**Table Tennis by Chris Blake - www.tabletennis365.com/Sunderland**

In Division 3 of the Sunderland & District table tennis league, 2 powerful wins by Redby CA B over close rivals Sacriston St Bedes D saw them leapfrog St Gabriels C to go top of the league and in doing so guaranteed their promotion to Division 2.

Sacriston’s defeats ended any hope they had of claiming the 2nd automatic promotion spot over long-standing leaders St Gabriels who, despite being out of action, are now also guaranteed a return to Division 2.

Congratulations to both sides for their excellent performances this season and their welcomed return to Division 2.

In Division 1 Thompson Insurance B move within 1 point of avoiding relegation following 2 excellent and hard earned results against their nearest rivals – a fine 8 – 2 win over Sacriston St Bedes and a narrow 6 – 4 defeat despite only being able to field 2 players.

3rd placed St Chads had a comfortable 10 – 0 win over Mortimer to keep their ‘runners-up’ spot alive with only 2 games remaining.

In Division 2 North East Bed Centre finished their excellent season with a fantastic 9 – 1 over 2nd placed Sacriston St Bedes B.

At the bottom of the table Durham are almost guaranteed of holding onto their Division 2 status with a fine 6 – 4 win over Silksworth IM B.

With most teams almost finished their league fixtures this week will see the focus return to the Singles and Team Handicap Cup competitions with the semi-finals of each events taking place – watch out next week for an in-depth cup report.

**\**It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that***

***Lynne Bainbridge passed away peacefully recently with her devoted husband Tom by her side.***

*Lynne played in the Sunderland & District table tennis league for many, many years and was a wonderful hard bat player with an excellent defensive and attacking style.  During this time Lynne won countless team, individual and mixed titles.  She proudly represented Sunderland and Durham County table tennis teams and also played in the British League too.*

*In recent years, Lynne had been battling cancer with such bravery, tenacity and spirit - she was determined not to let it beat her.  In fact, those who were unaware of her illness, would never have guessed how poorly she really was such was her spirit and sense of humour.  Sadly, this terrible disease eventually got the better of her but not before she was able to share special memories and life stories with her closest friends and family.*

*Lynne will be remembered as a great table tennis player but above all as a devoted wife and Mother.*

*I know you will join me in celebrating Lynne’s life and offering our sincere condolences to her devoted husband Tom and family.\**

**Division 1 Results:**

Mortimer CA 6 vs. Thompson Ins. B 4

Mortimer CA 0 vs. St Chads 10

Thompson Ins. B 8 vs. Sacriston St Bedes A 2

**Division 2 Results:**

Durham CA B 6 vs. Silksworth IM B 4

Redby CA A 7 vs. St John A 3

Sacriston St Bedes B 1 vs. NEBC 9

St Gabriels B 6 vs. West CA A 4

**Division 3 Results:**

Redby CA B 9 vs. Sacriston St Bedes D 1

Sacriston St Bedes C 4 vs. West CA B 6

Sacriston St Bedes D 2 vs. St John B 8

Sacriston St Bedes D 1 vs. Sacriston St Bedes C 9

Sacriston St Bedes D 4 vs. Redby CA B 6

St John B 9 vs. Lanchester CC 1

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