stats: Martin (96%), Andrew (85%), John (67%), Richard (33%)**

**Tidmarsh 'A'** only had two players but still just held off YMCA to win 6 - 4, Danny Ricks winning all three including a thrilling 11-3 11-13 11-5 8-11 12-10 win against Keith



TONY BAKER

Winter. Sam Ricks, Andy Barnes and Tony Baker all managed wins against John Barclay but found Adams and Smith too hot to handle as they went down 3 - 7 at Kingfisher 'B'. They got back to winning ways with a 6 - 4 win against Wokingham 'A', Danny Ricks starring with a hat trick that included a 8-11 11-8 11-6 11-9 victory over Roddy Kay. Sam and Duncan both got trebles as they beat the B team club mates 6 - 4, a ring-rusty Lee Calcutt failing to trouble the scorers, although he ran Barry Carter mighty close before losing 11-9 in the fifth. Danny Ricks got his money's worth against Kingfisher 'C' with all his sets going to a successful 5th game decider as the team ran out 9 - 1 winners, Danny beating Lisa Williams 11-9 in the fifth having earlier won a good tussle with Steve Murgatroyd 7-11 11-9 12-10 7-11 11-7. Third place is probably a realistic aim for this team.

**Team Stats: Danny (87%), Duncan (82%), Sam (75%), Andy (67%), Tony (56%), Lee (33%)**

	PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kingfisher A	11	10	1	0	94	16	21
Kingfisher B	9	8	0	1	72	18	16
OLOP A	8	7	1	0	73	7	15
Tidmarsh A	9	7	0	2	57	33	14
Kingfisher D	11	7	0	4	64	46	14
Kingfisher C	10	3	1	6	36	64	7
OLOP B	9	3	1	5	28	62	7
Reading YMCA	11	3	0	8	39	71	6
Wokingham A	8	2	1	5	33	47	5
Tidmarsh B	10	1	2	7	30	70	4
C&P B	9	1	1	7	21	69	3
Sonning C&P A	9	1	0	8	23	67	2

**Kingfisher 'D'** have moved up to an impressive fifth place and while they may not be the most entertaining team on the table they are certainly pretty good and seeing off most of the opposition with ruthless efficiency. They saw off Tidmarsh 'B' 9 - 1, Philip Zeng and Eduard Caliman with maximums while Trevor Organ just got the better of Barry Carter 13-11 8-11 12-14 11-4 14-12. Eduard and Philip were both unbeaten in their 8 - 2 win against a two man SC&P 'A' side and their top five credentials were further enhanced by a 7 - 3 win against the Kingfisher 'C' team club mates. They were stopped in their tracks by Our Lady of Peace 'A', Yuan Zhuang, Hari Vannapusa and Trevor making the trip for a 9 - 1 defeat leaving Eduard and Philip resting! (protecting their averages?!). The usual trio of Yuan, Philip and Eduard returned to thrash SC&P 'B' 10 - 0 and Philip and Eduard maximums saw them defeat Our Lady of Peace 'B' 7 - 3. Their two very good players will keep them in the top 5, while Yuan is a better player than his current 24% suggests.

**Team Stats: Eduard (91%), Philip (83%), Trevor (26%) Yuan (24%), Hari (11%)**



MARTIN ADAMS

It's been a pretty good couple of months for **Our Lady of Peace 'B'**. They predictably came unstuck against a strong Kingfisher 'B' side, losing 0 - 10. However their chances of staying in the top flite were helped by a 6 - 4 win against Tidmarsh 'B'. Steve Miller led the way with a great treble, supported through wins from Dan West and new recruit Laurence Russell, both beating Tidmarsh reserve François Durand. More success followed after they won a marathon match against Sonning Common & Peppard 'A' 7 - 3 from 1 - 3 down. Clive Perry beat Jason Roberts 9-11 11-7 12-10 6-11 11-9, Steve Miller and Clive won the doubles 12-10 in the fifth, Laurence beat Jason and the comeback win was complete after Steve Miller proved too strong for Keith Swain 5-11 11-8 11-9 11-8. Gus Thomis, Steve and Dan West all beat Yuan Zhang in their 3 - 7 defeat to Kingfisher 'D'. Encouragement then for this team who now look to have a decent enough squad to complete the job of staying up when TT returns in January.

**Team Stats: Gus (67%), Steven (50%), Lawrence (33%), Clive (33%), Dan (13%), Chris (8%)**

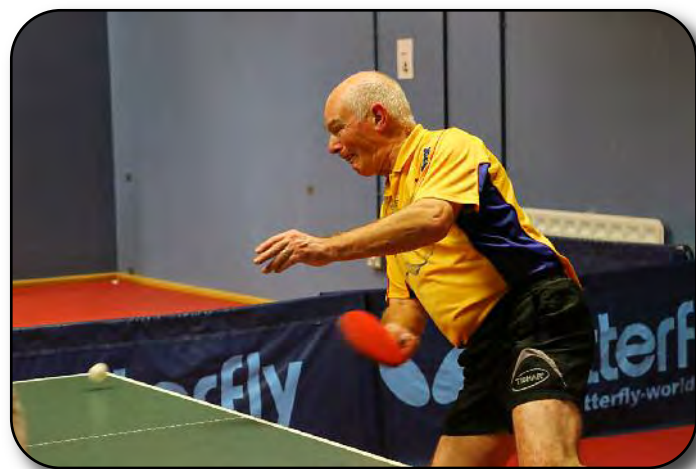
**Reading YMCA's** topsy-turvy season continues. A 4 - 6 defeat against a two man Tidmarsh 'A' side would have been a disappointment, even without Neil Hurford. Pete



STEVE MILLER

**Kingfisher 'C'** finally got a win under their belts as they won 7 - 3 at SC&P 'B', Steve Murgatroyd with a very comfortable treble while Lisa Williams and Andy Parker both won twice, both demonstrating much improved play from last season. A 3 - 7 defeat against club mates Kingfisher 'D' continued to leave them near the bottom. However an 8 - 2 victory in their re-arranged match at YMCA that saw Andrew Parker defeat Neil Hurford 2-11 11-9 11-9 4-11 11-7 on his way to a fine maximum, keeps them safely away from the drop zone and a 6 - 4 win at SC&P 'A' saw Andrew, Niall and Lisa all winning twice. Lisa managed their only win at Tidmarsh 'A' with a 11-5 11-7 13-11 win over Duncan Groves, while Murgy's 3-straight win over reserve Bernhard Schnederle was all they had to show from a short evenings table tennis against Kingfisher 'A'. It continues to be "not strong enough against the top guys and way too good for the bottom teams" for Kingfisher 'C', hence the Maltby crystal ball and life savings will be on a very comfortable mid-table finish.

**Team Stats: Murgy (50%), Niall (50%), Andrew (46%), Lisa (33%)**



JOHN BARCLAY

Bradley beating Duncan Groves 12-10 11-9 7-11 11-8 for their only set win on the night. A 0 - 10 defeat to Kingfisher 'A' was no great surprise but saw Dave Streak make his first appearance of the season. A 3 - 7 defeat at Our Lady of

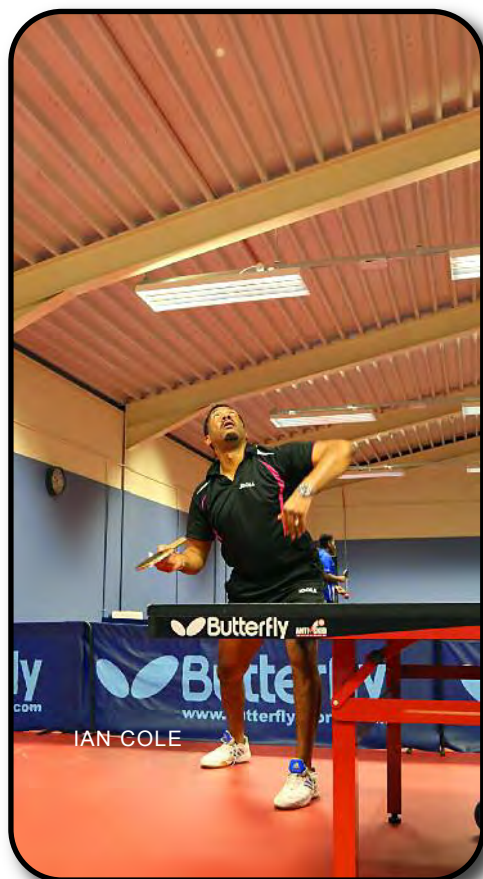


Peace 'B' left them still way too close to the bottom and a 0 - 10 defeat at home to OLOP 'A' only deepened the gloom, however Keith did well against Krasi before losing 6-11 11-5 11-9 6-11 4-11. Streak's 11-7 11-6 12-10 win against Richard Rosinski came with them already 0 - 9 behind against Kingfisher 'B'. Then the long awaited turn around - Pete's brilliant hat trick, two wins from Keith and a vital 8-11 10-12 11-3 13-11 11-4 comeback win by Dave Gilham against Aiden Killian saw them scramble a 6 - 4 win against Wokingham 'A' and Keith Winter's impressive treble set them on the way to a 7 - 3 win at Tidmarsh 'B'. So 6 points on the board at half way leaves them well on course for another season in Division 1 come 2015/16!

**Team Stats: Neil (58%), Keith (46%), Dave (33%), Peter (24%), Dave (15%)**

**Wokingham 'A'** saw their good start ruined by successive 1 - 9 and 2 - 8 defeats to Kingfisher 'D' and Sonning Common & Peppard 'B' respectively. With only Brian and reserve Aiden Killian making the trip to Sonning Common, the addition of Roddy Kay to their squad will at least give them more manpower and he showed his class with wins over Sam Ricks and Tony Brown in a narrow 4 - 6 defeat at Tidmarsh 'A'. Roddy beat Tony Reynolds 12-10 8-11 3-11 11-5 11-8 and took a game off Federico in their 1 - 9 defeat at Kingfisher 'A' while a narrow 4 - 6 defeat at YMCA leaves them perched precariously just above the drop zone, Graham Diplock winning twice and Brian Chinneck managing a 11-8 10-12 11-9 11-7 victory over Dave Gilham. Player availability in key matches against teams just below them will be key to their fortunes in the next half of the season.

**Team Stats: Graham O (67%), Daryl (53%), Graham D (50%), Rod (50%), Brian (20%)**



It looks a bit gloomy for now for **Tidmarsh 'B'**. After a promising start to the season they have lost five matches on the bounce. They have recruited Dominic Cutter to their squad, but he wasn't able to help prevent a 1 - 9 defeat against a rampant Kingfisher 'D' side. Dominic (1) and Tony Brown (2) couldn't save them in their match at Our Lady of Peace 'B' as they slipped to a 4 - 6 defeat. Dominic, Barry and Tony all beat Lee Calcutt but it wasn't quite

enough to snatch a point from the 'A' team club mates who edged it 6 - 4. A predictable 0 - 10 defeat at Kingfisher 'A' followed, and they remain deep in the mire after losing a crunch match against YMCA 3 - 7, although Tony Baker should take credit for a fine 11-6 9-11 11-6 11-4 victory over Dave Streak and Barry Carter managed a good 7-11 17-15 10-12 12-10 11-8 win against Pete Bradley. Although it doesn't look too great, I think they will just about stay out of the bottom two.

**Team Stats: Tony (38%), Andy (33%), Barry (17%), Dominic (17%)**



PHILIP ZENG

**Sonning Common & Peppard 'B'** enjoyed a slice of luck for a change as they beat a battling two man Wokingham 'A' side 8 - 2, Jeremy Willis winning two as did Brian Chinneck for visiting Wokingham. Nigel and Brian both managed wins over Aiden Killian to make sure that the gift of a three set start wasn't wasted. Reality was just around the corner however as, despite a first appearance from Simon Berry, they lost 3 - 7 at home to Kingfisher 'C', Simon just edging out Andy Parker 11-8 9-11 11-7 5-11 13-11 and beating Lisa Williams while Simon & Nigel won a good doubles contest 5-11 12-10 11-6 4-11 13-11. The team then sat out all of November with a series of postponements due to hall unavailability. They returned to the end of the table to pick up the ball whacked past them by both Kingfisher 'D' and Our Lady of Peace 'A' who both picked up easy 10 - 0 wins against Jeremy, Nigel and Brian. Jeremy did take Kingfisher's Eduard and Yuan to a fifth game decider and Brian's wry smile was there as he took a game off Danny Moses at OLOP 14-12. Even though we have points on the board (as opposed to previous seasons!) and we are not far adrift of several other teams, I cannot quite force myself to believe we will stay up.

**Team Stats: Simon (67%), Jez (30%), Nigel (19%), Brian (8%)**

**Sonning Common & Peppard 'A'** finally got a win, with a 7 - 3 success over YMCA. Jason Roberts starred with a fine treble after a tense opening 11-5 11-9 9-11 9-11 11-9 win against Keith Winter, Keith picked up two good wins while Malcolm played his part with victory over Pete Bradley. No reward at Our Lady of Peace 'A' as they lost 0 - 10, Jason and Malcolm at least taking two of their illustrious opponents to a fourth game, while Keith perhaps fancied an early night - losing 3-straight in each! Only Keith and Jason made the trip to Kingfisher 'D' where Keith's single plus victory in the doubles saw them return on the back of an 8 - 2 defeat. A 4 - 6 defeat at home to Kingfisher 'C' will have been a disappointment, Jason having one of his

off nights, leaving Keith's double and an 11-8 11-6 9-11 13-11 win by Malcolm against Niall their only singles wins. A 3 - 7 defeat at Our Lady of Peace 'B', Keith beating Clive Perry 11-8 6-11 11-3 9-11 11-9, leaves them with much to do if they are to claw their way out of the bottom two. A derby win against SC&P 'B' in our scheduled re-arranged match on Thursday 18th December will help!

**Team Stats: Keith (38%), Jason (37%), Malcolm (14%)**

At the time of writing the divisional league table is 9 matches behind due to several postponements. Please try and get some dates in the diary for these asap and keep me informed. I don't want to get to the end of the season and have key matches decided late or conceded!

### LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	PL	W	%
Federico Viterbo	Kingfisher 'A'	15	15	100
Krasi Ivanov	OLOP 'A'	12	12	100
Martin Adams	Kingfisher 'B'	24	23	96
Daniel Moses	OLOP 'A'	18	17	94
Eduard Caliman	Kingfisher 'D'	23	21	91
Hari Gehlot	Kingfisher 'A'	31	27	87
Trung Tran	OLOP 'A'	15	13	87
Danny Ricks	Tidmarsh 'A'	15	13	87
Andrew Smith	Kingfisher 'B'	27	23	85
Mark Banks	Kingfisher 'A'	19	16	84
Philip Zeng	Kingfisher 'D'	29	24	83
Sam Ricks	Tidmarsh 'A'	24	18	75

## DIVISION TWO *by Barry Carter*

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2014. At the top it's looking very good for both Kingfisher 'E' and Curzon Club 'A' as they have pulled away from the chasing pack. If Curzon win their match in hand from week 1 then they will be five points ahead of Milestone 'A'. At the other end of the spectrum it is good that Springfield 'A' have some points and remain unbeaten in the last two. It could go down to the last week of the season as to who eventually falls through the trapdoor.

**Kingfisher 'E'** have won all five matches since the last newsletter, two of which were 10 - 0 and two more close scores of 6 - 4 and one of 7 - 3. The two 10 - 0 victories were against Kingfisher



'F' and Sonning Common & Peppard 'C' whilst the 6 - 4's were against Kingfisher 'F' and Polish 'A'. In the 6 - 4 win over Kingfisher 'F' Bernhard Schnederle lost his 100% record to Ivor Hardman but won the other two against Peter Bennett and Allan Bruton. Roger Woolven-Allen also won two and also lost to Ivor while Geoff Civil only won once. John Morris won a treble in the 10 - 0 win over Kingfisher 'G' with 11-3, 11-6, 11-9 against Eric Holmes, 11-7, 11-2, 8-11, 11-7 against Steve Woolnough and a 11-9, 11-6, 11-4 win over Mike Mitcham. Geoff and Bernhard also won trebles in the match although Geoff was taken to five by both Eric and Steve.

**Team Stat: Have the only 100% home record in the division 6/6.**

**Curzon Club 'A'** started the second quarter of the season with two draws against Polish 'A' and Pangbourne WMC 'A' but have got back on track with three successive wins against Springfield 'A' (6 - 4), Milestone 'A' (7 - 3) and Tidmarsh 'C' (10 - 0). John Willcocks won a maximum in the draw with Polish but he lost one of the highest tie-breakers this season 15-17 to Darek Kaminski but he went on to win in four. Nick Lean and John Walker won once each to help claim a point and preserve their unbeaten record. Jon Willis and John Willcocks both won two each and then joined forces in the 5 - 5 draw with Pangbourne 'A'. John Walker nearly made it a 6 - 4 win but was narrowly beaten by John Simmonds 4-11 in the fifth of game ten. Andy Fakeerjan won two in the promotion four-pointer with Milestone 'A' which they eventually won 7 - 3 and he then won all three in the surprising 10 - 0 victory over Tidmarsh 'C'.

**Team Stat: Have the only 100% home record in the division 6/6.**

**Milestone 'A'** have had mixed fortunes since the last newsletter as they have won two (6 - 4 v Tidmarsh 'C' and 7 - 3 v Sonning Common & Peppard 'C'), drawn once against Wokingham 'B' and suffered two defeats (2 - 8 v OLOP 'C' and 3 - 7 v Curzon 'A'). Robin Benwell won three in the 6 - 4 win over Tidmarsh 'C' although he so nearly lost his 100% record against Mike Aistrop, he was 2 - 1 down but fought



ALLAN BRUTON



	PL	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kingfisher E	11	10	0	1	79	31	20
Curzon Club A	10	8	2	0	75	25	18
Milestone A	11	7	1	3	63	47	15
Pangbourne WMC A	11	5	3	3	60	50	13
OLOP C	11	6	0	5	55	55	12
Tidmarsh C	11	5	2	4	53	57	12
Kingfisher F	11	5	0	6	57	53	10
Wokingham B	10	2	4	4	49	51	8
Polish A	11	3	1	7	46	64	7
SC&P C	11	2	3	6	45	65	7
Kingfisher G	11	2	1	8	26	84	5
Springfield A	11	1	1	9	42	68	3

back to win the fourth 11 - 9 and the fifth 11 - 8. John Tucker won twice and Hugh Crosfield lost all three in five. They slipped up against two-man Wokingham 'B' where they could only draw thanks to two from Robin and the three conceded sets. Robin won two, John Tucker one and John Crosfield helped Robin to a 3-11, 11-4, 8-11, 11-4, 11-7 doubles victory over Danny and Tim in the 7 - 3 victory over two-man Sonning C & P 'C'. Robin was the only winner in the 3 - 7 defeat to Curzon 'A' with five-set wins over John Willcocks and Jon Willis.

**Team Stat: Are unbeaten at home.**

**Pangbourne WMC 'A'** are unbeaten in their last five matches, having won two and drawn three but for them to mount a promotion push in the second half of the season they need to turn draws into wins. The two wins came against Kingfisher 'F' (6 - 4) and Sonning C&P 'C' (8 - 2) whilst the draws were against Kingfisher 'G', Wokingham 'B' and more impressively Curzon 'A'. Denise Weller won all three in the 8 - 2 win over Sonning C & P 'C' which included a fine 11-5, 11-8, 7-11, 8-11, 12-10 win over Tim Raby. John Simmonds and Simon Hopkins both won two, only losing to Tim. It was John's turn to return with a maximum in the 6 - 4 win over Kingfisher 'F'; Simon and Denise won two each. Denise became only the second player to defeat John Willcocks this season when she won 5-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-9 to make the score 2 - 2 on the night. Leroy Wilson playing up from division three did well to overcome John Walker 11-6, 11-5, 3-11, 11-5 but it was left to John in game ten to clinch a point when he won 8-11, 11-8, 9-11, 11-5, 11-4 against John Walker.

**Team Stat: Their six doubles wins have come in three pairs... if that makes sense.**

**Tidmarsh 'C'** have suffered a slump along the lines of the Royals as they have only won once in five and that was a narrow 6 - 4 win over Springfield 'A'. In the match against two-man Wokingham 'B' they man-



WENDY PORTER

aged to snatch a point but were beaten 0 - 10 by Curzon, 2 - 8 by OLOP 'C' and 4 - 6 by Milestone 'A'. The trio of François Durand, Chris Webb and John Golding all won two against Des Hele and Seth Martin of Springfield 'A' and it was John who went closest to defeating Phil Burke but he eventually lost 5-11 in the fifth. The only other point came against two man Wokingham 'B' as John and Dave Wise both defeated Tony Eames to get a 5 - 5 draw. Mike Aistrop defeated Hugh Crosfield 11-6, 11-8, 5 -11, 6-11, 12-10 and John Tucker 11-2, 11-6, 8-11, 5-11, 11-2, earlier Chris had come from 0 - 2 down against Hugh to win 11-7 in the fifth but it wasn't enough as they slipped to a 4 - 6 defeat.

**Team Stat: Have lost eight successive doubles sets after they won the first three.**

**Kingfisher 'F'** have won three and lost twice in the last five matches; the wins came against Polish 'A' (9 - 1), OLOP 'C' (7 - 3) and Kingfisher 'G' (9 - 1) and the defeats were to



DJORDJE MILOVANOVIC

Kingfisher 'E' and Pangbourne 'A' both 4 - 6. I think there is only one place to start and that is in the match against Kingfisher 'E' where Ivor Hardman inflicted a first and only defeat of the season on Bernhard Schnederle so far when he won 6-11, 12-10, 12-10, 4-11, 11-8, this set the match up nicely at 2 - 2 but despite Allan Bruton defeating Geoff Civil 11-9, 12-10, 8-11, 11-7 this wasn't enough and they lost 4 - 6. Ivor and Allan won three and Allen Pack two in the 9 - 1 thrashing of Kingfisher 'G'. Allan also won three in the 7 - 3 victory over OLOP 'C' although he was given a run by young Michael McAllister before he eventually won 12-10 in the fifth. Michael Houghton also enjoyed a five-game win over Michael and also won 11-8, 11-5, 9-11, 11-9 against Wendy Porter. It was Allen's turn to win a maximum in the match against Polish 'A' as he returned home with the scalps of Darek Kaminski, Luca Bianchi and Grant Wheatley, he was well supported by Peter Bennett and Ivor.

**Team Stat: Have won the most times by the 7 - 3 scoreline, on two occasions.**

**Our Lady of Peace 'C'** find themselves just below half way thanks to two wins and two defeats since the last newsletter although with one result to come in they could be as high as fifth. The two wins came against Tidmarsh 'C' (8 - 2) and Milestone 'A' (8 - 2) but they really must get over the allergy to playing at Kingfisher as they lost 3 - 7 to both the 'E' and 'F' teams [they also lost 4 - 6 away to the 'E' team earlier in the season too]. Michael McAllister is turning into a good player and this was proved with his maximum against promotion chasing Milestone 'A' including wins over John Tucker, Hugh Crosfield and the wily & dangerous John Evans. This match also saw the debut and only appearance of Djordje Milovanovic and he made an impression with a maximum too. If he was to play more regularly then promotion could be on the cards. Pat Daniels also had a good win over John Evans. Siad Cole had a good win over François Durand in the win over Tidmarsh 'C' as did Wendy but once again Michael turned his into a treble. Michael and Siad also recorded victories over Geoff Civil in the match with the leaders.

**Team Stat: Have won the most times by the 8 - 2 scoreline, on three occasions.**

**Wokingham 'B'** have done well in November and early December and are unbeaten in four having won once and drawn three times and are now the draw specialists with four. Their only win was against Springfield 'A' where they

## LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Robin Benwell	Milestone A	25	25	100.00 %
Djordje Milovanovic	OLOP C	3	3	100.00 %
Bernhard Schnederle	Kingfisher E	30	28	93.33 %
John Willcocks	Curzon Club A	27	25	92.59 %
Andy Fakeerjan	Curzon Club A	21	18	85.71 %
Daniel Buckle	Wokingham B	26	21	80.77 %
Philip Burke	Springfield A	32	25	78.13 %
George White	Pangbourne WMCA	9	7	77.78 %
John Willis	Curzon Club A	21	16	76.19 %
John Simmonds	Pangbourne WMCA	27	20	74.07 %
Michael Mcallister	OLOP C	33	24	72.73 %
Roger Woolven-Allen	Kingfisher E	21	15	71.43 %

won 7 - 3, whilst the draws were against Tidmarsh 'C', Milestone 'A' and Pangbourne 'A', all of which are in the top half of the table. Richard Neville won three, Aidan Killian two and Tony Eames one in the win over Polish 'A'. Richard also won three against Springfield 'A' which included an 11-8, 8-11, 11-3, 13-11 win over Phil Burke. Aidan won two tight five-gamers against Des Hele (11-6, 12-14, 11-6, 11-9) and Ian Boaden (13-11, 11-8, 9-11, 11-9) and Dan Buckle also won two. Dan has been their most consistent player this season having won one maximum and five braces from his six appearances; his only maximum came in the draw with Tidmarsh 'C' as he defeated Chris Webb 11-5, 11-6, 11-3, John Golding 15-13, 11-3, 11-5 and Dave Wise 11-5, 11-13, 14-12, 5-11, 11-3. Tony Eames also had success against Chris Webb with a 11-7, 11-2, 4-11, 13-11 win; this result was achieved with only two players so a great effort. Richard Neville won two against Milestone 'A' with his only defeat coming against Robin but this was another great effort to salvage something with two players as they held on for a draw.

**Team Stat: Are yet to win away, they've drawn two and lost two.**

**Polish 'A'** have picked up five points out of ten since the last newsletter and find themselves hovering close to the relegation zone. The two wins came against Kingfisher 'G' where they won 9 - 1 and Sonning C&P 'C' where it was a lot closer 6 - 4 victory. The point was a bonus as they held second-placed Curzon to a 5 - 5 draw. Darek Kaminski had good wins over John Walker (11-8, 11-9, 12-14, 12-10) and Nick Lean (11-5, 11-9, 11-8) whilst Grant Wheatley and Luca Bianchi chipped in with vital wins. Darek Kaminski recorded his second maximum of the season in the 6 - 4 win over Sonning C & P 'C' as he defeated Matt Stone, Danny Dockree and Jon Abbott. Jacek Krzyzanowski won one against Danny (11-6, 11-8, 11-3) but Grant went one better as he defeated Jon Abbott too. Darek, Jacek and Grant all won three in the comprehensive 9 - 1 win over Kingfisher 'G'.

**Team Stat: Have won both games in which Darek has recorded a maximum.**



SIAD COLE



**Sonning Common & Peppard 'C'** are joint bottom of the form table having only picked up one point since the last newsletter and that came in a four-pointer at the bottom against Springfield 'A'. Danny Dockree won two against Des Hele (7-11, 11-5, 11-6, 5-11, 12-10) and Ian Boaden (11-13, 11-2, 11-6, 11-7) whilst both Tim Raby and Jon Abbott also defeated Ian. The doubles proved decisive as Tim & Danny teamed up to overcome Phil Burke and Ian 11-2, 11-4, 11-13, 11-8. Matt Stone brought them close to a point against Polish 'A' with wins over Jacek (11-4, 11-13, 11-3, 12-10) and Grant (11-13, 11-7, 11-7, 11-7) but Jon could only beat Jacek and despite a doubles win by Danny Dockree and Matt it proved fruitless as they lost 4 - 6. They only had two Tim Raby wins over John Simmonds (9-11, 12-10, 11-9, 8-11, 11-6) and Simon Hopkins (11-7, 11-8, 11-9, 11-7) to show in an 8 - 2 defeat to Pangbourne 'A'. Tim and Danny both defeated John Crosfield in the 3 - 7 defeat to Milestone 'A'.

**Team Stat: Are unbeaten when Danny Dockree wins two or more sets in an evening.**

**Kingfisher 'G'** are the other team on a poor run of form as they too have only picked up one point from five matches. Theirs came against Pangbourne 'A'. Eric Holmes led the way with two wins over Simon Hopkins and Clive Taylor, Steve Woolnough also won two and Carol Byers added the win to clinch the point with a 10-12, 11-4, 11-7, 11-7 victory over Simon. Eric had the only success on a bad night in a 1 - 9 defeat against Kingfisher 'F' when he triumphed over Allen Pack 11-8, 11-3, 11-8. Dave Duncan took Allen to five but lost out 7-11 in the fifth, but that was about as good as it got for them. Steve and Eric seemed unlucky against Geoff Civil as they both lost in five to him, Steve 6-11 and Eric 8-11. Carol and Mike Mitcham teamed up to win the doubles in the 1 - 9 defeat to Polish 'A' as they beat Jacek and Darek 5-11, 11-9, 11-9, 7-11, 11-6. The duo of Mike and Eric could-

n't prevent Springfield 'A's first win of the season as they could only muster two players. Eric did beat Des 11-6, 11-6, 11-3 and Mike defeated Ian 9-11, 11-7, 12-10, 11-8 but they succumbed in an 8 - 2 defeat.

**Team Stat: Have won both their matches by the 6 - 4 scoreline.**

**Springfield 'A'** had gone nine matches without gaining a point. They had come so close on three occasions with 6 - 4 defeats but the run was finally ended with a 5 - 5 draw against Sonning C & P 'C' in the first week of December. Phil Burke won his almost customary three against Tim Raby, Danny Dockree and Jon Abbott. Des Hele won a brace for the first time this season with an 11-9, 12-10, 5-11, 11-7 win over Tim and an 11-6, 11-7, 11-8 win over Jon. The win then came in week 11 as they entertained two-man Kingfisher 'G' in the basement battle. Phil won against both Eric (11-2, 11-7, 12-10) and then Mike (14-12, 11-5, 11-5). The first win was guaranteed when Phil and Des won the doubles encounter with Eric and Mike 12-10, 5-11, 11-9, 5-11, 11-8 to leave them 6 - 1 up and they wrapped up the two of the final three to win 8 - 2 as Des beat Mike 11-9, 5-11, 11-5, 11-5 and Ian defeated Eric 2-11, 12-10, 7-11, 11-7, 11-9. They also gave Curzon 'A' a shock as at one stage it was 3 - 3 thanks to a Phil win over Andy 13-11, 11-6, 11-9, Ian's win over John Walker 11-9, 11-8, 11-8 and a Des win over John Walker 11-9, 11-9, 3-11, 4-11, 16-14 but they lost the next three to trail 3 - 6 before Phil rounded off the match with a win to make it 4 - 6. I'm sure with this new-found winning mentality they can climb away from the bottom three and survive to partake in another season in division two.

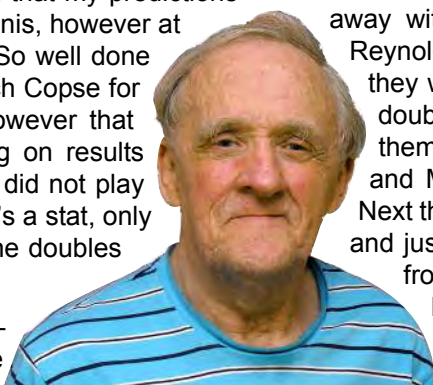
**Team Stat: Have lost by the 4 - 6 scoreline the most times, on four occasions.**

I think that's about all from me for 2014 other than to wish you all a very merry Christmas and best wishes for 2015

## ***DIVISION THREE*** *by Derek Harrison*

**H**ello everyone. It would seem that my predictions are as bad as I play table tennis, however at the top it was not too bad. So well done to Pangbourne, Sonning C&P and Birch Copse for proving me wrong. I have to say however that team selection has had a big bearing on results when some teams played reserves or did not play their best players. Before I go on here's a stat, only Leroy for Pangbourne has played in the doubles in every match his team has played.

I feel I must remind captains regarding the no postponement rule. Please can you go on to the web site and click on news and then latest news articles and you will then see the link which will clarify the rules. Having players playing in other leagues is not a valid reason to postpone and you should call upon reserves whenever possible. However before you try to postpone any match please can you consult me for advice before you contact the opposition captain.



**Tidmarsh 'D'** went to leaders Pangbourne 'B' and came away with a 1 - 9 victory. Pete Galea and Dave Reynolds jnr both hit fairly easy trebles. For Pete they were all 3 straight. Mike Willmott managed a double. They then played Kingfisher 'H' and beat them 9 - 1 mainly thanks to hat tricks from Pete and Mike. Dave did his bit by gaining a double. Next they had to play two reserves against OLOP 'D' and just got home 6 - 4 thanks to a splendid treble from Mike and a very good double from Terry Hardie. Terry and Mike also won the doubles.

At home to Curzon 'B' Mike was the star by hitting a great maximum. Dave jnr weighed in with a double while Dave S managed a single. Mike's set against Mike Maynard was a real thriller. He won the first two games and then lost the next two and in the 5th game the lead kept going from one player to another until it got to 8-8 when there was a tremendous rally. Mike M hitting the ball to each side of the table when Mike W went down on the floor and with his arm at a full reach managed to get his bat on the ball and then it seemed to go in slow motion as

it went upwards and just managed to go over the net and just clipped the edge of the table to win the point. So instead of being 8-9 down he was 9-8 up. Full of confidence Mike W then won the points he needed to clinch his maximum. Pete then came up from Bath to help the team beat close rivals Tilehurst Meths 'A' 3 – 7 by gaining a three straight maximum. Dave jnr hit a double while Mike gained a single by beating Nigel. Then by beating Sonning Sports 8 – 2 they went clear at the top. Dave jnr scored a fine treble with Mike and Steve Ricks, who was making his debut for the season, both winning two each. Against Sonning C&P they played their star player, Peter and as ever he hit a three straight treble. Dave jnr also won all three and Mike gained a double.

**Kingfisher 'H'** won their derby "away" at their 'I' team 1 – 9 with Dave Gostelow and Willis Ma both gaining three-straight maximums. Rick Leachman weighed in with a double. For Dave it was second treble in a row. It's like the buses Dave! Yes you wait for one for ages and then two come along together. One thing Dave, did you have to beat Didier 0-11? At leaders Tidmarsh 'D' they crashed to a 9 – 1 defeat with Willis beating Dave Reynolds jnr. Next came an easy 9 – 1 victory against a two-man Tilehurst Meths 'B' team with Colin Dyke and Rick both winning two each. Dave won one by beating John Virgo. At Polish 'B' Colin



DAVE GOSTELOW OF KINGFISHER 'H'

was on top form by hitting a great hat trick and with Willis and Leigh Mahoney both gaining singles this was enough to gain a point. Colin and Willis then hit hat tricks to help them defeat Birch Copse 7 – 3. Colin's were all three straight. Dave weighed in with a single. At Pangbourne they showed their class by romping to a 1 – 9 victory with Colin and Willis both gaining hat tricks. Rick played well by beating Leroy and Roger.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tidmarsh D	11	10	1	0	79	31	21
Kingfisher H	10	7	1	2	64	36	15
Tilehurst Meths A	11	7	0	4	65	45	14
Curzon B	11	6	1	4	62	48	13
Pangbourne WMC B11	6	1	4	54	56	13	
Sonning C & P D	11	4	3	4	52	58	11
Birch Copse A	11	4	2	5	56	54	10
Sonning Sports A	11	3	3	5	48	62	9
Polish B	11	2	4	5	48	62	8
OLOP D	10	2	3	5	44	56	7
Kingfisher I	11	2	1	8	36	74	5
Tilehurst Meths B	11	2	0	9	42	68	4

Early season leaders **Pangbourne 'B'** came unstuck against a very strong Tidmarsh 'D' and went down 1 – 9 with Leroy Wilson winning the set by beating Mike. They then went down 8 – 2 at Tilehurst Meths 'A' with Clive Taylor winning two by beating Cath and Paul. The big surprise was that Leroy did not win a set. They then got back into the winning groove by beating Sonning Sports 7-3 with Leroy returning to form by winning all three. Clive did well to win two and Roger stopped his losing run by beating Bob S. They then won 3 – 7 at Sonning C&P with reserve Ray Webb gaining a very good maximum. Leroy won two and Roger managed a single. They then came down to earth when they crashed to a 1 – 9 defeat against Kingfisher 'H'. Clive was the sole winner, beating Rick. Next match they went down 6 – 4 at bottom side Kingfisher 'I'. Clive hit a fine double and Leroy and Roger both won one each by beating Gabor.

**Tilehurst Meths 'A'** without Nigel Rowland lost at Birch Copse 'A' 6 – 4. Phil Jones did his bit by winning all three but sadly for the side Catherine Venning could only pick up



COLIN DYKE OF KINGFISHER 'H'



a single. Next by beating Pangbourne 8 – 2 they moved into second place. Nigel had a great night, winning all three but had to work hard against Leroy by beating him 15-13 in the 5th end. Cath and Paul played their part by winning two each. At OLOP 'D' they came away with both points to maintain second place with Cath and Nigel winning two each and Paul getting a single by beating Alistair. Cath and Nigel had a good doubles win against Mark and Dave. At home to a very strong Tidmarsh they went down 3 – 7 with Nigel, Phil and Paul all winning one each. Then

### LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Peter Galea	Tidmarsh D	15	15	100.0%
Jean-Noel Thepaut	Kingfisher I	18	17	94.4%
Mick Maynard	Curzon B	21	19	90.5%
David Reynolds (Jnr)	Tidmarsh D	30	26	86.7%
Willis Ma	Kingfisher H	21	17	81.0%
Geoff Johnson	Curzon B	21	16	76.2%
Phil Jones	Tilehurst Meths A	24	18	75.0%
Colin Dyke	Kingfisher H	23	17	73.9%
Mike Willmott	Tidmarsh D	33	24	72.7%
Nigel Rowland	Tilehurst Meths A	18	13	72.2%
Simon Clarke	Birch Copse A	27	19	70.4%
Dave Godfrey	OLOP D	18	12	66.7%
Zdzislaw Jerzmanski	Polish B	15	10	66.7%
Alan Mollett	Sonning C & P D	33	21	63.6%
Catherine Venning	Tilehurst Meths A	21	13	61.9%

by beating Curzon 7 – 3 they maintained their place near the top with Cath, Phil and Paul all gaining doubles. Cath and Phil had a very good doubles win over Nick and Mike. At Sonning Sports neither Phil nor Cath were available so as a result two vital points went down the drain in a 6 – 4 defeat. Nigel and Paul tried hard to gain a point and won two each.

**Sonning C&P 'D'** won their third match in a row by winning 4 – 6 at Tilehurst Meths 'B'. Alan Mollett was in fine form by beating Ian Cockling 10-12, 11-7, 9-11, 4-11, John Virgo 7-11, 3-11, 5-11 and Alex Zheng 6-11, 5-11, 6-11. With Anthony Reeve winning two and Derek Wavell getting a single this was enough to give them both points. In Anthony's set against Ian at one stage he was 7- 1 down and then won 9 points in a row before winning 8-11. They made it 4 wins in a row by beating Polish 'B' 8 – 2. Alan and Anthony were on top form, both gaining trebles. Derek had a nice win over Daniel. At Birch Copse Derek and Alan both won two each with Anthony gaining that important single by beating their best player Simon Clarke 11-5, 11-7, 4-11, 4-11, 9-11 which helped them to a draw. They then lost for the first

time in 6 outings when going down 3 – 7 at home to Pangbourne. The improving Anthony won two which included a fine 11-7, 9-11, 11-9, 12-10 win over Leroy. Alan won the other set by beating Roger. They next gained a good point at OLOP with Alan gaining a fine maximum. Derek had a nice win over Alistair and also teamed up with Alan to win the doubles. For the first time Anthony did not take part in the doubles. Against Tidmarsh they crashed 1 – 9 with Derek beating Mike 11-7, 11-7, 11-7. Derek informs me that his team played well but Tidmarsh were too good.

**Curzon 'B'** had a good 2 – 8 win at OLOP 'D' with Mike Maynard and Geoff Johnson both getting well fought trebles. Nick Lean played well to win one. Nick and Mike also won the doubles. We then beat Kingfisher 'I' 6 – 4 thanks to doubles from Geoff, Jim and Derek. Geoff and Jim both managed to take an end from their star player Jean-Noel - in the previous two or three seasons only 5 players have managed that. At top of the league Tidmarsh 'D' we were well beaten. Mike won two by beating Dave Reynolds jnr and Dave S while Derek also defeated Dave S which meant we lost 7 – 3. At home to Tilehurst Meths 'B' the big guns came out and as a result we won 9 – 1 with Mike and Geoff both gaining trebles. Nick played his part by winning two and also teamed up with Mike to win the doubles. Against Birch Copse we came from 3 – 5 down to gain a draw with Mike and Geoff both winning two so it was left to Derek to defeat Mike Williams in set 10 to gain that point. Mike was in good form at Tilehurst Meths 'A' by winning all three but sadly that was all we got in a 7 – 3 defeat. Against Polish Mike again came to the rescue by gaining a three straight maximum, Geoff hit a double while Jim did well to pick up a single.

**Birch Copse 'A'** had a good 6 – 4 win over Tilehurst Meths 'A' thanks to doubles from Simon Clarke and Jes Eassom who also teamed up to win the doubles. Roy Hull obtained a vital single by beating Paul Treadgold. At Sonning Sports they just went down 6 – 4. Simon had two good wins by beating Nigel and Bob S. Jes beat Bob W and also teamed up with Simon to win the doubles. They then came back from 2 – 4 down to share the points with



ALAN MOLLETT (RIGHT) PLAYING WITH IAN COLE

Sonning C&P 'D' with Simon winning two and Jes and Mike Williams both picking up singles. Jes and Simon also won the doubles. At Kingfisher 'H' they went down 7 – 3 with Simon and Jes both beating Dave. Simon also teamed up with Mike to win the doubles. In their re-arranged match at Curzon, Simon played well to hit his first treble of the season but I have to say his excellent play was marred in my view in that he was moaning all of the time when nets or edges went against him. To gain them a point Jes beat yours truly and also teamed up with Simon to win the doubles. As ever Mike was the complete sportsman even in defeat. Hat tricks from Jes, Mike and Roy gave them a 9 – 1 win over Kingfisher 'I'. For Roy and Mike they were the first of the season while Jes were all three straight as were four other sets. They then won for the second match in a row by beating Tilehurst Meths 'B' 3 – 7 with trebles from Roy and Simon while Jes managed a single.

**Polish 'B'** and Sonning Sports 'A' fought out a draw with Krys Szczygiel and Ziko Jerzmanski both winning twice. Luca hit that vital single by beating Bob Snelgrove. They then went down 8 – 2 to Sonning Com & P 'D' with Krys and Luca both beating Derek. They then gained a fine draw at Kingfisher 'H'. Ziko hit a double besides teaming up with Krys to win the important doubles against Colin and Willis. Daniel and Krys helped the cause by gaining singles. Next came another draw against Kingfisher 'I' with Krys and Ziko both winning twice. Luca gained that important single by beating Didier. At OLOP, Ziko and Luca were the only single scorers in a 7 – 3 defeat. The two of them won the doubles against Mark and Alistair. By beating Tilehurst Meths 'B' 6 – 4 they lifted themselves well clear of the bottom two thanks to a great hat trick from Ziko. Krys did well to win two which included an amazing set against Ian beating him 3-11, 2-11, 12-10, 11-4, 13-11. I have to ask, is there a story regarding this? Daniel helped by gaining that important single by beating Alex. At Curzon Luca did well to win two besides teaming up with Dan to win the doubles. Dan also picked up a single by beating Jim.

**OLOP 'D'** went down 2 – 8 to Curzon 'B' with Phil Saunders and Alistair Richardson both beating Nick. At Tidmarsh despite playing against a weakened team they lost 6 – 4 with Alistair and Phil winning one each and Dave Godfrey obtaining a double. Dave was in top form against Tilehurst Meths 'A' by beating Nigel 9-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-6 then Paul 11-7, 11-8, 9-11, 11-6 and Cath 12-10, 11-2, 12-14, 12-10. Mark Bullion had a nice win over Paul but this was not enough as the side lost 4 – 6. Next they gained a vital point at Sonning Sports which lifted them off the bottom. Dave and Phil both won twice while Mark did his bit by beating Bob S. Phil's victory over Bob W was crucial as he beat him 10-12 in the 5th end. At home to Polish they won for the first time since the opening match by winning 7 – 3. Mark and Phil both won three each for the first time this season and Alistair did his bit by beating Krys. I have to say they lost the doubles again for the 9th time in a row. At home to Sonning C&P 'D' they gained a vital point. Dave and reserve Jazz Dhillon both won two each with Alistair getting that important single by beating Anthony. And yes they lost the doubles again.

**Sonning Sports 'A'** drew at Polish 'B' with Bob Woodmansee obtaining a great maximum and also teaming up with Dave Chard to win the doubles. Dave himself managed a single by beating Luca. At home to Birch Copse they had to come from 3 – 4 down before coming out winning 6 – 4. Bob Snelgrove, Bob W and Nigel Goodman all won two each. In one game between Bob W and Jes one rally went on for a long time and Bob informs me they both said it was the longest rally they have been involved in, and I have been assured they were not pushing all of the time! One other stat, Bob has played Jes 5 times and has lost three at home and won two away. So much for home advantage. The mini revival came to an end at Pangbourne when they lost 7 – 3 with Bob W win-



KRYS SZCZYGIEL OF POLISH 'B'

ning two and Dave Chard winning one. Bob W described the match at OLOP as "Tales Of The Unexpected" because with a reserve he did not expect to gain a point. Then at 5 - 2 up he did not expect to drop a point. He did not expect that 7 sets would be three straight. He did not expect to beat Dave Godfrey three straight, whom he has always struggled against before. He did not expect that reserve Tom Gordon would beat Mark Bullion. Finally he did not expect the match to finish at 10.05 pm. For the record Bob W won two and Bob S and Tom both gained singles besides the two Bob's winning the doubles. At Tidmarsh Nigel Goodman and Bob W both gained singles in an 8 – 2 defeat but at one stage it was 8 – 0. Rather than make the team play with two players Nigel came up from Torquay just to play in the match and then went back again straight after to arrive home at 1.45am. My guess is this is a record distance to play in a league match. Bob W sends his thanks to Nigel. By the way, Nigel beat Mike and Bob W beat



Steve. They then entertained Tilehurst Meths 'A' and just got home 6 – 4 with Bob W and Dave both gaining doubles besides teaming up to win the doubles. Bob S played his part by beating reserve Chris Taylor. Dave had his best win for ages by beating Nigel Rowland 8-11, 11-8, 5-11, 11-6, 11-7. Another stat is that only two sets went to three games.

**Kingfisher 'I'** lost 1 – 9 to their 'H' team with Joaquin beating Rick. At Curzon Jean-Noel came back into the side and promptly won all three and also teamed up with Gabor Radnoti to win the doubles in their 6 – 4 defeat. At Tilehurst Meths 'B' Joaquin was the sole winner in a 9 - 1 defeat. Their 4-match-losing run came to an end when they gained a draw against Polish with as ever Jean-Noel hitting a three straight maximum. Gabor gave him good support by beating Luca and also helped in a doubles win. They then crashed to a 9 – 1 defeat at Birch Copse with only a doubles win to show for their efforts as Didier and Gianpaolo defeated Mike and Roy. They then lifted themselves off the bottom by beating Pangbourne 6 – 4 with Jean-Noel winning all three in straight games. Joaquin played his part by winning two and also teamed up with Jean-Noel to win the doubles.

**Tilehurst Meths 'B'** lost to an in form Sonning C&P 'D' 4

– 6 with John Virgo winning two and Ian Cockling managing a single, besides the two of them winning the doubles. At Kingfisher 'H' they went down 9 – 1 with Ian beating Dave Gostelow. They then beat a weak Kingfisher 'I' team 9 – 1 with Ian and Alex both gaining three straight maximums.

Alex Zheng had his best ever win at this level by beating Nick but he was the only scorer in a 9 – 1 defeat at Curzon 'B'. At Polish 'B' they went down 6 – 4 and are now in trouble in the bottom two. Ian, Alex and Richard Lownsbrough all gained singles. They then dropped two vital points when going down 3 – 7 to Birch Copse. Ian and John both beat Jes. They also had a fine doubles win over Jes and Simon. I have to thank Ian very much for keeping the side going because of the problems within his squad. Let's hope that Nick Barnes will be playing soon so you do not have to rely on reserves.

One request, please can I ask you that if possible you complete the scorecard in black ink because sometimes I cannot read the copy when a photo is emailed to me. Thank You.

Finally I would like to wish you all a good Christmas and a happy and healthy 2015.

## ***DIVISION FOUR*** *by Nigel Rowland*

**I**t was interesting to read my last report and analyse what happened during the week of the publication. I was able to report Tidmarsh 'E' at the top of the table, but, by the end of that week they were mid table. I reported correctly OLOP 'E' were undefeated and are still today, well done Djordje Milovanovic, Giuliano Ghidini, Jan Polnik and Chris Bunn.

Congratulations go to OLOP 'E' for leading the table; they have had to work hard to maintain this position. The question is, can anyone inflict a first defeat on them? Pangbourne 'C' currently hold onto the second promotion spot, Milestone 'B' remain within touching distance with a game in hand.

In the last scheduled match of the year Curzon 'C' defeated Tilehurst 'D' to keep pace with fellow relegation contenders Springfield 'C' and 'B'. This keeps pointless Tilehurst 'D' rooted to the bottom.

In the averages Djordje Milovanovic of OLOP 'E' sits top of the table with 96% followed by Ray Webb of Pangbourne 'C' on 90%. Congratulations to Ray for taking Djordje's 100% record.

In the doubles stakes Djordje Milovanovic and Jan Polnik have 4 wins from 4 closely followed by Daniel Mortimer and Ludovic Couillard with 3 wins out of 3.

Have a great Christmas and New Year.



**OLOP 'E'** Trebles from both Djordje Milovanovic and Giuliano Ghidini with a single from Jan Polnik as they stormed to the top of the league defeating promotion challengers Tilehurst Meths 'C' 2 – 8. They then followed up with an 8 – 2 win over Milestone 'B' thanks to Djordje and Giuliano trebles and a double from Jan to maintain second spot. Djordje, Chris Bunn and Jan powered their way back to the top of the division with a good 0 – 10 win over Springfield 'C'. Chris had a close five gamer against Colin Jones to secure his treble. Djordje scored a well earned treble with a double



DJORDJE MILOVANOVIC



JAN POLNIK

from Jan and the important doubles to squeeze a 6 – 4 win over Kingfisher 'J'. Jan had a close five game win over John Creighton winning 13-11,6-11,12-14,11-9,14-12. Chris managed to take a game off Melvyn Lovegrove. Djordje and Giuliano trebles along with a doubles win resulted in a 3 – 7 win over SC&P 'F', Jan managed game wins only.

**Pangbourne 'C'** Trebles from Mick Grantham and Ray Webb with a double from Ted Cripps as they battled to win 1 – 9 against Tidmarsh 'E' to go top of the league. Mick Grantham came back from 2 - 1 down to win in five against Dave Edwards. They followed this up with a resounding 8 – 2 win over Tilehurst Meths 'C' thanks to Mick and Ray trebles and a single from Ted. Mick was made to work hard for his treble, winning in five against Chris Taylor and Ted just lost out in five against Chris. Doubles from Mick and Ray could not prevent a first defeat going down 6 – 4 to Milestone 'B'. Ray lost a five gamer to Viliam Andrascik and Ted two four gamers to both Viliam and George Strong. Mick, Ray and Ted bounced back with trebles to crush Springfield 'C' 10 – 0 to keep their promotion challenge alive. Ray was in top form along with the doubles win with Ted but could not prevent them from faltering by going down 6 – 4 against Kingfisher 'J' to put a dent in their promotion hopes.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLOP E	11	9	2	0	76	34	20
Pangbourne WMC C	11	7	2	2	74	36	16
Milestone B	10	7	0	3	58	42	14
SC&P E	11	5	4	2	58	52	14
SC&P F	11	6	0	5	58	52	12
Kingfisher J	11	5	1	5	59	51	11
Tilehurst Meths C	10	3	4	3	52	48	10
Tidmarsh E	10	4	2	4	51	49	10
Springfield B	10	3	3	4	48	52	9
Curzon Club C	11	2	2	7	46	64	6
Springfield C	11	3	0	8	37	73	6
Tilehurst Meths D	11	0	0	11	23	87	0

**Milestone 'B'** A Christopher Collins and Viliam Andrascik treble with a single from John Evans as they defeated basement club Tilehurst Meths 'D' 8 – 2 to move up to third spot. Chris got the only double in their 8 – 2 loss to OLOP 'E'. John had a major tussle with Jan Polnik eventually going down 11-5,4-11;3-11,21-19,11-9.. Viliam lost in five to Djordje Milovanovic. A Chris double with singles from Viliam and guest George Strong gave them a superb 6 – 4 win over previously unbeaten Pangbourne 'C'. Viliam had a crucial five game win over Ray Webb and George a brilliant win over Ted Cripps. This win pushes them within two points of a promotion spot with a game in hand. Singles from Viliam and Arun were the only sets won in a hard fought 3 – 7 loss to SC&P 'E'. Fair play for fielding guest George Strong, George managed game wins over Mike Casserley and Thomas Perkins.

**SC&P 'E'** Thomas Perkins was the hero with a hard



JOE BARRACLOUGH

fought treble with a Joe Barraclough double to ensure a share of the spoils against Springfield 'B'. In such a close match had Mike Casserley converted any of his three five gamers, a win would have resulted. In game eight Joe came from two down to win in five against Ludo Couillard. A first doubles win of the season proved crucial along with a well won treble from Mike with singles from Thomas Perkins and Gerry Bacon to defeat Curzon 'C' 6 – 4. A treble from Thomas with a double from Joe gave them a share of the points against Tidmarsh 'E'. Mike managed a four gamer against Jon Liddle. Joe and Thomas were on top form to record trebles with a single from Mike to enhance their promotion credentials with a hard fought 3 – 7 win over promotion chasing Milestone 'B'. Thomas's five game win over Viliam Andrascik was particularly notable. A double each from Joe and Mike with a single from Gerry gave them a point against Tilehurst Meths 'C'. Joe had a



close five game win over Chris Taylor which gave them a point. Mike had a good win over Richard Lownsbrough.

**SC&P 'F'** An Eric Walker treble, double from Walter Allanson and single from Scarlett Jones to win 3 – 7 against Springfield 'C'. Walter won a superb five game against Aiden Simmonds. Double wins from Angus Jones and Julian James with an all important single from Scarlett resulted in a close 6 – 4 win over Kingfisher 'J'. Another Eric treble with doubles from Matt Tarrant and Julian consolidated their third position in the table defeating Curzon 'C' 2 – 8. Eric had to fight for his treble as Linda King pushed him to a five game and Julian played some of his best table tennis to win his two sets in five beating both Mike Gillard and Oli Lister. Eric, Walter and Matt romped to a 0 – 10 win over basement club Tilehurst Meths 'D'. Matt had a five game win over Patrick O'Sullivan. Singles from Angus, Scarlett and Matt as they lost 3 – 7 to table toppers OLOP 'E'. Matt lost a five game against Giuliano Ghidini.

**Kingfisher 'J'** A hard fought treble from Melvyn Lovegrove with doubles from Ken Robb and a single from John Upham gave them a good 3 – 7 win over Curzon 'C'. A well earned treble from John with a single from Ken gave them a 6 – 4 loss to SC&P 'F'. Ken came back from two down to win in five against Scarlett Jones. Derek Crombie lost all three straight. Melvyn, John U and John Creighton all recorded trebles in their 9 – 1 win against basement club Tilehurst Meths 'D'. A double from Melvyn and singles from John U and John C in their close 6 – 4 loss to OLOP 'E'. Both John U and John C lost close five gamers against Jan Polnik. Doubles from Melvyn, John U and John C dented Pangbourne 'C's promotion credentials by defeating them 6 – 4. Melvyn won set ten against Mick Grantham to snatch all points.

**Tilehurst Meths 'C'** In their top of the table clash Martin Wetherell and Chris Taylor managed wins as they slumped 2 – 8 to a strong OLOP 'E'. Masoud Ghabachi just lost in five to Jan Polnik. This was followed with another 8 – 2 loss to promotion contenders Pangbourne 'C' where Chris and Martin managed wins over Ted Cripps. Chris Taylor came back from two down to win in five against Ted Cripps and Masoud just lost out in five to Mick Grantham. Doubles from Martin and Richard Lownsbrough with a very important single from Masoud gave them a share of the points against Springfield 'B'. Masoud's win over Dan Mortimer was impressive considering Dan beat Richard. In the final set Martin played a captain's set to win in three against Dan Mortimer. Doubles from Richard and Martin along with a



SCARLETT JONES (FRONT)  
PLAYING WITH SANDRA SHEPHERD

doubles win resulted in a share of the points against SC&P 'E'. Martin had a set ten win over Gerry Bacon to nick a point and Chris just lost in five to Joe Barraclough.

**Tidmarsh 'E'** Dave Edwards recorded the only win in an incredible night's table tennis where Jon Liddle and Dave Smith played their part; fourteen games went above ten and six sets went to five in their 1 – 9 loss to Pangbourne 'C'. Terry and Dave E recorded trebles with a double from Jon to defeat Springfield 'B' 2 – 8 in a match where all players had to win important five gamers. Double from Dave with important singles from Jon and Terry gave them a point against SC&P 'E'. In the final set hero Dave won to get the point; had Dave or Jon won their five gamers against Thomas Perkins or Joe Barraclough the points would have been theirs. Doubles from Dave E and Terry with an important single from Dave Smith earned them a point against lowly Curzon

'C'. Dave E managed to take a two game advantage against Terry Spice, but alas, once again fell at the last hurdle. Terry and Dave E had close five-game wins over Terry Spice and Linda King respectively. Terry had to win set ten against Mike Gillard to snatch a point.

**Springfield 'B'** In a mid table contest against SC&P 'E' Ludovic Couillard got a double with singles from Adam Sheen and Daniel Mortimer plus a doubles win to snatch a point. In a match where only two sets went to three it was a very close match, the highlight was Dan's set ten win over Mike Casserley to snatch a point. Ludo came away with the only win in their 2 – 8 loss to Tidmarsh 'E'. Paul D had two four game losses, Paul J had two five game losses and Ludo also had two five game losses. A double from Ludo with singles from Adam and Dan and a doubles win gave them a share of the points against Tilehurst Meths 'C'. Ludo had a good five game win over Martin Wetherell and Dan a good five game win over Richard Lownsbrough.

#### DIV 4 LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Djordje Milovanovic	OLOP E	29	28	96.55 %
Ray Webb	Pangbourne WMC C	33	30	90.91 %
Christopher Collins	Milestone B	24	21	87.50 %
Melvyn Lovegrove	Kingfisher J	24	20	83.33 %
Thomas Perkins	Sonning C&P E	24	20	83.33 %
Giuliano Ghidini	OLOP E	21	17	80.95 %
Richard Lownsbrough	Tilehurst Meths C	17	13	76.47 %
Terry Hardie	Tidmarsh E	21	15	71.43 %
Terry Spice	Curzon Club C	27	18	66.67 %
Adam Sheen	Springfield B	24	16	66.67 %

**Curzon 'C'** A double for Terry Spice and single from Linda King resulted in a 3 - 7 loss to Kingfisher 'J'. Oli Lister came back from 6-10 down to win 11-9 in one game against John Upham. A Terry double with singles from Mike Gillard and Ollie as they just lost out 4 - 6 to SC&P 'E'. Ollie had to grind out a five game against Gerry Bacon for his win. Linda got the only wins beating both Matt Tarrant and Julian James in their 2 - 8 loss to SC&P 'F'. Both Mike and Oli just lost in five to Julian James. Terry and Linda's braces along with the all important doubles win earned them a deserved, hard fought point against Tidmarsh 'E'. Terry came back from two games down to defeat Dave Edwards and Linda hung onto a two game lead to defeat Terry Hardie in five. Mike managed to take games off both Dave Edwards and Dave Smith. Trebles from Terry and Linda as they defeated Tilehurst 'D' 7 - 3 to get some much needed points on the board. Ollie managed a game win over Sam Will.

**Springfield 'C'** Despite a battling performance a John Burke double and Aiden Simmonds single resulted in a 3 - 7 loss to SC&P 'F'. Colin Jones just lost 13-15, 8-11, 10-12 to Walter Allison. Fortunes changed as John hit top form with a treble, Alan Goold a double and single from Rob



ANGUS JONES OF SCP 'F'

Will as they lost 8 - 2 to Milestone 'B'. Veteran David Jones lost all three. Despite a hard fought double from Sam and a single from Mal Collis along with a doubles win they just lost out 4 - 6 to Springfield 'C'. Once again Dave just lost all three but came close to losing two sets in five games. Mal and Patrick teamed up for yet another doubles win but sadly they lost 9 - 1 to Kingfisher 'J'. Patrick came close, pushing John Creighton to lose in five, and Dave Jones lost in four to John Upham. Patrick, Dave and Mal were on the receiving end of a 0 - 10 drubbing from SC&P 'F'. Patrick just lost in five against Matt Tarrant and four against Walter Allanson. Patrick, Sam and Mal all got one apiece in their 7 - 3 loss to Curzon 'C'. Mal lost a close five game against Linda King.

Attack to defeat Tilehurst Meths 'D' 4 - 6 to distance themselves from the relegation places. Both Rob and Alan had five game wins over veteran Dave Jones. Despite determination from Aiden, Colin and Alan they succumbed to a 0 - 10 loss to league leaders OLOP 'E'. The match was not a total whitewash as all players had four and five games to make it a tough night for the opposition. John, Alan and Colin walked away with nothing in their 10 - 0 loss to Pangbourne 'C'. John came closest to a win taking Ted Cripps to five games.

**Tilehurst Meths 'D'** Singles from Patrick O'Sullivan and Sam

## Lower Divisions Cup by Duncan Abbott

The Lower Divisions Knockout Cup is open to all teams registered in Divisions 4 and 5.

This tournament follows last season's format, with all 9 sets in each match being doubles sets featuring three players on each side.

**Group A**  
Curzon C  
Springfield C  
Tidmarsh F  
Birch Copse B

**Group B**  
Springfield B  
Tile Meths D  
Milestone C  
Kingfisher L

**Group C**  
Tidmarsh E  
Kingfisher K  
OLOP F  
Milestone D

**W/C 24 November 2014**  
Birch Copse B **3** Curzon C **6**  
Tidmarsh F **3** Springfield C **6**  
Springfield B **9** Milestone C **0**  
Tile Meths D **8** Kingfisher L **1**  
Milestone D **0** OLOP F **9**  
Kingfisher K **1** Tidmarsh E **8**

**W/C 15 December 2014**  
Curzon C **5** Springfield C **4**  
Birch Copse B v Tidmarsh F  
Kingfisher L v Milestone C  
Springfield B **9** Tile Meths D **0**  
Tidmarsh E **8** OLOP F **1**  
Milestone D **9** Kingfisher K **0**

**W/C 16 February 2015**

Semi Finals

**Tuesday 7 April 2015**

Final



# DIVISION FIVE *by Duncan Abbott*

A very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year to all readers. We have now reached the half-way stage in the season and things are well and truly taking shape. For promotion it is a three horse race between OLOP 'F', Tidmarsh 'F' and Kingfisher 'K'.

**OLOP 'F'** lead the way on points difference courtesy of four wins and a loss since the last report. Star man is Jazz Dhillon who is undefeated since his opening day loss to yours truly. Full scores were gained against Milestone 'D', BBC, Milestone 'C' and Kingfisher 'L'. In fact the only match he missed (against SC&P 'G') ended in defeat for Herbert Tang's side. Herbert himself has provided excellent support for Jazz. He hit trebles against SC&P 'H', SC&P 'G' and Kingfisher 'L' and a brace against Milestone 'D'. Tony Alleyne hit a treble against SC&P 'H' and braces against BBC and Milestone 'D', Eddie Fogg hit a single against SC&P 'G' and Mihajlo Ralic hit two against SC&P 'H' and singles against BBC and Milestone 'C'.

**Tidmarsh 'F'** are looking well set to make a quick return to Division 4 after a one season absence. They have a large squad full of experienced campaigners, and in Simon Barter they have a new star player who adds an extra dimension to the team. Simon hit trebles against SC&P 'H' and SC&P 'G' in the two matches he has played since the last report. Captain Bob Sunerton and Thereasa Watson have provided excellent support. Thereasa hit trebles against Kingfisher 'K' and SC&P 'G' and braces against BBC and Milestone 'C', while Bob had two wins against SC&P 'H', Milestone 'D' and Milestone 'C'. Steve Andrews has re-discovered his form with a full score against BBC and doubles against SC&P 'H' and SC&P 'G'. Mike Bundy hit a treble against BBC and a brace against Milestone 'D', while the evergreen John Harland hit two against Milestone 'D'.

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLOP F	11	9	1	1	77	33	19
Tidmarsh F	11	9	1	1	76	34	19
Kingfisher K	11	9	0	2	81	29	18
Kingfisher L	11	6	0	5	60	50	12
BBC Club	10	5	1	4	45	54	11
Birch Copse B	11	3	3	5	49	61	9
Milestone D	10	4	0	6	54	46	8
SC&P G	9	3	2	4	44	46	8
SC&P H	10	4	0	6	42	58	8
Milestone C	10	3	1	6	35	65	7
Sonning Sports B	11	1	1	9	32	77	3
Springfield D	9	1	0	8	24	66	2

**Kingfisher 'K'** have encountered injury problems recently but still provide a strong challenge to the top two. Despite their internal woes they have won their last five matches. Previously unbeaten Gwynne Penny has had her colours lowered twice, by Thereasa Watson and Duncan Abbott, but her full scores against Springfield 'D' and SC&P 'H' make her a formidable player at this level. A new star has emerged in the shape of David Wells who hit trebles against Springfield 'D', Birch Copse 'B', SC&P 'H' and SC&P 'G'. Captain Gillian Bennett has been much improved this season, as shown by her trebles against Springfield 'D' and SC&P 'G' and brace against Birch Copse 'B'. In their last match against Milestone 'D' they used three different players from the usual suspects. Diane Taylor, Katie and Sandra Shepherd registered two wins apiece, although Diane also scored a brace against SC&P 'H'.

**Kingfisher 'L'** were bottom of the pile after four matches but six wins on the bounce have lifted them to the lofty heights of 4th place. A couple of additions have helped transform the team's fortunes although Ruben Dario Hernandez remains their top player. Trebles came against Milestone 'D', Birch Copse 'B' and Sonning Sports 'B' and braces against SC&P 'G' and BBC. Adam McTiernan and David O'Keefe have come in and prospered with 6 wins out of 9 apiece, Adam impress-



HERBERT TANG

ing with a full score against BBC. Ania Pytko impressed with a brace against BBC, and Colin Mercer returned to action recently with a win over Mo Cole in the team's 7 - 3 triumph over Sonning Sports 'B'. Sadly captain Hilary Husbands has not appeared for the team since the last report.



MIHAJLO RALIC

**BBC Club** have slipped one place to 5th since the last report after two wins and three defeats. In a bizarre match (due to both teams fielding only two players), the unbeaten John Scott led his team to a 5 - 4 triumph over Sonning Sports 'B'. John was also on form in a final week 7 - 3 win over Springfield 'D', aided by braces from Dave Pearson and John Lancashire who enjoyed his best evening to date. Other than that it was backs to the wall with defeats against Kingfisher 'L' (3 - 7), OLOP 'F' (4 - 6) where captain Phil Peat scored a good win over Mihajlo Ralic, and Tidmarsh 'F' (1 - 9). Jack Mitchell appeared at Tidmarsh but failed to score, and Kyrill Dissanyake has not played since mid-October.

**Birch Copse 'B'** were without a win and bottom of the pile at the last report but three wins have projected them into the top half of the table. The first of those wins was against two-man Milestone 'C' where Duncan Abbott and Melanie Griffiths did the damage. In a re-arranged fixture they gained an impressive 8 - 2 win at Springfield 'D', where Duncan had a nice win over Chris Speight and captain Chris Dummett hit his first brace of the season. Then against Sonning Sports 'B' Duncan and Melanie both hit trebles in a 7 - 3 win. In another re-arranged fixture Duncan hit a treble in a 5 - 5 draw at SC&P 'G'. Defeats came against Kingfisher 'K' (2 - 8), SC&P 'H' (3

- 7) and Kingfisher 'L' (3 - 7) where Elizabeth Hull secured her first win of the season against Ania Pytko. Trevor Davis has plugged away but his early season win over BBC's John Lancashire remains his only success to date.

The more eagle-eyed readers would have noticed a glaring omission in my October report. I had completely forgotten to include Tony Hayden's **Milestone 'D'** in my report, so I will compensate by giving his team a more in-depth coverage this time around. Tony first appeared in Division 6 in 2012/13 season, played in 17 matches and won just one set all season. Full credit to Tony for not only keeping going when many would have thrown in the towel, but also assuming the role of team captain. In the next season he upped his average to 12% and this season he has improved again. Well done and keep it going Tony! Ian Strong also made his debut two seasons ago with an 18% average, which improved to 46% last season and so far this season has won half of his games. George Strong did not win any of his sets in the 3 fixtures he played in 2012/13, but has become something of a star since then, the only problem appears to be his availability. The vastly experienced John Evans has proved to be the lynchpin of the side, and his style of play continues to cause problems to attacking players. This season he has an average of 86% with 18 wins from 21. Darren Vass has come into the side this season but has yet to register a win, and young Bill Hayden won all three in his one appearance to date against Sonning Sports 'B'. This season their four wins have come against SC&P 'H' (7 - 3), Birch Copse 'B' (9 - 1), Milestone 'C' (8 - 2) and Sonning Sports 'B' (9 - 1), and they currently lie 7th in the table.

A win, a draw and 3 defeats have dropped **Sonning Common & Peppard 'G'** two places to 8th. Surprisingly their lone success came against leaders OLOP 'F' when braces from captain Pete Harman and Derek Maltby and a single from Steve Knott gave them a 6 - 4 win. Against two-player Birch Copse 'B' both Pete and Derek beat Melanie Griffiths in their 5 - 5 draw. Derek was lone scorer in the 1 - 9 loss at Tidmarsh 'F', the 3 - 7 defeat came

### LEADING AVERAGES

Player	Team	P	W	%
Bill Hayden	Milestone D	3	3	100.00 %
Jazz Dhillon	OLOP F	18	17	94.44 %
Gwynne Penny	Kingfisher K	24	22	91.67 %
George Strong	Milestone D	12	11	91.67 %
Simon Barter	Tidmarsh F	12	11	91.67 %
David Wells	Kingfisher K	23	21	91.30 %
Herbert Tang	OLOP F	22	20	90.91 %
Sachin Mundra	Milestone C	9	8	88.89 %
Duncan Abbott	Birch Copse B	26	23	88.46 %
Chris Speight	Springfield D	15	13	86.67 %
John Evans	Milestone D	21	18	85.71 %





SANDRA SHEPHERD

against another two-player team Kingfisher 'K'. Pete scored a superb maximum against Kingfisher 'L' but this was to no avail as the team lost 4 - 6. Neither Oliver Hester nor Johnny Torr have made an appearance in recent weeks.

Club rivals **Sonning Common & Peppard 'H'** are just below them on points difference. Two wins and two defeats have come since the last report. Oliver Sayer, Marko Madzar and Jamie Legg all scored braces in the 6 - 4 win at Springfield 'D', and the same trio also accounted for Birch Copse 'B' 7 - 3, Marko's treble including a fine win over Duncan Abbott. Defeats came at the hands of Tidmarsh 'F' (2 - 8) despite another good brace from Marko, and only a single from captain Phil Turton prevented a whitewash at the hands of Kingfisher 'K'. There have been no appearances in recent weeks from John or Harry Sayer.

The biggest problem for **Milestone 'C'** has been non-availability of players. First off only captain Monty Berzon and Ashok Thingore appeared in the 3 - 7 defeat at Birch Copse 'B', both players beating Elizabeth Hull. The team forfeited their match at Kingfisher 'L', then redeemed themselves with an 8 - 2 win over Sonning Sports 'B', both Monty and debutant Sachin Mundra hitting trebles. Sachin also scored a brace against OLOP 'F' but with only Ashok for support the team went down 3 - 7. Sachin scored a superb treble in the 5 - 5 draw against promotion-chasing Tidmarsh 'F', a match which saw Vivek Pandey make a rare appearance. Pratik Kothari has not appeared for the team since September which is a pity as his presence would be a big boost for the team.

**Sonning Sports 'B'** are one off the bottom in what has become a two horse race to avoid the wooden spoon. Guildford-based Tom Gordon was last season's top player but he has not appeared for the team since early

October, although he did make a recent appearance for the 'A' team in Division 3 winning one set. In his absence the mantle of top player has been taken up by globetrotting Stoke City fan Cris Reynolds. His brace combined with singles from captain Suzanne Brownhill and Mo Cole gave the team a hard-earned point against Sonning Common & Peppard 'G' but sadly they have lost all their matches since then. Meriel Low was their lone scorer in the 1 - 9 loss to Milestone 'D', a match which may (but hopefully not) be Martin Perry's final appearance for the team. Mo and Suzanne both beat Phil Peat in the 4 - 5 defeat against BBC, then Meriel and Mike Gautrey scored in the 2 - 8 defeat at Milestone 'C'. A superb brace from Meriel was not enough to prevent a 3 - 7 loss to Kingfisher 'L', then Cris, Meriel and Mo all scored in the 3 - 7 defeat at Birch Copse 'B'.

Four straight defeats since the last report has dropped Bob Sibun's **Springfield 'D'** to bottom place in the table. Tom Berryman, Tim Carr and Nigel Outhwaite were unable to prevent a 0 - 10 defeat to Kingfisher 'K' in the first match, but a superb treble from Chris Speight



KATIE SHEPHERD

almost rescued a point against SC&P 'H'. Chris followed this up with a brace in the 2 - 8 loss to Birch Copse 'B'. In the next match against BBC, Tim scored his first win of the season against Dave Pearson, and Tom also beat John Lancashire but the team lost 3 - 7. Andrew Attack also played against BBC and SC&P 'H'. Neither Bob nor Peter Greatorex have put in a recent appearance.

# John Cunningham Youth Division

by Emma Barraclough

There has been enjoyable play in a good atmosphere in the second half of the term. The final round of division matches was held on November 28th and brought the first part of the John Cunningham Youth League to a close with the ten teams being divided after Christmas into two divisions for the rest of the season. There has been great play both by established players in the League and newcomers to it.

The League is topped by the **Tigers** (Harry Munro, Thomas Perkins and Joe Barraclough with averages of 100%, 100% and 95.8%) with a commanding points score of 84 points.

The **Spartans** (Leo Thomis, Camran Nesari and Keyan Ghods on averages of 88.5%, 80.8% and 40%) are in second place on 62 points.

There have been many other great individual performances through the first part of the season including Gareth Wheatley on 80%, Balazs Horanyi on 70.8% and Jamie Filby on 70%. There have also been great performances from newcomers to the League Charles Yang on 69.6% and Rory Walder on 66.7%.

The Youth League will now divide into two divisions for the rest of the season with the Tigers, Spartans, Panthers, Knights and Trojans in Division One and the Strikers, Avengers, Jaguars, Attackers and Raiders in Division Two. There will be some rearrangement of players to ensure that everyone is playing at the correct level.

The evening of November 5th which was not needed for matches was used for a fun evening of games.

The John Cunningham Youth League Grouping Tournament has also been held over two evenings, the first evening in half term on October 31st and the finals evening held at the last session of the year on December 12th. The first round in October saw a good attendance despite it being half term and problems from traffic delays through Sonning. The players were divided into 3 age bands to play the group stage with the top two players going through to the main finals and the next two players in each group going through to the consolation finals. There was a great atmosphere and lots of enjoyable play to watch.

In the youngest age band the Main Final was between Charles Yang and James Rennie, and the Consolation Final was between Haasin Khan and Joe Brooks. In the middle age band the Main Final was between Joe Barraclough and Camran Nesari and the Consolation Final was played between Adam Winterbottom and Daniel Follant. In the oldest age band the Main Final was played between Alex Duggan and Gareth Wheatley and the Consolation Final was between Rory Walder and Bill Hayden.

The finals were played on December 12th as part of the Christmas party evening and final session before Christmas and saw wins in the main finals for Charles Yang in the youngest group after a really close game, Joe Barraclough in the middle age group and Alex Duggan in the oldest age band. The Consolation Finals were won by Haasin Khan in the youngest age group, Adam Winterbottom in the middle age band and Bill Hayden in the oldest age band. There were presentations and party food to follow! Many thanks to Wendy as always for all her efforts.

## TEAM PLACINGS

	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	<b>Tigers</b>	9	9	0	0	84	6	84
2	<b>Spartans</b>	9	7	0	2	62	28	62
3	<b>Panthers</b>	9	7	0	2	59	31	59
4	<b>Knights</b>	9	6	1	2	52	38	52
5	<b>Trojans</b>	9	5	0	4	43	45	43
6	<b>Strikers</b>	9	4	1	4	42	47	42
7	<b>Avengers</b>	9	3	0	6	38	52	38
8	<b>Jaguars</b>	9	2	0	7	29	61	29
9	<b>Attackers</b>	9	1	0	8	23	67	23
10	<b>Raiders</b>	9	0	0	9	16	73	16

## LEADING AVERAGES

Player	P	W	%
Harry Munro	27	27	100.00 %
Thomas Perkins	24	24	100.00 %
Jamie Filby	3	3	100.00 %
Alex Duggan	3	3	100.00 %
Joseph Barraclough	24	23	95.83 %
Leo Thomis	26	23	88.46 %
Camran Nesari	26	21	80.77 %
Gareth Wheatley	25	20	80.00 %
Balazs Horanyi	24	17	70.83 %
Adam Winterbottom	27	19	70.37 %
Charles Yang	23	16	69.57 %
Rory Walder	27	18	66.67 %