

# The Wirral Horn

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Editor: - Stan Wilkinson

January 1988

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!

After the long Christmas/New Year break, I hope all players have returned to their league affray with renewed vigour and determination to reverse their losses in the first half of the season. Some of you will have carried on playing during the lull, taking part in competitions held at H.Q. A report on the Christmas Handicap Tournament and the "Funny Bat" Competition held at H.Q. during the lay-off will be found on the back page.

With this issue, you will find your entry form for the "WIRRAL CLOSED", which, this year, will be held on a SUNDAY (7th February) at our usual venue the Sports Centre at Grange Road. We have a new Tournament Secretary, Phil Dean of Caldy. Please make sure you send back your entry form to Phil AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

J. & F. HIEPPLE VETS CUP Round 3 to be played by 31st January, 1988.

Apologies to team captains for not having the 3rd round draw before the 4th January, due to some results being delayed. The 3rd round draw is -

Pinewood	v.	Civic 2
Caldy 4	v.	N.B.C.C. 1
Thingwall	v.	Caldy 1
Caldy 5 or G.R.P.C.C.	v.	Civic 1

Home team captains please contact their opponents to play the match BEFORE the 31st January. All results to be conveyed to Peter Mitchell, 13 Grasmere Rd., Whitby, Ellesmere Port.

### DECEMBER 1987 "€UCKY 3" DRAW RESULTS

First three numbers drawn: 2, 4, 5  
Fourth number drawn: 12

1st Prize	£40. won by Ticket No. 2-4-5	Agent: P. Mitchell (NALGO)
Cons.	£ 5. won by Ticket No. 2-4-12	Agent: H. Thomas (Oxton)
	£ 5. won by Ticket No. 2-5-12	Agent: H. Thomas (Oxton)
	£ 5. won by Ticket No. 4-5-12	Agent: P. Mitchell (NALGO)

WIRRAL MEN'S VET FIRST TEAM continue with their winning streak. In the first round of the National Club Vet Competition, they travelled to Lancaster and won 8-1. Alan Timewell and Val Franco both beat the Lancaster No. 1, Carl Stebbing, who has been town champion 12 times!



DIVISION ONE	P	W	D	L	PTS	DIVISION TWO	P	W	D	L	PTS
Pinewood 1	9	8	1	0	75	N.A.L.G.O. 1	10	8	2	0	72
Civic 1	9	8	0	1	71	Thingwall 1	10	7	2	1	62
Caldy 1	8	3	3	2	43	Pinewood 2	10	5	3	2	55
N.B.C.C. 2	8	4	1	3	38	W.R.U.F.C. 1	10	3	3	4	52
Alderley 1	8	2	2	4	37	Alderley 2	10	5	1	4	51
N.B.C.C. 3	7	3	1	3	34	G.R.P.C.C. 1	10	3	3	4	47
N.B.C.C. 1	5	3	0	2	33	Marconi 1	10	3	3	4	47
Civic 2	9	3	0	6	25	Caldy 3	10	3	3	4	46
Neston 1	7	1	0	6	18	N.B.C.C. 4	10	2	1	7	44
Civic 3	8	0	0	8	16	Caldy 2	10	3	1	6	39
						B.B.B. 1	10	2	0	8	35

DIVISION THREE	P	W	D	L	PTS	DIVISION FOUR	P	W	D	L	PTS
Caldy 4	10	8	1	1	68	Thingwall 2	10	10	0	0	85
Upton C.C. 1	9	6	3	0	65	Neston 2	10	8	1	1	69
N.A.L.G.O. 2	10	5	2	3	59	Oxton	9	6	0	3	54
Wall. Man.	9	6	2	1	55	Caldy 5	9	6	1	2	51
Pinewood 3	8	5	1	2	50	Civic 4	9	3	3	3	47
W.R.U.F.C. 2	10	4	3	3	50	Neston 3	10	4	0	6	42
Pinewood 4	8	2	2	4	39	E.S.W.A.	9	3	1	5	37
N.C.L.T.C.	10	0	5	5	37	Marconi 2	9	3	0	6	37
Eng. Mart. 1	10	0	4	6	33	N.A.L.G.O. 3	10	1	2	7	37
N.B.C.C. 5	9	1	2	6	29	Eng. Mart. 2	9	2	2	5	33
G.R.P.C.C. 2	9	1	1	7	25	N.B.C.C. 6	10	1	0	9	28

DIVISION FIVE	P	W	D	L	PTS
Caldy 6	10	9	0	1	82
B.B.B. 2	10	8	2	0	80
N.A.L.G.O. 4	10	6	3	1	65
Caldy 7	10	7	0	3	64
Eng. Mart. 3	9	5	1	3	54
B.B.B. 3	10	4	1	5	41
Livingstone St.	10	3	1	6	40
G.R.P.C.C. 3	10	1	2	7	35
N.A.L.G.O. 5	10	1	1	8	25
Civic 5	9	2	0	6	23
Upton C.C. 2	8	0	3	6	21

#### FINES The following are still outstand

Marconi 1	v.	W.R.U.F.C.
Pinewood 3	v.	N.A.L.G.O. 1
Caldy 3	v.	Pinewood 2
GRPCC 3	v.	Caldy 7
Upton CC 2	v.	Eng. Mart. 3
GRPCC 3	v.	BBB 2
NALGO 5	v.	Upton CC 2
Liv. St.	v.	GRPCC 3

#### OUTSTANDING GAMES

A look at the league tables will show those results received from the first half. If you have played more games than recorded, please let the fixtures secretary, Phil Deeks, know so that missing cards can be traced.

#### Handbook amendment

CALDY 2. Team captain now is Ian Free  
Tel. 625 1102.

Andy and Roy, ---



(Div. 5) N.A.L.G.O. 5 v. BIRKENHEAD BOYS BRIGADE 3

ALEX LAWSON led F. ROWAN 19-16 but the hosts' Number 2 took 6 of the next 7 points for a narrow win. Alex cruised home game 12 in the second and pulled back from 18-12 down in the third to 19 all before a narrow edged shot finished him off.

MARK CAREY led 16-11 to raise visitors' hopes but home Captain, R. BRADBURN, came back strongly using his experience to finish off Mark, 19 and 15. E. HARRIS then beat MIKE REILLY 19 and 16. D. DYBLE destroyed MARK CAREY with scorching smashes. E. Harris then made it 5-0 at half time by beating GEORGE JONES.

MIKE REILLY opened the visitors' account by defeating F. Rowan 24-22, 22-20, after rattling off seven of the last nine including an inch perfect edge when trailing 16-18.

ALEX LAWSON and MARK CAREY won the first set 23-21 against HARRIS and DYBLE but then became very erratic and lost 10 and 12. Messrs. ROWAN & BRADBURN beat MARK and JOHN 12 and 10.

Bradburn defeated GEORGE 9 and 5 to put them joint second with CALDY 7. DYBLE took the opening game against ALEX 21-14, ALEX then showed his true form to win the next two 21-17, 21-14, thus ensuring the visitors did not slide further down the league table after their 8-2 defeat.

J.K.T.

(Continued from Page 4) CHRISTMAS HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

In the semi-finals, Neil Allen beat Dave Jones (with 4 start), 21/15, 21/17. Roy Adams gave Suzie Sorrentino 10 start and won 21/14, 21/15.

Interestingly, the two finalists were both runners-up in their groups (and only just by a third game). The Final was closely matched, Neil receiving only 1 start. In the first game, Neil attacked on both wings but was unable to fathom the returns from Roy's combi-bat, Roy winning 21/12. In the next two games, Neil took more care in going for the balls to hit. Neil won these 21/17, 21/13.

Well done Neil, and hard luck Roy. Our thanks to all the players who supported this year's Christmas Handicap.

"FUNNY BAT" COMPETITION

This was held at H.Q. on New Year Sunday. Bats consisted of a book, a square tin ash tray, an old badminton raquet, a rectangular plastic tray, a miniature tennis raquet with strings, a plastic tennis toy raquet with plastic slats, a milk pan, a heavy carpet-tiled melamine square with a handle, a circular plastic tray with whicker surrounds, and an ordinary bat with rubber on one side, bare wood on the other and a HOLE in the middle.

It was a hilarious affair, and wise-cracks came from various players. One using the book written by Ann Hepple (not THE one), remarked "I've always wanted to play with Ann Hepple". His opponent replies "I better watch out for your book-spin serves." Another player not using the badminton raquet very well, screamed "I'm having a string of errors here." Finalists were Val Franco (carpet-tiled melamine) and Dave Jones (milk pan). At change-ends and bats, Val led 10-4 and 18/9. However, Dave Jones ran out the winner by 23/21.



## THE CHRISTMAS HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

Held at H.Q. after Christmas, there were four preliminary sessions, two on Sunday and one each on Monday and Tuesday. A knockout round was played after the groups in each session, producing eight players to contest the Final Session on Wednesday in two groups of four.

Gary Watson (-9) was the lowest handicapped player. There were three First Division players from Southport - Andy Clark (+1), who plays representative matches for Southport, Steve Nield (+4), and Lee Pilkington (+3). Andy and Steve went through to the Final Session, but Gary lost in the knock-out round to Alderley's Sandy Sanderson (getting 19 start up to 31). Alan Currie (ex-Pinewood), who was on holiday from Bournemouth, turned up and was allocated a rating of +4. Alan just edged out Caldys Eddie Jones from group runner-up spot 20/26, 27/25, 27/25 (Eddie receiving 12 start up to 26). In the knock-out round, Alan then gave Neil Allen of G.R.P.C.C. 8 start, but lost to Neil 15/21, 21/17, 12/21.

Little Cerie Tierney of Civic (+30) ran up in her group, shaving John Griffiths of Oxton 21/12, 16/21, 21/19 (Cerie with 5 start). John also had a titanic struggle against Neil Allen who gave 13 start and won 17/26, 26/24, 26/20. Neil Allen did well to give Cerie Tierney 18 start up to 31 and winning 27/31, 31/24, 31/24. Cerie lost in the knock-out round (getting 19 start to 31), to Roy Adams of Civic, 28/31, 31/33. Caldys John Sherratt, playing in the Handicap for the first time, was given a tentative rating of +8. Although John beat an out-of-form Ron Jones (John with 3 start), he lost runner-up spot to Mike Ashton of Caldys, who received 6 start and won 18/21, 21/15, 22/20.

Tiny Peter Walsh Junior of Civic (+30), whose forehand seems to have "come a ton" this season, had a magnificent win in his group against Mark Newns of Oxton (+17), 26/16, 20/26, 26/12. Unfortunately for Peter, Mark went through on games average. Mark in turn knocked out Peter Walsh Senior (who gave away 7 start), 19/21, 21/14, 21/17. Dave Jones of Thingwall had a good session off his handicap of +16. He won his three group games, with Frank Sorrentino (+14) running up. An interesting player in this group was Glynn Tierney of Civic, who found himself struggling with +6, having started this season with a rating of no less than +16. Glynn says he has set himself a target to reach Scratch before the end of the season! Suzie Sorrentino of Civic (+21) won her group, and with 7 start in the knock-out round disposed of her Dad, 21/17, 18/21, 21/14. Sandy Sanderson (Alderley), had an exciting group match against Mark Newns (Oxton). Sandy gave Mark 7 start and, with his super-anti/long grass combi-bat, bamboozled young Mark 21/16, 23/21, 22/20.

The two Final Session groups on the Wednesday were -

(+ 3) Steve Nield	(+ 1) Andy Clark
(+12) Neil Allen	(+10) Sandy Sanderson
(+17) Mark Newns	(+11) Roy Adams
(+21) Suzie Sorrentino	(+16) Dave Jones

In Group 1, Suzie Sorrentino was not extended, winning all her games two straight. Steve Nield beat Mark Newns 26/24, 13/26, 26/21, but lost the runner-up spot to Neil Allen in a closely-fought match 11/21, 21/19, 13/21. In group 2, Sandy had a bad start losing to Andy Clark 21/15, 21/19, although Sandy had actually beaten Andy in a Liverpool league match. Sandy just lost to Roy Adams 33/20, 17/21, 15/21. Dave Jones just beat Roy 18/21, 21/14, 21/19 and Andy Clark 26/15, 26/20. The runner-up spot was decided by an exciting match between Andy and Roy, Roy winning 21/9, 21/23, 21/14.

(Continued on Page 3)



# The Wirral Flom

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

Editor: - Stan Wilkinson

February 1988

With the season two-thirds of the way through, the League Tables published in this issue make very interesting reading. Division 1 seems to be a two-horse race between Civic and Pinewood. I hear that Pinewood beat Civic 6-3 in the Lonsdale Cup, so a League/Cup double for Pinewood looks on. In Division 2, NALGO look like making a quick return to Division 1, but what happened to them in the R.A.F.A. Cup? In Division 3, any one of FIVE teams could still end up title winner. Division 4 seems to be sewn up by the youngsters of Thingwall 2. Division 5 is also a two-horse race between Caldý 6 and the Birkenhead Boys Brigade 2. Already, they have each amassed a ton in points, with only one point separating them. The winner of this division could end up establishing a record number of points scored in one season.

### R.A.F.A. CUP (SEMI-FINAL DRAW)

Alderley 2	v. Caldý 2
Pinewood 2	v. Thingwall 1

### LONSDALE CUP (Quarter-Final Draw)

Caldý 1	v. Thingwall 1
Pinewood 1	v. Civic 1
Civic 2	v. N.B.C.C. 2
N.B.C.C. 1	v. Caldý 2

Home team please contact away team to arrange match AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

### HANDBOOK AMENDMENT

N.B.C.C. 5 (3rd Division)  
Martin Wilson now at 43 Sherwood Ave., Irby  
Tel. 648-3087 (H)

### JANUARY 1988 "LUCKY 3" DRAW RESULTS (Drawn at the Wirral 'Closed')

First three numbers drawn:

Fourth number drawn:

1st Prize £40.	won by Ticket No.	1-7-8	Agent:	Les Jones (GRPC)	
Cons.	£ 5.	won by Ticket No.	1-7-10	Agent:	P Luxon (NBCC)
	£ 5.	won by Ticket No.	1-8-10	Agent:	F Sorrentino (Civic)
	£ 5.	won by Ticket No.	7-8-10	Agent:	D Bevan (Pinewood)

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A big thank you to Phil Dean, les Garrett and all who helped to make the Wirral Closed on Sunday a success, list of winners will be found on this copy.



DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	PTS
Civic 1	11	10	0	1	89
Pinewood 1	10	9	1	0	82
Caldy 1	11	5	3	3	58
N.B.C.C. 2	10	5	1	4	48
N.B.C.C. 1	7	5	0	2	48
Alderley 1	10	3	2	5	48
N.B.C.C. 3	10	3	1	6	43
Civic 2	12	4	0	8	37
Neston 1	8	1	0	7	21
Civic 3	9	0	0	9	16

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	PTS
NALGO 1	11	9	2	0	78
Thingwall 1	12	9	2	1	75
Pinewood 2	13	6	3	4	72
Alderley 2	12	6	2	4	64
N.B.C.C. 4	13	4	1	8	58
Marconi 1	12	3	5	4	57
W.R.U.F.C.	11	3	3	5	56
G.R.P.C.C. 1	12	4	3	5	55
B.B.B. 1	13	3	1	9	54
Caldy 3	13	3	3	7	51
Caldy 2	12	4	1	7	50

DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	PTS
Pinewood 3	13	8	2	3	81
Caldy 4	13	9	1	3	80
NALGO 2	13	8	2	3	79
Upton C.C. 1	11	7	3	1	77
Wall. Man.	12	8	2	2	75
W.R.U.F.C. 2	12	6	3	3	66
Pinewood 4	11	3	3	5	56
Eng. Mart. 1	12	0	4	8	41
N.C.L.T.C.	12	0	5	7	39
N.B.C.C. 5	10	1	2	7	29
G.R.P.C.C. 2	11	1	1	9	27

DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	PTS
Thingwall 2	13	13	0	0	108
Neston 2	12	10	1	1	84
Caldy 5	12	9	1	2	73
Oxton	13	6	2	5	71
Civic 4	12	5	3	4	64
Marconi 2	13	4	1	8	58
Neston 3	13	5	1	7	55
Eng. Mart. 2	13	3	3	7	49
E.S.W.A.	13	3	3	7	49
NALGO 3	12	1	2	9	42
N.B.C.C. 6	12	1	1	10	37

DIVISION FIVE

	P	W	D	L	PTS
Caldy 6	12	11	0	1	101
B.B.B. 2	12	10	2	0	100
NALGO 4	13	7	5	1	83
CALDY 7	11	8	0	3	71
Eng. Mart. 3	12	6	2	4	66
B.B.B. 3	13	6	1	6	59
Livingstone St.	11	3	1	7	40
G.R.P.C.C. 3	13	1	2	10	39
Upton C.C. 2	10	1	4	6	34
NALGO 5	12	1	1	10	30
Civic 5	11	2	0	8	27

FINES

Wallasey Manor v. N.B.C.C. 2  
 Pinewood 3 v. Wallasey Manor



BIRKENHEAD BOYS BRIGADE v. N.A.L.G.O. (Bill Lowe Round 1)

The Second Division's top and bottom sides clashed with the hosts having a 60 point start. Richie Jones beat rival captain Ian Street 21-11 to give the visitors a winning start. Dave Morris then beat Robbie McDonald 27-25. Roy Hayes came from 11-14 down to beat George McGettrick 21-17. The visitors had pulled back the deficit by 16 points.

Robbie showed his team mates the winning path by defeating Richie 22-20 in a real humdinger of a match. Richie beat George 21-12 before Robbie returned to the fray and destroyed Ray game 11 with the most awesome and effective display of his life. Bob Moran returned the visitors to their winning ways taking 10 of the last 14 against Micky and beat Robbie 21-17.

Ian gave Dave his first defeat of the night before the two Macs were defeated game 8 by Ray and Richie. Micky and Ian blew two set points when losing out to Bob and Dave. Bob raced into a 9-0 lead against George but then dedication to his team's cause brought the score back to respectability. Dave beat George 21-11 to put the visitors within 14 points.

Micky showed his supporters' faith in him as he beat Richie game 14. Ray led Ian 9-0 but Ian fought back valiantly to get to 14. Dave then beat Micky and Bob beat Ian. Micky versus Ray closed the proceedings with Micky needing 16 to put the home side through.

Ray again started well but Micky found his scorching passes were too much for Ray as he gained revenge for a league defeat and gave the visitors their first defeat of the season.

J.K.T.

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WHELDON'S WONDERS (A PROFILE OF ALDERLEY 2)

Under the genial captaincy of gentleman Alan Wheldon, the cavaliers of Ethelbert Road are enjoying their weekly "pint and a bash" in Division 2. Without threatening to win the title, Alderley 2 nevertheless are capable of shocking any team in the division.

The team has five seasoned campaigners in Paul Loftus, Andy McGready, Paul Reed-Clayton, Sandy Sanderson, and Alan Wheldon. Andy has taken some good scalps, notably in their 5-5 draw with title-chasers Thingwall, when Andy beat Peter Hurworth and Don Chalkley. Alan himself is playing better than ever, recording the only two singles win (against Roger Taylor and John Conway) when the team lost 3-7 to N.B.C.C. 4. Alan also beat Nalgo's (Division leaders) Richie Jones two-straight.

Alderley 2 have quietly crept into the Semi-final of the R.A.F.A. Cup, where they are due to meet Caldý 2. Could this be their year in the Cup? Andy McGready is temporarily side-lined through illness, so wily Sandy has been busy with his pen signing up two players from the Liverpool League - Peter Jones and Peter Woods. Sandy himself has commitments in the Liverpool League as captain of a team in that league.

Expect Alderley 2 to make a determined bid to land the R.A.F.A. Cup this year. Alderley 2 versus Pinewood 2 or Thingwall in the Final is an exciting match to look forward to.



### JUNIOR KNOCK-OUT LEAGUE

Form worked out well according to the Wirral Junior Ranking Order, for those who competed in the competition held at Arrowe Park H.Q. on Saturday, January 23rd. The final was contested by Neil Allen (ranked 2) and Keith Gillison (ranked 5). Neil Allen, former K.O. League Champion, proved too experienced and powerful for Keith.

On the way to the Final, Keith beat Susanna Sorrentino (ranked 6), Mark Vincent (15), and Christopher Lynch. Neil beat Mark Newns (ranked 9) in a 3-setter, John Trenbirth and Peter Lynch.

The other quarter-finalists were John Trenbirth, Cerie Tierney, Gary Allen (ranked 12), and Mark Vincent (15). The surprise of the day was unranked Debbie Denmet of Birkenhead School, who just lost to Gary Allen 18/21, 22/24. Gary then lost to Mark Newns.

### NEW CLUB IN MORETON

Table Tennis facilities will soon be available in Moreton Youth and Community Centre, thanks to the efforts of Frank Yates. Anybody who would like to make use of these facilities should contact Frank on 677-8616. The Centre is based in Pasture Road, Moreton.

### CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE 'BILL LOWE' KIND

Civic 2 beat Marconi 2 by just three points. However, in the next round Civic 2 lost to Marconi 1 who fielded a "ringer", Jeff Huntington, a Liverpool League First Division player.

At League H.Q., Pinewood 2 had to make up a handicap of 145 points to beat Caldby 5 by just ONE POINT. Ann Dakin took maternity leave to help her team to victory in a tense and exciting match.

### WIRRAL CLOSED 1988

We don't have a new Wirral Champion - Rob Bevan retained his title he won last year, beating Gary Watson in the final in convincing style.

Mabel Neary is the new Ladies Champion fending off her team - mate Joan Connors 19 in the third, they don't come much closer than that, well done both of you, a very good game to watch for those who stayed.

Junior Boys title went to Paul Birken, and the Girls title to Sharon Norman.

The Pinewood duo of Alan (The chair) Timewell & Ian Campbell won a very close final of the Mens Doubles from Rob Bevan & Malcolm McEvoy, this also was a fine game, some very good retrieving from both Pinewood players.

The Veterans title went to Alan as well beating a valiant Mabel in the final who won some hard matches to get there.

### DIVISIONAL TITLES :-

- |             |              |                  |
|-------------|--------------|------------------|
| Division 2. | P Lau        | from M Deponio   |
| " 3.        | Roy Williams | from Art Lambkin |
| " 4.        | M Newns      | from T Connor    |
| " 5.        | E Moss       | from D Parr      |