**Table-tennis League Report**

**Courier, 8th March**

**Colebridge A already look to have the Division 1 title sewn up, sitting 11 points clear of their nearest rivals. Their last two matches garnered 17 points as they swept aside 3rd placed St Georges B 8-2 and then hammered Whitnash A 9-1. Paul Lenormand and Ben Willson bagged hat-tricks in both matches with County Ladies Champion Kate Hughes claiming three points in total. Mark Jackson and Andy Woodcock got the two wins for Georges and former Leamington Men’s champion, Mark Woolerton, secured Whitnash’s consolation. Free Church A are second, 25 points clear of third. They mustered a 7-3 win over Phoenix with Jack Green, Dave Ramsey and Sam Weaving all winning twice but each losing to a different player in the shape of Taran Dhillon, Callum Martin and Mark Rose. Ramsey and Weaving took the doubles. The same trio then overcame County Council C who recorded their consolation when Simon Griew mastered Weaving. Free Church C, in 10th, put aside all fears of relegation when accounting for bottom side Nomads A 9-1. Harry Purewal and Sam Wiggins recorded maximums and Charlotte Spencer won twice, losing to Tony Thomas. This result has put 24 points between them and their D team in 11th. Rugby A beat Free Church D 8-2 and sit 4th. Adrian Pilgrim was unbeaten, Ryan Lines won twice, losing to James Robertson, and reserve Ben Holvey had two good wins, losing to Tom Hunt. Free Church B also fielded a reserve, giving a debut to 14 year old Eduardo Bolanos but he could not prevent Mark Jackson, Laurence Sweeney and Andy Woodcock winning every point.**

**Division 2 is far less predictable. Millennium A have shot to the summit after trouncing St Georges C 10-0, courtesy of Jack Garner, Peter Harris and Jack Shardlow. Eight points behind with a match in hand, sit County Council A who also collected all 10 points against Nomads Enigmas. Paul Calloway, Chris Maiden and Pat McCabe were in unforgiving mood. One point adrift sit St Georges A who dropped one point to Rugby B. Damon Fenton and Barry Hook took trebles and the doubles and Matt Jordan won two, losing to Daniel Burgess. County Council C crept out of the relegation spots with a fine draw at Free Church F. Mark Freeman was their hero with a triple and Tony Ford and Cliff Jackson won singles. Lewis Singleton and Anthony Smith won braces and Smith guided Roald Myers to a 12-10 in the 5th doubles success. Free Church E whitewashed St Georges C with Ian Beasley, Chris Blowey and Josh Yarrow in top form. Whitnash B sneaked past Snitterfield A 6-4 thanks in the main to an eye-catching treble from Greg Swan. Paul Riman won twice and Dennis Woodhead once. Tim Fell, Gareth Hepworth and Nigel Payne grabbed singles in reply and Hepworth and Payne were the winning doubles duo.**

**St Georges D went to the top of Division 3 after dismissing visitors Free Church I 9-1. Richard Grover and Jerry Simmons won their singles and Tracey Fletcher gathered two wins, losing to Chris Jones. Colebridge B are second by one point but with a match in hand. They defeated Free Church H 8-2 when Michael Credland and Dean Hicks took maximums. Mike Evetts added one and helped Hicks secure the doubles. Nicholas Ho and Jerry Chung won for Church. However, it is Flavels who look the most likely champions with matches in hand. They beat Free Church I 7-3, all the points coming from Trevor Bradley and Shivam Kapur. Darren Laffey, Keith Knott and Joe Shrimpton responded with singles for Church. Rugby C increased County Council D’s relegation worries by beating them 8-2. Sarah James and Martyn Lilley won their singles and combined for the doubles and Jo Outhwaite added one. Derek Harwood and Steve Poole won for Council.**

**With Warwick University A the runaway leaders in Division 4, interest centres on the other promotion spot. At the moment it belongs to Nomads Dragons who took all 10 points from Eathorpe C. Janice Rowan, Jill Weaving and Mike Weaving put in impressive performances. Rugby F are 4 points behind with a match in hand. They defeated Eathorpe B 7-3, young Alex Bowe notching a triple as did Dan Farrow. They also won the doubles. Jim Levack, Roger Palmer and Charlie Wragg helped themselves to a singles in reply. Eathorpe B then went on to overcome Free Church K 7-3. John Ablett won his three with Levack and Palmer gaining twosomes. Phil Booth and Mark Singleton posted singles for Church and Booth helped Marc Briscoe to a straight sets doubles win. Ashorne D overwhelmed County Council F 9-1. Mark Bridgeman and Steve Handsley were unbeaten and Tony Philpott won twice and took the doubles with Handsley. Bernard Hardingham won the consolation. Warwick University B drew with County Council E. Sam Pattison won three for the students and helped Taran Birdee, who won once, to the doubles. Jason Grey (2), Carl Morgan (2) and William Hung (1) kept it close. Eathorpe C and D also fought out a draw. Sophie Cooper won two for C and was helped by Paul Deavall and Shaun Martin who added singles, Deavall joining her for the doubles. Thomas Backhouse (2), Christian Roberts (2) and Keiran Braden-Brown (1) tied matters up.**

**Two sides contest Division A’s title. Eathorpe E are top and hammered their F team 5-0 with Chris Atkins and Alex Boyd returning a full house. Free Church L are second, two points behind but with a match less played. They beat Rugby G 5-0 with Chris Ho and Chris Jones the victors and they then dispatched Ashorne A by the same score, Nicholas Ho joining his brother Chris. FISSC A look doomed to relegation but they posted a welcome 3-2 win over Rugby G. Brain Marston won two and Mark Kingham one with Tie chen taking a single for Rugby and steering his daughter Angel to the doubles. Rugby H have slipped out of the promotion picture and pipped Snitterfield B 3-2. Daryl Burgess ‘s two included a good win over Michael Klein and Matthew Burgess also won one. Klein won one singles and took the doubles with Dennis Mockford.**

**St Georges E have dropped just two points out of 30 in Division B and disposed of Free Church N 5-0 through brothers Andy and Len Coonan. Ashorne C also enjoyed a full return against Radford. Andrea Cervi and Jim Jack were responsible. Ashorne B are contesting second place and defeated Free Church N 4-1. Mark Bridgeman (2) and Steve Bolton (1) took a close doubles with Nathan Jackson saving face for Church by winning one and losing at deuce in the 5th against Bridgeman. Free Church M are Ashorne’s main rivals and cast aside their P team 5-0 through Alex Costa and Nick Darwen.**

**In Division C , Eathorpe G hold a narrow one point lead at the top. They beat FISSC B 3-2 with a double from Richard Freeman and a single from Paul Holtby. Mandip Takhar replied with a single and secured the doubles with Martin Hamer. Rugby I are hot on their heels and won all 5 points against County Council F through Matthew Clarke and Oliver Ferguson. Eathorpe I squeezed past their J team 4-1 with John Gymer winning his singles and collecting the doubles with David Hanson who won once. Ben Alderton notched the consolation.**

**Two 100% averages were on the line in Division D as Free Church O faced Free Church Q. Jack Knowles won once for O but lost his first single of the campaign to Sarah Costa who helped Morgan Page win the other 4 points. Free Church T pipped their R team 3-2 with Matt Hayes winning his two and guiding son Bruce to the doubles. Tommy Feeley and Mia Chan responded.**

**Senior British League**

**Weekend 4**

**One win from their last 4 matches on Weekend 4 of the Senior British League Division B3 held in Wellingborough, was sufficient to give Lillington Free Church a comfortable 5th placed finish in a division of 8. They began Saturday facing 3rd placed Foresters of Crawley but could not register a win, going down 9-0. The crunch match was to come next when Lillington played 6th placed BATTS 3rds of Harlow. Two wins from James Robertson and another brace from Sam Weaving plus a single from Dave Ramsey saw them over the line and a doubles win from Ramsey and Weaving led to a final 6-3 result.**

**On the Sunday, Westfield of Wellingborough beat Free Church 7-2, Ramsey and Weaving responsible for the wins, and then another 9-0 defeat ensued against the champions, Wensum of Norwich.**

**West Midlands Qualifying Table-tennis Tournament**

**Ten young players from Lillington Free Church TTC travelled to Wood Green School in Wednesbury on Saturday to compete in the West Midlands tournament.**

**Josh Yarrow qualified for the knock-out stages of the Junior Boys singles when beating club-mate Nicholas Ho and Ryan Cox in straight games in his group. This set up a semi-final clash with Josh Webb, Yarrow going down in 4.**

**Nicholas Ho came second in his Cadets (U15) boys singles group. He defeated club-mate Eduardo Bolanos and Tom Hoskins who also hails from Warwickshire but England number 48 Reece Chand of Staffs beat him 3-0. This meant a quarter-final appearance against Cox which he lost 3-0. Bolanos just failed to make the knock-outs despite a win over Hoskins.**

**Tom Yarrow also came second in his cadets group. He beat Igants Valnuhins 3-1 and Finley Simms but could not overcome Cox. In the quarter-final he fell to Chand -8,-6,-12.**

**Chris Ho was another to finish second in his group. He took a set off Nathaniel Saunders of Colebridge, the England number 7 and eventual winner, but beat Toby Fletcher in straight games. His quarter-final was against Daniel Jones of Staffs where he fell 3-0.**

**Yet another Church cadet, Owain Jones, made the cut by finishing second in his cadet group. A win over Ben Ettridge set up a quarter-final clash with Saunders which he lost 3-1.**

**In the under 13 Boys singles Chris Ho went one better. He beat Wajid Wafiq of Colebridge 3-2, Christos Fantis 3-0 and Dominic Evans of Shropshire by the same score but lost to Dan Jones 3-0 to finish second. This meant another clash with Saunders but this time in the semi-final and Ho again snatched one set from him.**

**Daniel Stone did well to finish third in his under 13 group with wins over Samuel Madill and Reuben Yates and only a 10-12 defeat against Toby Fletcher, this after he held two match points, denied him a semi-final slot.**

**Jun Chung competed in the under 11 boys singles, a round robin event. He beat Reece Oliver and Kristof Polgar, both matches going to 5, but lost in straight games to Wafiq to finish overall second. Jun will now go to the regional finals later this year.**

**Jun’s young cousin. 10 year old Mia Chan, had to play in the under 13 girls singles which pitted her against stronger and more experienced girls. Nevertheless Chan finished third in this group of 4 posting a fine 3-2 win over Daya Chima of Warwickshire. Mia will automatically qualify for the regional finals as an under 11 girl.**

**Eleanor Fletcher also nailed a second placed finish in the round robin Cadet Girls Singles. She had 4 excellent wins over the Worcestershire quartet of Rebecca and Sophie Arrandale, Anna Cole and Bethany Pye but lost to the winner, Megan Jones of Shropshire. Eleanor too qualifies for the forthcoming regional finals.**