



# The Wirral Horn

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

FEBRUARY 1979

It's all happening on the Wirral at the moment. Tournaments, Dances, Cup semi-finals and finals, clubs with ambitions of winning their respective divisions and players fighting to retain their individual averages, there are not so many 100% ones left now.

Just a word to stress the WIRRAL CLOSED on Saturday, February 24th. Have you sent your entry form in yet? The date will be very close by the time this Newsletter reaches you, hope to see a good crowd there.

News of the other events will be found elsewhere in this issue.

I seem to be having mostly favourable comments about the re-organisation of the League as set out in the last Wirral Horn, so much so that I am now asking clubs to let me know if they are interested in entering teams for the new Premier Division ready for the new season. We already have 4 teams willing to enter and already have had 3 or 4 registrations of players from outside our League into these clubs. I'm sure an influx of these stronger players will help our own top players to get the match practice they need 'at home'.

I don't want to appear to be jumping the gun about this but I am so sure it will help the League I feel that this is the time to sort ourselves out ready for next season.

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### ANNUAL DANCE

For the presentation dance this year a 'Tramps Ball - Barn Dance' is offered for your delectation... details as follows:  
Upton Victory Hall, Friday, May 11th, 7.30 p.m. - Midnight. Seven Piece Band, Licensed Bar, Cold Snack included in price of ticket 'a steal' at £1.50 each. Spot Prizes for 'Best Dressed Tramps'. Tickets limited to 150 from Committee Members.

J. S. BANKS CUP 1st Round Proper

St. Saviours 'A' v Mosslands 'C'

The first 2 games went with order. R. Barchha of Mosslands took the first game and M. McMahon replying for St. Saviours. St. Saviours won the next game through C. Stewart then R. Barchha made it 2 all. M. Hitchell put St. Saviours back in front with a 2 straight win. McMahon and Stewart both won their next 2 singles, this making the score 5 - 2 for St. Saviours. M. Hitchell then made it 6. R. Barchha won his third game of the night making the score St. Saviours 6 Mosslands 3.

BILL LOWE SHIELD

The method of notifying teams of matches is to send the score card to the home team and to telephone details to the away team. Please do not assume match nights it is the responsibility of both captains to arrange a mutually convenient date.

ALDERLEY 3 v BIRKENHEAD Y.M.C.A. 2

8th January, 1979

The Y.M. came to Alderley with a 100% record and took the lead winning the first doubles, sets then levelled out until the score reached 3 all. Mike Roberts playing only his second match this season then gave Alderley the lead after the closest set of the night 4 - 3. Bob Roberts then got the better of K. Caulfield 21 - 10 21 - 10. So it was 5 - 3.

Then Col Williams played gamely but in vain against Ged Hannon. The tie rested on the last set between Ron Jones and Graham Paton, Ron got into top gear and won the first game comfortably and the second a little closer, 6 - 4 to Alderley.

"It's fun to be-at the Y.M.C.A."

### WIRRAL HARD BAT TOURNAMENT

Readers will find an entry form elsewhere in this issue. Please note that the entry will be limited to the first 128 received.

On reading the entry form you will realise that there are only 2 events, open to both men and women - ladies please don't be put off. This year's Tournament is by way of an experiment and if successful may well be enlarged to include segregated events next year.

We have been fortunate to receive sponsorship in the form of 'Jonny Leach' bats and T S P balls from ROSEBANK SPORTS to whom we are grateful.

How often have we heard comments like "If it wasn't for that spin serve" or "Take his £50 bat away and I'd 'ave him" (yes you can pay that much these days). Well we've decided to give you the chance to put your money where your mouth is, and incidentally give the 'boys with the bats' a chance to show that skill is skill regardless of the equipment.

There are still a surprising number of players who have refused to submit to the lure of sponge since its inception in the early 'sixties' - this is your competition, you will be able to play with your normal bat while all the others will be using strange ones.

Add in the one or two wooden bat players, who will have to add rubber to their bats and who knows we may have the recipe for some fireworks.

We expect the singles to be taken very seriously with £40 prize money and the kudos of 'top hard bat man on Merseyside' at stake.

The doubles is expected to be very slightly more lighthearted because of the fact that partners will be drawn by the Committee - thus giving lesser players the chance to partner a 'star' in the quest for the £24 prize money and the title of hard bat doubles champs.

Your support is requested to make this a sociable occasion ideally by entering but failing that by spectating - the 10p entrance fee looks pretty good value to me.

LEAGUE TABLES AS AT 27th JANUARY 1979

<u>DIV. 1</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>PTS.</u>
U.V.H.	10	9	1	-	78	22	19
CALDY	10	7	2	1	68	32	16
PINEWOOD	8	6	2	-	62	18	14
U.V.H. 2	9	6	1	2	61	29	13
HOYLAKE	8	4	-	4	44	36	8
ALDERLEY	9	3	-	6	37	53	6
NESTON	9	3	-	6	36	54	6
PINEWOOD 2	8	3	-	5	29	51	6
LEVER	5	2	-	3	22	28	4
ST. PETERS	9	1	-	8	20	70	2
NALGO	9	-	-	9	13	77	-

<u>DIV. 2</u>							
U.V.H. 3	10	7	3	-	71	29	17
B.Y.M.C.A.	10	7	1	2	64	36	15
W.GAS 2	10	6	1	3	64	36	13
W.GAS	10	5	3	2	56	44	13
PINEWOOD 3	9	6	1	2	50	40	13
THORNDALE	10	5	1	4	53	47	11
B.POOL	10	3	2	5	40	60	8
NESTON 2	8	3	1	4	36	44	7
CALDY 2	10	3	-	7	38	62	6
CIVIC	10	1	2	7	35	65	4
P.SUNLIGHT	7	1	1	5	25	45	3
N.D.L.B.	8	1	-	7	28	52	2

<u>DIV. 3</u>							
MARINE	11	11	-	-	82	28	22
W.R.U.F.C.	11	8	1	2	76	34	17
BUSWAYS	10	7	2	1	67	33	16
MOSSLANDS	10	7	1	2	66	34	15
THORNDALE 2	11	6	1	4	56	54	13
CALDY 3	10	2	4	4	48	52	8
CIVIC 2	10	3	2	5	42	58	8
NESTON 3	10	2	3	5	42	58	7
POLICE	10	3	1	6	39	61	7
P.SUNLIGHT 2	10	2	-	8	30	70	4
N.B.C.C.	7	1	-	6	23	47	2
NALGO 2	10	-	1	9	29	71	1



<u>DIV. 4</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>PTS.</u>
ALDERLEY 2	9	9	-	-	84	6	18
W.L.T.C.	10	9	-	1	80	20	18
HESWALL	10	6	2	2	64	36	14
PT.SUNLIGHT 3	10	7	-	3	59	41	14
BUSWAYS 2	10	5	3	2	50	50	13
CALDY 4	10	5	-	5	46	54	10
W.GAS 3	11	3	2	6	47	63	8
NALGO 3	8	3	1	4	42	38	7
CIVIC 3	7	2	-	5	25	45	4
CALDY 5	10	1	1	8	25	75	3
NALGO 4	10	1	-	9	18	82	2
WILLMERS	7	-	1	6	20	50	1

<u>DIV. 5</u>							
B.Y.M.C.A.	9	8	-	1	70	20	16
UPTON C.C.	9	7	1	1	67	23	15
W.R.U.F.C. 2	9	7	1	1	66	24	15
ALDERLEY 3	9	6	2	1	56	34	14
MOSSLANDS 2	10	5	1	4	50	50	11
ST. SAVIOURS	10	4	1	5	43	57	9
POLICE 2	10	2	1	7	40	60	5
NESTON 4	8	2	-	6	20	60	4
EGERTON	10	-	3	7	29	71	3
WALL.AMB.	7	1	1	5	26	44	3
CIVIC 4	8	1	1	6	25	55	3

<u>DIV. 6</u>							
M.FIRE.B.	9	8	1	-	78	12	17
ENG.MART.	9	8	-	1	69	21	16
U.V.H. 4	9	6	-	3	54	36	12
CALDY 6	8	3	3	2	40	40	9
MARINE 2	8	3	2	3	39	41	8
WALL.AMB. 2	8	3	2	3	35	45	8
PINEWOOD 4	8	2	3	3	35	45	7
N.B.C.C. 2	8	3	-	5	33	47	6
B.B.B.	8	2	2	4	29	51	6
N.D.L.B. 2	8	-	3	5	27	53	3
PINEWOOD 5	9	-	-	9	21	61	-

DIV. 7	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS.
W.L.T.C. 2	8	7	-	1	61	19	14
ENG.MART. 3	9	6	1	2	58	32	13
BIDSTON O.	8	4	3	1	51	29	11
UPTON C.C.	7	4	2	1	49	21	10
MOSSLANDS 3	9	4	2	3	46	44	10
ST. SAVIOURS 2	7	2	4	1	35	35	8
ENG.MART. 2	8	2	-	6	30	50	4
G.R.P.C.	7	2	-	5	27	43	4
W.R.U.F.C. 3	7	1	-	6	16	54	2
NESTON 5	6	-	-	6	7	53	-

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PLAYERS AVERAGES 5 MATCHES MINIMUM

DIV. 1	P	W	AV%	DIV. 3	P	W	AV%
J.Fennah	14	14	100	T.Johnson	20	19	95
A.Timewell	19	18	95	D.Watson	18	17	94
J.Cooper	16	15	94	A.Irwin	20	18	90
G.Exell	13	12	92	R.McAllister	20	18	90
T.Barraclough	16	14	87	M.Jarman	12	10	83
G.Parkes	18	14	78	B.Maiden	22	18	82
G.Atwell	20	15	75	K.Walton	22	18	82
N.Roberts	16	12	75	G.Healey	16	13	81
N.Fagan	18	13	72	G.Pierce	20	16	80
P.Luxon	10	7	70	B.Gordon	18	13	72
				A.Gorman	18	13	72
				B.Docley(Mrs)	14	10	71
DIV. 2	P	W	AV%	DIV. 4	P	W	AV%
I.Tucker	14	14	100	H.Sanderson	16	16	100
A.Currie	20	18	90	K.Darlington	14	14	100
C.Dunning	18	16	89	A.Edwards	18	17	94
J.Basnett	20	17	85	G.Evans	16	15	94
J.Harris	16	13	81	N.Rowlands	20	18	90
R.Bissell	20	16	80	G.Charles	20	17	85
G.Oldfield	18	13	72	N.Berry	18	15	83
D.Harris	20	14	70	R.Barker	20	16	80
F.Irwin	20	14	70	M.Bowen	18	14	78
				D.Fisher	18	13	72
				G.Walls	18	13	72

<u>DIV. 5</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>AV%</u>
R.Jones	16	15	94
D.Humphries	14	13	93
G.Jones	20	18	90
R.Ashurst	18	15	83
K.Fessey	18	15	83
G.Hannon	18	15	83
G.Paton	18	15	83
D.Rennison	18	15	83
K.Cross	16	13	81
A.Brammah	16	12	75
P.Morrell	14	10	71

<u>DIV. 6</u>			
P.Crossland	14	14	100
D.Harland	14	13	93
G.Kirsopp	14	13	93
D.Caldwell	12	11	92
N.Parkinson	16	14	87
J.Jones	14	12	86
J.Abraham	18	15	83
D.Mather	12	10	83
R.Jones (Mrs)	16	13	81
B.Spencer	10	8	80
F.Roberts	18	12	75

<u>DIV. 7</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>AV%</u>
I.Bawden	14	14	100
J.Pemberton	14	14	100
J.Lewis	10	9	90
P.Morrissey	16	13	81
B.Kenna	14	11	78
Rich Barchha	18	12	75
Robb Barchha	18	12	75

#### ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Each club will find inside their Newsletter package, a poster about the championships, please use these in your clubroom or any prominent place to advertise 'your game'.

HANDBOOK AMENDMENT

N.D.L.B. have withdrawn their team from the 2nd Division. Club Secretaries please note...  
Unfortunately, their match records will have to be deleted from the Division Tables.  
This does NOT affect their 2nd team in Division 6.

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CONGRATULATIONS

To Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones (Brom.Pool) on the birth of their son Darren on 29th December, 1978.  
Hearing how heavy he is he will be soon playing for the Pool...

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R.A.F.A. Cup, Semi-Finals

Birkenhead Y.M.C.A. v Wirral Gas  
Port Sunlight v Bromborough Pool  
To be played week commencing 5th February, 1979

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P.S. News item from 2nd Division. Two 100% records go in one night...  
Keith Maddocks v Ian Tucker. Keith broke his duck and Ian lost his.

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Thought for the month...

If you're late, don't hurry. You're already late.

Algonkian proverb

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# The Wirral Rona

## NEWSLETTER OF THE WIRRAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

MARCH 1979

### THE WIRRAL CLOSED

Another very succesful tournament was held at Byrne Avenue on Saturday, thanks to the considerable work put in by the organisers SAM and NORMAN. I think all would agree that the day ran very smoothly.

The winner of the Men's event NEIL ROBERTS did not have an easy run through to the final, having to play the holder of the title Dave Roberts in the semi-final, but won through to beat Gordon Exell in the final.

LYNN FENNAH won the Ladies and the Junior Girls' events but she had to work hard to stave off a very spirited challenge from a former holder of the title in the Ladies event Mary Robinson, still using her original Barna sponge bat to very good effect.

The Veteran's event was won as usual by the evergreen Gordon who calmly goes about his game with seemingly endless reserves of energy, being involved in three finals and winning two of them.

### Full results of finals:-

Mens Singles.....	N.ROBERTS	Bt	G.Exell
Ladies Singles....	L.FENNAH	Bt	A.Hepple
Ladies Doubles....	A.HEPPLE & L.FENNAH	Bt	L.Godsell & J.Heggarty
Mens Doubles.....	G.EXELL & J.FENNAH	Bt	A.Timewell & N.Roberts
Veterans.....	G.EXELL	Bt	D.Collister
Junior Girls.....	L.FENNAH	Bt	S.Hayes
Junior Boys.....	S.DAVIES	Bt	G.Oldfield
Div.2.....	R.BEVAN	Bt	C.Hind
Div.3.....	K.WALTON	Bt	P.Walsh
Div.4.....	A.EDWARDS	Bt	M.Bowen
Div.5.....	G.EICHELSCHEIM	Bt	R.Jones
Div.6.....	G.KIRSOPP	Bt	P.Crossland
Div.7.....	K.HARDIE	Bt	P.Morrissey

A special word of thanks to the volunteer umpires who helped us throughout the day to keep the tournament moving.

Don't forget to obtain your ticket soon for our Dance and Presentation evening on MAY 11th at Upton Victory Hall. I believe they are in great demand - let me emphasise that this is not going to be a fancy dress ball, it is an evening when everybody can join in and enjoy themselves.

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The Final of the R.A.F.A. Cup for this season will be played on Monday, March 5th at the Caldý Club, between -

BIRKENHEAD Y.M.C.A. and PORT SUNLIGHT

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CALDY win through to the final of the LONSDALE CUP with a victory over UPTON V.H. in the semis.

A 'team' effort by Caldý after a see-saw match where the score went from 2 all to 3 - 2 to 3 all and then to 4 all with just the two doubles to play, Caldý winning both, the last one at 21 - 19 in the last game. Finishes just don't come any closer.

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It is good to see RAY BULLOCK back playing for the CALDY Club in the first division after an absence of three years, during which he has undergone extensive hip surgery.

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Entries are coming in fast and furious for the WIRRAL HARD BAT TOURNAMENT so don't delay sending your entry forms in. As we were hoping, this event is bringing some of the former stalwarts of our Leagues out of their retirements, so all you young 'spin merchants' will have to be on your guard.

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It has happened... A draw in the Bill Lowe handicap event between Pinewood first team and Port Sunlight 3. Pinewood giving away a 230 point lead. A real triumph for the handicapper.

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SEMI-FINALS of the J. S. BANKS CUP -

PINEWOOD v ST. SAVIOURS 'A'  
CALDY v BIRK. Y.M.C.A.

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QUARTER-FINALS of the BILL LOWE Shield -

Port Sunlight 3 or Pinewood	v	Busways 2 or Thorndale
W.R.U.F.C.	v	Alderley 2
Marine 2	v	U.V.H. 4
W.L.T.C.	v	N.A.L.G.O. 2

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Thought for the month...

In each human heart are a tiger, a pig, an ass and a nightingale. Diversity of character is due to their unequal activity.

Ambrose Bierce

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LEAGUE TABLES AS AT 23rd FEBRUARY 1979

<u>DIV. 1</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>PTS.</u>
<u>U.V.H.</u>	12	11	1	-	97	23	23
PINEWOOD	12	10	2	-	100	20	22
CALDY	12	9	2	1	87	33	20
U.V.H. 2	13	9	1	3	88	42	19
HOYLAKE	12	6	-	6	62	58	12
ALDERLEY	12	5	-	7	58	62	10
NESTON	12	5	-	7	53	67	10
PINEWOOD 2	12	3	-	9	33	87	6
LEVER	7	3	-	4	30	40	6
ST. PETERS	13	1	-	12	22	108	2
NALGO	13	-	-	13	20	110	-

<u>DIV. 2</u>							
<u>U.V.H. 3</u>	14	11	3	-	101	39	25
B.Y.M.C.A.	13	10	1	2	85	45	21
W.GAS 2.	13	8	2	3	86	44	18
PINEWOOD 3	14	8	2	4	77	63	18
W.GAS	15	7	3	5	82	68	17
THORNDALE	14	7	1	6	71	69	15
NESTON 2	11	5	1	5	54	56	11
B.POOL	12	4	2	6	49	71	10
CALDY 2	14	4	-	10	54	86	8
P.SUNLIGHT	12	2	1	9	37	83	5
CIVIC	14	1	2	11	46	94	4
N.D.L.B.	8	1	-	7	28	52	2

<u>DIV. 3</u>							
<u>MARINE</u>	14	14	-	-	107	33	28
BUSWAYS	13	10	2	1	91	39	22
MOSSLANDS	14	10	1	3	95	45	21
W.R.U.F.C.	13	10	1	2	92	38	21
THORNDALE 2	13	7	1	5	66	64	15
CALDY 3	14	4	4	6	70	70	12
POLICE	13	4	2	7	51	79	10
CIVIC 2	13	3	3	7	53	77	9
NESTON 3	13	2	3	8	47	83	7
P.SUNLIGHT 2	15	3	-	12	41	109	6
NALGO 2	14	-	4	10	48	92	4
N.B.C.C.	9	1	1	7	29	61	3



<u>DIV. 4</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>GA</u>	<u>PTS.</u>
ALDERLEY 2	13	13	-	-	121	9	26
WALL. L.T.C.	15	12	-	3	111	39	24
HESWALL	14	10	2	2	95	45	22
PT.SUNLIGHT 3	14	11	-	3	93	47	22
BUSWAYS 2	14	7	3	4	66	74	19
W.GAS 3	15	5	3	7	68	82	13
CALDY 4	13	5	1	7	58	72	11
CALDY 5	15	4	1	10	50	100	9
NALGO 3	12	3	1	8	53	67	7
CIVIC 3	10	3	-	7	34	66	6
WILLMERS	13	1	1	11	38	92	3
NALGO 4	14	1	-	13	23	117	2

<u>DIV. 5</u>							
UPTON C.C.	14	12	1	1	108	32	25
B.Y.M.C.A. 2	13	12	-	1	102	28	24
ALDERLEY 3	13	9	3	1	89	41	21
W.R.U.F.C. 2	13	8	2	3	88	42	18
MOSSLANDS 2	13	7	2	4	74	56	16
ST. SAVIOURS	13	5	1	7	53	77	11
WALL. AMB.	11	3	2	5	45	65	8
POLICE 2	12	2	1	9	43	77	5
CIVIC 4	13	2	1	10	40	90	5
NESTON 4	12	2	-	10	23	97	4
EGERTON	13	-	3	10	35	95	3

<u>DIV. 6</u>							
M.FIRE B.	14	13	1	-	123	17	27
ENG.MART.	12	10	-	2	90	30	20
U.V.H. 4	11	8	-	3	74	36	16
MARINE 2	13	7	2	4	71	59	16
PINEWOOD 4	12	4	3	5	53	67	11
N.B.C.C. 2	13	5	-	8	53	77	10
CALDY 6	10	3	3	4	45	55	9
B.B.B.	12	3	3	6	43	77	9
WALL.AMB. 2	11	3	3	5	41	69	9
N.D.L.B. 2	12	-	4	7	36	84	4
PINEWOOD 5	12	-	1	11	31	89	1



DIV. 7	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS.
WALL. L.T.C. 2	13	12	-	1	106	24	24
UPTON C.C. 2	11	7	2	2	70	40	16
BIDSTON O.	12	6	3	3	74	46	15
ENG.MART. 3	11	7	1	3	70	40	15
MOSSLANDS 3	10	5	2	3	56	44	12
ST. SAVIOURS 2	10	3	4	3	47	53	10
W.R.U.F.C. 3	12	4	-	8	40	80	8
ENG.MART. 2	11	3	-	8	41	69	6
G.R.P.C.	11	2	-	9	34	76	4
NESTON 5	9	-	-	9	12	78	-

#### BURY JUNIORS 4 v WIRRAL JUNIORS 6

The Wirral Junior squad have not had the best of seasons in the Lancashire and Cheshire League, picking up only one point in four matches. Bury were 100% up to this match, and Wirral needed a good start to be in with any sort of chance.

Rob Bevan found the going tough against the Bury No. 1 losing the first game to 16 and then going 0 - 5 down in the second on his own serve, before coming to terms with his opponent's forehand loop. His character showed and a determined effort brought him the second game 22 - 20 and the third by 21 - 19. Wirral were in the lead for the first time this season.

Andy Howells, after an initial blast, which saw him leading 8 - 2 struggled gamely, but unsuccessfully to go down in the third game to Bury's No. 3.

Wirral's lead was restored by Geoff Oldfield who coasted through against the opposition's No. 2, and thoroughly demoralized him in the process.

This prized open the door for Wirral and with Rob Bevan adding two further sets to his initial win and Geoff and Andy winning one each, a somewhat crestfallen opposition reviewed their prospects of league success this season.

Personally, I hope they make it, their friendly welcome and hospitality were exceptional in a competition in which these standards are generally high.

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WIRRAL GAS 4 v BIRKENHEAD Y.M.C.A. 6

The last league meeting between these teams resulted in a draw, so a close match was in prospect for this R.A.F.A. Cup semi-final.

The first four sets went with the call, all in straight games with Y.M. exploiting Peter Chadwick's elevation to No. 1 to claim their two sets.

Gas then took a 3 - 2 lead with John Harris just getting the better of Alf Hayes 23 - 21 in the third game after the hardest set of the match. Unbelievably, John elected to play again immediately against Brian Fuller, and after losing the first game 21 - 11, Brian made John work hard for every point to run out a comfortable third game winner.

The stage was now set for the clash between Frank Irwin and Y.M.'s fourteen year old Rob Bevan. This produced the best table tennis of the evening both in attack and defence. One return of Frank's from a cross table kill will be remembered by all present for a long time, and although this shot virtually won the second game for Frank, Rob came back coolly to take the third with a little to spare.

The situation was reversed in the next set with Reg Bissell taking on Wirral Gas junior Geoff Oldfield. Despite a bad start in the first game Geoff pulled a lot back before going down 21 - 18. He opened up in the second game to win convincingly by 21 - 12, and then after making the early running in the third game, allowed Reg to claw his way back for a 22 - 20 win.

Y.M. now fancied their chance, but in the second doubles the scores stood at 10 all in the third before Alf Hayes backhand started to penetrate, allowing the Y.M. pair to clinch the match. The final doubles set was then a formality with Gas winning to add

some respectability and justice to the scoreline.

This match was a personal triumph for Rob Bevan who, just 12 months ago was a sixth division number 4, and dropped a set or two occasionally.

There's hope for us all yet!!