

# THE WIRRAL HORN

NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Editor :- Stan Wilkinson

March 1983

## WIRRAL CLOSED 1983

Well it's all over for another year, after the dust has settled let's have a look back and see what it was all about. Somebody said to me whoever wins today will have earned it, and that in the Mens event was true. Trevor Manning the eventual winner had never beaten Terry Turner before the tournament, but the final turned out to be his chance to change things when he rumbled Terry game 12 in the second.

The no 1 seed holder of the title Eric Hardman went out in the first round proper to Billy Wardle who then went on into the Semis seeing off G Smith & Male McEvoy, before meeting Trevor.

Dave Roberts previous winner of the event went out to Alan Tinewell who was playing well, also putting out Neil Roberts before meeting Turner in the Semis.

Both Steve Green and Wardle took the first game off Trevor on his way through, Steve especially giving him a very hard game.

The Mens doubles once again went to youth. The no.1 seeds justifying their place when Billy Wardle & Rob Bevan took the title by beating the no 2 seeds Tinewell & Manning in the final, the youngsters also had the hardest run - in having to beat Dave Roberts & Bernie Wentworth. & Phil Luxon, Male McEvoy in the previous rounds, the latter getting very close & it was all very gritty at the end of the third, but after all this a worthy final.

The Ladies Singles, well once again it was Ann's day the only change will be her married name of Dakin instead of Hepple on the trophy, Debbie just doesn't seem to get it all together in front of an audience where-as Ann lets nothing intrude or upset her determination. Debbie played much better early on in the tournament when she beat Mrs J. Monyahan the score was duece in each of the three games.

The Ladies doubles went again to Ann & Debbie, Joan Hepple & Sue Rimmer just couldn't cope with them.



Junior Girls title went once again to the holder Haley Brownbill, not a great deal of competition here with only 5 entries.

The Junior Boys singles at the last 8 stage looked very like our 2 junior representative teams, as well it should, with Molyneux, Montague, Taylor, Bennion, Riley, Butler, Thomas & Wentworth still there, but it was left to Les Molyneux & Bernie Wentworth to fight out the Final which Les won eventually,.

The Veterans event did not seem the same without Gordon Exell who has won the event ever since he joined the veterans ranks we won't say how many years ago, anyway life goes on & in his absence it was left for Bill Harris & Val Franco to fight out the final, Bill will still be wondering what happened in the third game of the final when he was leading 20 - 15 and managed to lose it, the seemingly unflappable Val managed a smile after this one, Peter Greenshield was on hand to present the handsome new 'Greenshield Trophy' for this event, for which we as a League say 'Thank you Peter'. There was some comment around the table about who would be around and what condition they would be in, when the last winners name plate had been used up, maybe Bernie might just about get his name on it !

The divisional singles were on the whole well supported, the second division especially so with 22 entries, it was left to John Hardy & Ian Owen to fight out the final they were very evenly matched in playing ability, if not in sartorial elegance, but John won it, but only duece in the third.

13 entries in the third division, this was won by G Kirsopp from T Bryan, good to see Bill Blundell playing in the tournament once again, he is still a very formidable opponent on the table.

Why only 7 entries for division four ? , Anyway it was won by B McLeod from S Shields in the final.

Some 'Old faithfuls' in the fifth division, John Horobin, Bill Lowe, Joan Hepple, Neville Owen, really mixed up with some of our juniors the likes of Haley & Heather. In the final it was J Ebling winning it from J Horrobin in the third, despite John winning the second game 21 - 3 !

Big entry for division six(22) It was all very keenly contested with the 'better halves' like Walsh, Sorrentino & Kong battling it out but it was left to Mrs Monaghan to wrest the verdict from Ian Street.

One final thought, it was a decision made by the Committee not to present any of the trophies or Medals after the event, they are all to be presented at the annual Presentation Dance in May. In retrospect I don't know if this is a good thing or not, certainly



In the case of the Trophies this is far better, for it gives us time to get them engraved, we have had trouble in the past in this respect, we have found they have gone years not being brought up to date., but I think maybe we should think again about the Medals that are awarded, especially the runners-up ones, could this be brought up at the A.G.M. and settled once and for all ?

---

THE ANNUAL PRESENTATION DANCE will be held again at the E.C.R.C. Club at Capenhurst on FRIDAY MAY 20th. 1983. More news on this in the next issue, but please keep the date free and join us for another enjoyable evening.

---

The next and last match for this season for our WIRRAL first team in the Lancashire & Cheshire League will be held at D.K.S. on March 18th. versus our arch rivals LIVERPOOL, this will certainly be worth watching so what about it ?.

On the same night our second team entertain (If this is the right word) BLACKPOOL at Capenhurst.

---

On Sunday 20th. March. The Wirral League play hosts to youngsters from all over the North of England (and the I.O.M.) at the CHESHIRE JUNIOR 1 STAR TOURNAMENT. this is to be held at the Neston Sports Centre, Raby Park Rd, Neston. Most of our own Juniors have entered this event of course so we wish them luck, and while you'r at it wish the organisers a bit of luck as well, they might need it !!

---

Inside each CLUBS envelope of Newsletters will be found some copies of the latest League tables, these were available at the 'Closed' so I did not think it worthwhile to print them again.

Also in the envelope will be found some entry forms for the CHESHIRE CLOSED TOURNAMENT to be held on Sunday 17th. April also at Neston, All members of our League are entitled to enter this tournament of course.



WIRRAL Junior 1st. Team beat MACCLESFIELD 8 - 2 on Feb. 18th, at D.K.S.. Ian Thomas won all three and Bernard Wentworth & Neil Montague each won two. Bernie & Neil teamed up to win the doubles too. This win ensures they will remain in Division two for next season.

The second team were beaten 6 - 4 by Blackpool the day after. This was their first defeat of the season and they will now need to win their final match next month to make sure of winning division 3. Roger Dutler scored 3 wins and Tony Bryan won one. Neil Garrett made his debut in this match and although he lost all 3, he was not disgraced.

---

BIRKENHEAD B.B. v PINWOOD 6.

Pinewood had dropped one point from their previous 12 games, while the B.B. had won their last 7 so the setting was ideal for a close match. Pinewood called Mike Bryan (seventh in the averages) and he quickly beat Robbie McDonald 13 & 9. (0 - 1). We called Big John (Davies) on and after a tight first game against Peter Wright which he lost 22 - 20, he came home to win 18 7 16. The score was now 1 - 1 and all looked set for a real Hundering. Pinewood called on Lee Donnison (Fourth in averages) against Kent Skillen. Kent took the first game 21 - 16 and opened up a useful 14 - 10 lead in the second, but slipped up and dropped it 21 - 16. Then after coming back from 15 - 20 down to duce in the third game Kent loses out 23 - 21 (1 - 2).

Big John goes on against Mike Bryan and takes the first game 12 but loses out 21 - 14 in the next, he also loses the third 21 - 11 (1 - 3). The two 4's are now on and after a close opening game, Robbie loses out to Ian Kernigan 21 - 18, then Robbie shows better form to take the next two games 19 & 17. (2 - 3).

The second doubles is on, Big John & Dave Badley against Peter Wright & Ian Kernigan, the Pinewood pair walked the first game 21 - 11, Big John & Dave fight back to take the second 19 but the Pinewood pair took the third game 21 - 10 (2 - 4).

Big Tweetie (Ian Street) top of the averages, goes on against Peter Wright, Tweetie takes it in two straight 19 & 5 (3 - 4). The B.B. called the first doubles on and Tweetie & Robbie maintained their 100% league doubles record by defeating Lee & Mike 18 & 13 (4 - 4). The B.B. were now confident of pulling off a shock victory over the League leaders. Pinewood called on Ian against Kent, Kent took the first 21 - 17 in a tight game and was easily defeated 21 - 9 in the second. Pinewood are desperate win this one because they know they are unlikely to win the last set.

↓



Kent opened up a useful lead in the third game, but just as his opponent was getting back into the game Kent finished him off 21 - 16 (5 - 4) Cheers all round from the B.B. team as they know victory is now imminent. Lee Donnison goes on to try and restore Pinewood's pride and extend their unbeaten run, but is hammered by Big Tweetic 15 & 16.

The B.B. had ended Pinewoods run of wins by winning this match 6 - 4, which also means the division six championships race is wide open again.

'JET'

---

#### BILL LOWE SHIELD ROUND ONE

Gautby Road Community Centre 412    Neston 419

Alan Timewell strikes again. Accurate handicapping may be good for table tennis but it is sure hard on the nerves. Deep in darkest Birkenhead, the Neston boozers tried to overcome various hardships like (a) no alcohol (b) a deficit of 162 points (c) a ball with a projecting seam (d) no Essjay who was whooping it up in the bright lights of Cockermouth (where?) and (e) a team of youngsters who were not polite enough to concede easily to their elders.

We started well when Roy Williams, who attributes his improved form to circumstances which cannot be published in family magazines such as this, thrashed Karen Ormond 21 - 1. Keith then maintained the status quo by beating Heather Stenhouse 21 - 16 and Haley Brownbill 21 - 9.

Brian Rich then completely upset the apple-cart by beating Dave Sherlock 22 - 20. At one stage, Brian looked as though he might win very easily as he was leading 14 - 9. Dave then looked home and dry at 20 - 18 but still managed to lose. Well played, Brian, you (expletive deleted). This defeat did not do a lot for Dave's confidence and, in the circumstances, he did well to beat Karen 21 - 13. Now slightly behind schedule, our cause was not helped when Heather took Robbie to 19 - 21. Robbie then just failed to make par for the course by beating Haley 21 - 7.

The next game turned into one of those nightmares for higher teams. Brian, that man again, played Keith and, by virtue of net, net, net, net and a net/edge combination went from 3-2 to 7-2. At 15 - 9, Keith (and Neston) looked dead and buried but Keith fought and Brian went off the boil. Keith scraped home 22 - 20. It was bad but it could have been much worse. To conclude the first half, Keith beat Karen 21 - 10. The half - time deficit was 90 points and 21 - 12 each game had become 21 - 11.



Karen had, surprise, surprise, been very reticent about calling Roy on again. However, games were running out and she had little alternative. Roy did his stuff and beat Hayley 21 - 10 and Heather 21 - 9. Did we detect the first signs of frustration from Heather?

Whilst your intrepid reporter dashed out for another 100 fags to see him through the rest of the evening, Robbie beat Brian 21 - 14 and, for good measure, beat Karen 21 - 9. Neston were now only three over par. Could, however, Dave keep his nerve and a bit more. Well, yes and no, He beat both Heather (now definately frustrated) and Hayley 21 - 11. Good but was it good enough? The nextmatch was obviously, as the French put it, le crunch (Roy v Brian). Players older and more experienced than Brian have found Roy an awkward devil and our stoical hero won 21 - 5. Just the doubles left and we're in front because we're 12 behind.(silly blooming competition). Keith and Roy knocked seven off by beating Brian and Hayley.

The final game had to be won 21 - 15 for us to win and at 15 - 5 it looked a formality. Four points later, at 15 - 9 we weren't so confident. However, we won the next six points and emerged victorious, overall, by seven points.

Twas a good game and experience just showed, particularly in the last four or five games when the pressure appeared to get (slightly) at the home team. Final thought, we've won a game with Roy playing and he's no longer on the transfer list.

#### NESTON II 8 WALLASEY MANOR 2

Eat you heart out, Robbie Lenihan. Good team - man Robbie knew we were playing the League leaders and, rather than risk his average, decided to dine with the Captain of Heswall Golf Club instead of playing - serves you right, Robbie.

Back on home territory, Neston were a lot happier, well, the bar was open, wasn't it? Robin Barker called on Andy Taylor against our Dave Sherlock in the first game. This could have been a psychological ploy to make us feel ancient, The combined age of the two players was 30, eight years less than the next youngest Neston player. There was not a great deal of finesse about this game but it was good to watch. Andrew gave Dave a good start in the first game but then moved into overdrive and took it 21 - 16. David sneaked the second 23 - 21, thanks mainly to seven foul services from Andy. No such charity in the third and Andy swept home 21 - 9. Not a bad result for Dave as he lost 21 - 15, 21 - 10 in the corresponding game at the beginning of the season.



Neston's predictable start continued with ex-noble Essjay being trampled on by Robin Barker, Robin played his usual steady mixture of good defence, deep pushes, controlled loops and accurate kills to 21 - 11, 21 - 15.

The next game was silly, farcical in fact. It also may have been one of the turning points of the match. Keith played John Pemberton and, in the first, had difficulty finding (a) the ball and (b) the table John won 21 - 10. In the second, Keith started floating John's service back and John's big kills weren't going on. Keith won 21 - 8. The third was tighter until the 13 or 14 mark but Keith then proved that percentage shots often win points in the second division, to win 21 - 15.

Roy Williams, he whose bat has a newly painted backhand and after - shaved cleaned forehand, then continued the Neston recovery by beating Robin. Roy forced it a bit too much in the first and lost it 10 - 21. In the second, Roy dug deep and slowly, very slowly, Robin lost confidence in his hits and became enmeshed in wily R y's web. Roy took the the game 21 - 15 and the third 21 - 14 in a similar way.

Dave then took on the unknown quantity of John Watts. Poor John who was playing his first game of the evening, was frozen solid and Dave gave him little opportunity to thaw out by beating him 21 - 8 21 - 11.

The sixth game was a classic. The nerveless (ha!) and guileful Essjay against the youth and flair of Andy. In the first, Stan tried to mix it (with predictable results) and Andy used the net well. Andy nicked the game 21 - 19. In the second, Andy still used the net but Stan probed Andy's weaker backhand wing. Stan won, just, 21 - 18.

The third was a nailbiter, and other things.

Roy; I was so nervous, I scratched my backside during the game and then realised it wasn't my backside.

Keith (sitting next to him); I noticed nothing unusual darling.

Stan had it won at 19 - 11, lost at 19 - 20, won at 21 - 20 and lost at 21 - 22. There then followed a succession of advantage points to Stan but Andy never gave him a sniff. How often does this happen and the player who saves all the match points wins on his first advantage point. However, the experienced (ancient?) Stan produced a deliberately completely innocuous service at 26 - 25 and kidded Andy into a fatal attempted kill. Bravely fought Essjay! However, mention must be made of Andy's composure under intense pressure. Not many 14 year olds can save six match points with controlled table- tennis. For our sake, I hope Andy's playing in Division 1 next season otherwise we won't get a sniff of him.



This win seemed to knock the stuffing out of the Manor and Neston stitched up the match by Roy, adrenalin really flowing as he slowly realised that he wasn't the only player in our team, who can win, beat John Pemberton in two straight games and Keith beating the still frozen John Watts 21 - 11, 21 - 13 with only a slight hiccup in the second game. A statistical oddity (or not such an oddity in view of the way he plays), this was Keith's first league double win for four seasons.

In both doubles, Neston rubbed salt in demoralized Wallasey's wounds. Wallasey could (and should) have won both games. However, we were on a real high, gritted our teeth and won them both.

One nice point about this match was the sportsmanship. Wrong-side services (in the doubles), thin edges and double bounces were readily acknowledged long before the umpire had a chance to call them. Well, if we can wallop the top team, What can we do next. Knowing us, probably lose 10 - 0 to the bottom team in the league.

---

As we are getting to the Semi - Final stages of our Cup competitions all teams will be notified of their matches through Club Secretaries, by the various organisers, it is now very important to send in the results of your matches as soon as possible, maybe a telephone call in the first instance would help to get or keep things moving.

---

The A.G.M. of the league will be held at the end of May, exact date not known yet but watch out for it in next issue.

---



# The Wirral Horn

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Editor :- Stan Wilkinson.

April 1983

Main item of news this month is the WIRRAL LEAGUE ANNUAL PRESENTATION DANCE to be held at the Electricity Reuncil Research Club, Capenhurst on Friday 20th. May 1983. from 7-30 pm - 12-30 am.  
For your enjoyment and entertainment :- The Sapphire Disc. and in person Radio Merseyside's Brian Jaques. Tickets £2.00. from committee members or Gordon Exell. Refreshments will be available.

Program :- 7-30 - 8-30 Disco. 8-30 - 9-00 Presentations.  
9-00 - 10-00 Disco. 10-00 - 10-30 Food.  
10-30 - 11-30 Brian Jaques. 11-30 onwards disco.

This all must add up to a good evening, bringing to an end your Table Tennis season in good style.

After all this back to business, this years A.G.M. will be held at the Seacombe Ferries Club on Monday 23rd. May 1983 at 7 - 30 pm.  
All club secretaries will be notified by letter, but please make sure that a representative of your club is at the meeting (£5 fine).

Can anyone help out ST. MARKS who are looking for a Table Tennis Table even one that needs some repair, They do have limited funds available if you can help please ring Henry (HOT) Thomas 647 6412.

A big thank-you to all the worthy people who helped with the Cheshire Junior Tournament, from lugging tables to sitting at the table all day, thanks to them it was a great success.



<u>DIVISION ONE</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>PTS</u>
N.B.C.C.	21	18	3	0	160	50	36
ROSEBANK	18	17	1	0	135	45	34
ALDERLEY	16	14	2	0	117	43	28
CIVIC	21	9	7	5	113	97	23
WIRRAL GAS	22	10	9	3	117	103	23
WIRRAL GAS 2	18	9	6	3	101	79	21
ALDERLEY 3	21	7	10	4	92	118	18
CALDY	22	6	13	3	87	133	15
NESTON	20	4	10	6	83	117	14
PINEWOOD	18	5	11	2	64	116	12
ALDERLEY 2	20	4	15	1	67	133	9
(a)N.C.L.T.C.	21	2	18	1	54	156	5

<u>DIVISION TWO</u>							
ALDERLEY 4	22	16	2	4	136	84	36
(b)WIRRAL GAS 2A	22	15	2	5	148	72	35
WALL R.U.F.S.	22	12	7	3	130	90	27
WALL. MANOR	22	11	8	3	126	94	25
PINEWOOD 2	22	11	8	3	112	108	25
N.A.L.G.O.	21	11	8	2	117	93	24
CALDY 2	20	10	8	2	104	96	22
NESTON 2	22	6	12	4	99	121	16
UPTON C.C.	21	7	12	2	93	117	16
ST PETERS	22	5	12	5	93	127	15
(a)LEVER	22	6	15	1	82	138	13
(a)BUSWAYS	22	2	18	2	60	160	6

<u>DIVISION THREE</u>							
(b)UPTON V.H.	19	14	2	3	126	64	31
(b)CIVIC 2	20	12	3	5	122	78	29
CALDY 3	20	12	5	3	113	87	27
WALL. R.U.F.G. 2	20	9	5	6	111	89	24
ALDERLEY 5	20	9	5	6	104	96	24
WALL. MANOR 2	19	8	5	6	107	83	22
ENG. MART.	19	7	8	4	98	92	18
PINEWOOD 4	17	5	7	5	89	81	15
CALDY 4	19	4	13	2	73	117	10
N.C.L.T.C. 2	20	3	14	3	60	140	9
(a)WIRRAL GAS 3	17	0	16	1	43	127	1



<u>DIVISION FOUR</u>		P	W	L	D	F	A	PTS
(b)	FIRE BRIGADE	22	16	2	4	159	61	36
(b)	CALDY 5	21	14	4	3	139	71	31
	CIVIC 3	22	13	5	4	127	93	30
	NESTON 3	21	13	6	2	125	85	28
	ENG. MART. 2	22	13	7	2	129	91	28
	WALL. FERRIES	22	11	7	4	122	98	26
	WALL. R.U.F.C. 3	21	11	6	4	113	97	26
	POLICE	22	7	8	7	111	109	21
	MARINE	22	4	12	6	92	128	14
	N.A.L.G.O. 2	22	6	14	2	81	139	14
(a)	OXTON C.C.	21	1	19	1	41	169	3
(a)	B'HEAD L.R.	20	0	19	1	47	153	1

<u>DIVISION FIVE</u>		P	W	L	D	F	A	PTS
(b)	N.B.C.C. 2	22	20	2	0	173	47	40
(b)	PINEWOOD 5	21	14	2	5	142	68	33
	WALL R.U.F.C. 4	22	15	5	2	136	84	32
	NESTON 4	21	14	7	0	123	87	28
	WIRRAL GAS 4	20	12	4	4	119	81	28
	EGERTON	20	8	9	3	99	101	19
	ENG. MART 3	21	6	13	2	92	118	14
	WALL MANOR 3	19	6	13	0	66	124	12
	G.R.C.C.	21	5	14	2	71	139	12
	D.K.S.	20	4	13	3	80	120	11
(a)	ST. MARKS	22	3	17	2	73	147	8
	BEAUFORTS	15	3	11	1	46	104	7

<u>DIVISION SIX</u>		P	W	L	D	F	A	PTS
(b)	PINEWOOD 6	21	18	2	1	163	47	37
(b)	B'HEAD. B.B.	22	17	4	1	147	73	35
(b)	WALL. MANOR 4	21	16	4	1	156	54	33
	CALDY 6	22	13	7	2	130	90	28
	SHAFTSBURY	20	12	5	3	129	71	27
	UPTON C.C. 2	22	10	9	3	118	102	23
	CIVIC 4	21	9	8	4	110	100	22
	BEAUFORTS 2	22	7	13	2	85	135	16
	G.R.P.C.	22	7	14	1	77	143	15
	ENG. MART 4	22	5	13	4	88	132	14
	OXTON C.C. 2	21	1	17	3	40	170	5
	ST. MARKS 2	22	1	20	1	47	173	3

Note :- (b) Promotion position. (a) Relagation position.

See over.



Alderley 4 promoted only if Alderley 2 relegated.

5th. Div. A further club will be promoted, either Wall R.U.F.C. 4 or Wirral Gas 4.

Beauforts require to fulfil their outstanding fixtures.

If they concede 2 further games they will automatically drop from the division and their record expunged.

Relegation from this division is not yet decided.

All matches to be completed by April 29th.

#### R.A.F.A. CUP FINAL

WALLASEY MANOR L.T.C. 9 WALL. R.U.F.C. 1.

-----

Wirral Junior first team completed their season in the Lanc & Chesk League Division 2, by losing 8 - 2 to the strong Ellesmere Port side on 18th. March. Ian Thomas had no success, but Bernie Wentworth and Neil Montague both won once. The team has won 2 and lost 3 of their 5 games, so should finish in a respectable position. Averages of the leading players for the season are as follows :- Bernie 67%, Ian 50% and Neil 42%. Andy Taylor & Tony Bryan have both deputised well on one or two occasions.

The second team beat Blackpool 9 - 1 on 19th. March to win the third division. Andy Taylor and Roger Butler both won 3 and Tony Bryan won 2. The team has won 5 out of their 6 matches, Individual averages were Roger 87%, Andy 87%, and Tony 67%. Paul Birken, Gary Daw and Neil Garrett also helped out for the odd match.

Congratulations to the team and also to their manager, Rob Barker.

-----

#### LONSDALE CUP FINAL

ROSEBANK 6. NEW BRIGHTON C.C. 3.

BILL LOWE SHIELD SEMI FINALS :- D.K.S. v W.R.U.F.C. 3  
M.F.B. v Pinewood 6.

J & F HEPPLER CUP SEMI FINALS :- ST. PETERS v N.A.L.G.O.  
WIRRAL GAS v PINEWOOD.

CONGRATULATIONS to Trevor Manning for winning the Liverpool closed tournament to add to his Wirral title, nobody seems to remember this happening before !

4