



# A League Of Our Own

## A REVIEW OF THE 2013-14 SEASON

### Chairman's Welcome.....

Welcome to the 2014 edition of the BDTTA newsletter. Trying to sum up this season I settled on the word "memorable", although, unfortunately, not all the memories were particularly enjoyable ones.

The start of the season, the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the BDTTA, saw the withdrawal of several teams from the premier division, while still having to accommodate the various playing arrangements that clubs request, we ended up with very much a compromise that was far from ideal. We have asked the clubs for their thoughts and ideas on arrangements for next season. Hopefully next season will be easier for everyone!

The loss of several players and colleagues has certainly given me cause to reflect. Just last year Andy Seward, then ETTA Chairman elect, was our guest of honour and I was reminding him of past battles I had had with him on the table.

We continue to be blessed by a band of active volunteers who tirelessly work behind the scenes for no reward and scant recognition, supporting helping and encouraging our events and players. Too numerous to mention, you know who you are, and you have the BDTTA and my own personal thanks.

The ETTA is now "re-branded" as Table Tennis England and has moved from its home of over 40 years in Hastings to, the home of the concrete cows, Milton Keynes. We will have to wait and see what this will mean to us at a local level, although higher fees would be a pretty good bet!

Our annual individual competitions moved to a new venue at "The Grange". This venue worked very well and the tournaments were a big success as usual. A special thanks to Gordon White who took on the task of organising the Tournaments and Ian Robertson for coming out of "retirement" to give us the benefit of his experience.

Looking ahead we have "new balls" to look forward to next season! Last time this happened it was when the diameter was increased to 40mm to "slow the game down and make the game more attractive for TV". This time I have not been able to find the real reason for the change, but plenty of conspiracies!! By the way, I still have plenty of the old 38mm balls left over from the last change if anyone is interested!

May the edges be with you.

**Phil Hadley**



Phil Hadley

### VIEW FROM THE BOTTOM

#### From the General Secretary.....

As long as I can remember, and to be honest that's not very long these days, the Individuals were always played at the Winton YMCA, under the

expert leadership of David Turner, with Harry Feltham, Ken Large and Tony Viney playing supporting roles. Then, in 2008, Ian Robertson took over the task of Tournament Secretary and ran the event up to and including last year. At some time during this period the Individuals transferred to Portchester School, now Harewood College, but were hampered by considerable restrictions relating to the time matches should finish and the School premises vacated.

As a result of the funding by Sport England, Active Dorset, the ETTA, Lovett International, Miriam Mather, and many others, James Lewis was able to create the Dorset Table Tennis Centre at The Grange School, Christchurch. It was here that the event transferred to this year.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Association found itself without a Tournament Secretary, just before the start of the Times and Directory Tournament. Where could we turn to for help but Ian Robertson? He reluctantly agreed to run the T and D competition, but at the same time categorically refused to have anything to do with the Individuals.

For my part, I proposed to the Committee that I should run the main event, which was agreed, and I then set to work on the charm offensive to persuade Ian to act as my advisor for the duration. And it worked. Without Ian being there I am sure the Individuals would not have run as smoothly as they appeared to have done. There were few hiccups. At some time the event timing went a little astray as we had only allowed 12 minutes for Max to towel down in any one match, but who's perfect?

The first evening that we thought we might get home before midnight, little Mary Short (Sheena's helper) tripped and fell on her way to her car, and sustained a fractured shoulder. Sheena accompanied Mary's ambulance to the hospital and heard the morning chorus before she got home. And I believe Mary is still in Bournemouth A & E, waiting to be seen! But all in all I believe that the Individuals turned out to be a success for all those who took part in both the playing and the organising.

I would again thank Ian for all his help and advice in managing the Individuals with me. Was the picture above my first mistake? Of course not, offering to run the Individuals was that.

**Gordon**



Gordon White

## Welcome to our special guest

We are delighted to welcome our special guest tonight, Alex Perry.

Alex is a former England No1 player with an impressive list of top level titles. He has England National titles in singles, Men's doubles 4 times, and mixed doubles 7 times.



Alex Perry

A gold medal at the Commonwealth Games with the England Men's team and Gold medals at the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships are just some of the honours achieved at international level.

He also has a first class degree from Nottingham University, in Management Studies. He was recruited as a National team coach with the Olympic Performance programme and was selected for the UK Sport 'Elite Coach Programme' in 2007.

Alex is currently Head Coach of the Grantham College Table Tennis Academy and Curriculum Manager for Academies and Recreational Sport. As an ETТА Level 3 coach Alex has been working with the national team for three years and is head coach at the East Midlands high performance centre which is based at the college.

This season he returned to playing on the British circuit after a break of almost 20 years.

With him tonight is his wife Nicola (nee Deaton).

Nicola is former 5 times English women's senior champion and England ladies number one for 5 consecutive years. However, Nicola wasn't just successful as a senior player she was also

England number 1 at every stage of her development being number one in each age group. Her success extended further being both a Commonwealth Senior Bronze and silver Medallist and a European Bronze and Silver Medal. Recently Nicola was also awarded English Table Tennis Association female coach of the year. They have 2 children, and I think the most important question is, does either of them play? If they do,



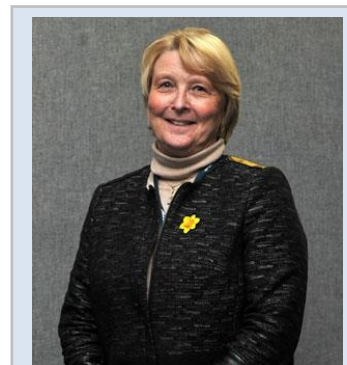
Nicola Deaton

everyone will have to watch out!

## ETТА News

It has been confirmed that there was only one person who received the required number of nominations for the post of Chairman and, as a result, there will be no ballot.

Therefore, as the unopposed candidate, Sandra Deaton has been duly appointed Chairman of the ETТА for part 2013/14 and all 2014/15 administrative years with immediate effect.



Sandra Deaton

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## Long Wait Over for England

### Paul Drinkhall Crowned Champion in Spain

Impressive at the London 2012 Olympic Games, where he reached the fourth round of the Men's Singles event, England's Paul Drinkhall struck gold in Almeria on the evening of Sunday 6th April.

Occupying the no.22 seeded position in the draw, emerged the somewhat surprise winner of the Men's Singles event at the GAC Group 2014 ITTF World Tour Spanish Open.

At the final hurdle he overcame Japan's Masataka Morizono, the no.5 seed in six games (11-7, 11-9, 6-11, 11-5, 6-11, 11-8) to claim the title.



Paul Drinkhall

### Motivation Increases

"Motivation increases when you open the window in the morning and see the sun shining", said Paul Drinkhall who was delighted with the high level of organisation in Almeria.

"I will play more international tournaments", he added. "I want to raise my level so in 2016 I can relive the wonderful experience of the London Olympic Games."

### Second Englishman

Success means Paul Drinkhall becomes only the second Englishman to win an ITTF World Tour Men's Singles title; the other is Carl Prean, he won in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro in 1996, the very first year of the programme.

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## BDTTA LEAGUE REVIEW

The past season, the eighth in which I have officiated, can best be described as like the "Curate's Egg", good in parts. The number of clubs went down from 12 to 11 this season as Bransgore was subsumed within the Merton club while the number of teams initially reduced from 63 to 60, the Premier reducing from 10 to 6 teams. Bmth Sports D withdrew from Div 1 before the season got underway and the players were re-registered in some of the club's other teams. Bmth Sports K withdrew from Div 3 halfway through the season following insurmountable difficulties, bringing the final number of teams down to 58. The Bmth Sports K results were expunged from the league tables and player averages from Week 13, and the players were re-housed in other Bmth Sports teams. The two-way league system continued for the third season running for all but the Premier where the teams had to play each other four times and also twice in a row (see below).

### Premier/League Format

The general consensus from those involved is that six teams are far too few for the Premier, that playing each other four times is far too many, and playing the same team twice in a row wasn't very popular (especially when you had just been walloped by Bmth Sports A!). The Executive Committee were faced with a dilemma when constructing the league as three Premier teams withdrew from the league to join a "super league". When preparing the fixtures, which included the six-team Premier league, the constraints of teams' shared venues and home nights resulted in a fixture list which was recognised as far from ideal, but was unfortunately the only one that met all the clubs' requests. Gordon wrote to all Club Secretaries back in February this year to seek their views with regard to the formation of the league for the next playing season 2014/15, including the Premier of course, and the very welcome and constructive feedback will be considered by the committee. It's not too late to express your views if you have not done so already!

### League Programme

Notwithstanding the impact of the withdrawn teams, the league programme ran fairly smoothly with mercifully no disruption due to bad weather this winter. The Easter Bank Holidays providentially occurred after the league ended this season, so no problems there. There were 7 unplayed fixtures compared to 5 last season, and the number of teams fielding only 2 players went down from 35 incidents last season to 21 this season. This reflects a marvellous effort on the part of the team captains to try to put out a full side every week, and I thank each and every one of them for their fantastic support once again this season. However, seeing some of the reasons for 2-player teams this season, there is still room for improvement, so let's all try to get it down to the "teens" next season!

### LEAGUE TABLES

Once again, many of the promotional and relegation issues were sorted well before the end of the season, but there were still some that went right down to the wire in the final week. The Divs 1, 3 & 5 titles had to wait, mathematically at least, for the final week as did relegation spots in Divs 1, 2 & 3. Div 4 saw New Milton H & J slug it out in the final week to see who came bottom. Here follow the divisional league tables along with a brief report on some of the highs and lows.

#### Premier

Congratulations to Bmth Sports A (Nathan Bingham, Zac Dowling, Steve Foster, Finn Morgan-Bayliss, Hugo Pang & Jamie Trevillion) who once again occupied the top slot throughout the entire season and won the league by a country mile. They even went one better than last season by winning all of their matches, the only team in the entire league to do so. Congratulations to Steve who didn't drop a match all season and to Jamie and Nathan who dropped just the one.

The gap between winner and runner up was much more

<u>Premier</u>	<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Bmth Sports A	20	20	0	0	167-33	74
Bmth Sports B	20	11	3	6	122-78	46
New Milton A	20	9	2	9	102-98	42
Merton A	20	7	3	10	83-117	33
Winton YMCA A	20	5	0	15	74-126	24
Bmth Sports C	20	3	2	15	52-148	9

pronounced this season reflecting the four-way structure in which the B team of Brian Burn, Tony Clayton, Sanja Clements, Brian Garraway & Barry Hill (last season's E team) lost their four mutual encounters whereas they only met twice last season. Down at the other end, Winton YMCA A came second from bottom having been promoted from Div 1 last season as runners-up. Bmth Sports C came bottom by some distance but their cause wasn't helped by having to concede two of their matches and being penalised 8 points.

#### Div 1

The Winton YMCA club fared much better in the second tier as their C and B teams came top and runners-up respectively, so well done to them. The B team (Darren Bellis, Richard Davies, Sean McLean & Tom Stride) made



Richard Davies

most of the running until Week 17 when the C team (Max De Kment, Steve Davies, Adam Elcock, Linda Hales & Alan Henwood) swapped places at the top and remained there for the duration. Going into the final week it was still mathematically possible for the Bees to dislodge Max & Co from the top as there were only three points between them. However, the C's put paid to any such notion by hammering Bmth Sports E 9-1. The Winton B team only just managed to avoid promotion to the highest echelon last season having come third, so they must now just bow to the inevitable.

<u>Division 1</u>	<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Winton YMCA C	16	12	3	1	104-56	48
Winton YMCA B	16	11	2	3	98-62	42
Broadstone A	16	6	4	6	83-77	33
Bmth Sports E	16	7	3	6	79-81	32
New Milton B	16	6	2	8	79-81	29
Merton B	16	4	4	8	74-86	29
Merton C	16	5	5	6	70-90	28
Lynwood B	16	4	3	9	76-84	27
Lynwood A	16	2	4	10	57-103	16

Bmth Sports withdrew their D team from Div 1 before the league programme had got underway and the players were re-housed amongst their other teams in the league.

Merton B and C were third from bottom and second from bottom respectively going into the final week and they both needed at least a draw to ensure survival as they had a game in hand over Lynwood B. The C's did the minimum required by drawing with Broadstone A, and the Bees got three points from their 6-4 win over Winton YMCA B, to send Lynwood B through the trapdoor along with their A team who came bottom.

## Div 2

It was a case of so near so far for New Milton E (Andrew, Peter & Simon Daish, Frank Handy, Bobo Jiang & Gerard Redman) as they occupied top spot for most of the season, but they actually ended up fourth just below their in-form C team (Dave Cuddon, Malcolm Floyd, Svet Ignatov and Matt Winter). Bmth Sports F (Colin Bryson, Dave Law, Simon Marriner, Greg McLaughlin & Ken Parradine) took over the top spot in Week 19 and there they stayed, with Merton E (Mick Anderson, Jon Ferguson, Alan Russell & John Russell) just three points behind them at the end.

<b>Division 2</b>	<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Bmth Sports F	20	14	3	3	143-57	61
Merton E	20	14	5	1	130-70	58
New Milton C	20	12	3	5	126-74	54
New Milton E	20	12	4	4	124-76	53
New Milton D	20	7	5	8	96-104	39
North Bmth	20	5	6	9	96-104	36
Ringwood A	20	7	4	9	88-111	35
Merton D	20	5	1	14	79-121	28
Bmth Sports G	20	4	6	10	79-121	27
Merton F	20	5	1	14	71-129	25
Lynwood C	20	5	2	13	67-132	16

Going into the final week, Lynwood C were already doomed, not helped by the fact that they had conceded two of their matches and were penalised by 8 points. It was then a matter of which one of Bmth Sports G (27 points), Merton D (25 points) and Merton F (24 points) joined them on the plank. The potentially internecine derby between Merton D and F resulted in the D's reversing their first round 4-6 defeat to wave goodbye to Blakey & Co.

What a rising young star Ringwood A have in 15 year old Jacob Elliott who only dropped one of his 30 games this season. This sole defeat came at the hands of Greg McLaughlin (Bmth Sports F) in Week 7, but Jacob couldn't get his revenge because he didn't play in the return match. Watch out next season Greg if you both end up in the same division! New Milton's Dave Cuddon



Jacob Elliott

somehow avoided Jacob in the league but meet they did in the final of the Div 2 Individuals when Jacob confidently took the title.

## Div 3

Bmth Sports withdrew their K team who had played up until Week 11, and their results were expunged from the league results (Week 13) which had a minimal impact on the placings. The K team players were reallocated to other teams in the club.

<b>Division 3</b>	<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Bmth Sports J	18	12	4	2	115-65	51
Ringwood B	18	11	4	3	114-66	50
Breamore	18	12	3	3	110-70	48
Merton G	18	11	2	5	109-71	44
Merton H	18	7	2	9	79-101	32
Bmth Sports L	18	7	1	10	80-100	31
Broadstone B	18	5	2	11	82-98	30
New Milton G	18	6	1	11	77-103	28
New Milton F	18	2	7	9	70-110	25
Bmth Sports H	18	2	4	12	64-116	21

The Div 3 title wasn't mathematically settled until the final week but topmost Bmth Sports J (Matt Broadhead, Bill Broome, Tom Hickman, J-D Marshall & Jon Tennant) had to bide their time as they had a bye. Ringwood B (Rod Bryden, Mike Davies, Jamie Hall, Dave Nicholls & Julian Preston) needed to beat Bmth Sports L by at least 8-2 to take the title, but Bourne looked after their own and took a point off the pretenders who had to settle for second place. 14 year old Jamie Hall is another of Ringwood's rising young stars and, like Jacob Elliott in the division above, he only lost one of his matches.



Gerard Redman

Breamore were also within a shout of a promotion slot and beat bottom-dwellers Bmth Sports H 6-4 in the final week, but Ringwood B did la meme-chose to Bmth Sports L to secure second place. Despite just missing out on promotion, the "Batniks" deserve a special mention in despatches as this was their first season in Div 3 having won the Div 4 title last season. They joined the league in the 2009/2010 season and came Div 5 runners-up in their first ever season. They reached the fourth spot in Div 4 for the next two seasons and sewed up the title last year.

At the other end of the division, the bottom three placings were not decided until the final week. Bmth Sports H were definitely doomed any which way but the New Milton G and F teams had to slug it out for survival in their local derby. The resulting draw was good enough for the Gees who nudged their Milton club mates through the trap door along with Bmth Sports H who came bottom.

Div 3 was the eventual home of the league's most "travelled" player, Bill Broome from Bmth Sports. Bill was originally registered in the D team in Div 1, but following their withdrawal from the league Bill was re-registered for the N team (Div 4) but never actually played there. He played up in Div 3 for the K team but those results were scratched following their withdrawal from the league halfway through the season. Finally Bill moved to the J team for whom his twenty three wins out of twenty three games helped secure the title.

## Div 4

Bmth Sports M (Ross Campbell, Andre Coppard, Gavin Coppard & Jake Simpson) took over the top spot in Week 9 and reigned supreme from then on. Nimrods A (Chris Austin, Nick Dobbs, Dave Eaton & Barry Ross) and B (Keith Brindle, Ken Burrage, Dave Grant & Phil Vials) gave the Bourne a good run for their money but Nimrod A came runners-up.

Going into the final week, the New Milton H and J teams were already doomed, so their local derby match simply determined who would end up bottom and second from bottom of the pile. The Jays lost so they remained bottom, which was particularly disappointing for them as this was essentially the same team who were promoted from Div 5 only last season.

<b>Division 4</b>	<u>Pld</u>	<u>Won</u>	<u>Drn</u>	<u>Lost</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Bmth Sports M	20	17	1	2	132-68	61
Nimrod A	20	13	3	4	125-75	55
Nimrod B	20	9	4	6	112-88	47
Shamrock A	20	10	4	6	113-87	46
Winton YMCA E	20	8	4	8	97-103	39
Merton K	20	7	4	9	100-100	38
Bmth Sports N	20	8	4	8	92-108	38
Winton YMCA D	20	8	4	8	91-109	38
Merton J	20	5	4	11	85-115	29
New Milton H	20	3	5	12	83-117	28
New Milton J	20	2	2	16	70-130	21

## Div 5

It was neck and neck at the top between Bmth Sports R (Tom Collins, Moon Lau, Josh Moore, Jim Simmonds & Robin Thomas) and Nimrod C (Ron Bright, Chris Courage, Mike Melaniphy & Jim Vials) but Bmth reclaimed top spot in Week 19 and kept their hands firmly on the title. In theory at least, Nimrod could have snuck the title at the death, but Bourne disabused them of such a notion by taking maximum points from their final match against Shamrock C.



Josh Moore

Billy Collinge, Andrew & Dominic Stainton and Sue Wootton-Freeman) who just kept plugging away, week in week out despite winning only one match each, and getting hammered some weeks. I hope that they can take inspiration from teams such as Bmth Sports M (Coppards & Co) who struggled similarly a few years back, but now look at them, top of Div 4!

<b>Division 5</b>	<b>Pld</b>	<b>Won</b>	<b>Drn</b>	<b>Lost</b>	<b>Games</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Bmth Sports R	20	18	1	1	155-45	68
Nimrod C	20	17	0	3	138-62	64
Bmth Sports P	20	12	4	4	130-70	54
Shamrock B	20	12	1	7	111-89	47
New Milton K	20	10	3	7	104-96	43
Bmth Sports S	20	9	3	8	99-101	40
Merton L	20	8	3	9	93-107	38
Shamrock C	20	6	3	11	91-109	34
Winton YMCA F	20	5	2	13	79-121	28
Winton YMCA G	20	1	2	17	54-146	12
New Milton L	20	1	0	19	46-154	12

## UNREGISTERED PLAYERS

On a number of occasions, teams have fielded players who weren't registered with the league, and in one case not even affiliated to the ETTA. It is appreciated that this is done with good intent in order to "make up the numbers" and of course the games were disallowed. In the past the committee balanced up that the team not in default would at least get a game versus the possibility of the extra game impacting unfairly on the result. The committee decided that the fairest thing would be not to field the ineligible player, which is covered in the BDTTA rules 14.1 and 21.

## ETTA Membership

Just a gentle reminder that the ETTA Membership Year runs from 1st August to 31st July each year. This caught a few people out last season as they thought that they had up to 15th November to renew as in previous years. To be eligible to play in the 2014/2015 season you must have renewed your ETTA membership prior to playing, and the committee would be grateful if this could be done as soon as possible. Also, just to correct another misunderstanding, players must be affiliated to the ETTA before they can even be registered with a local league, let alone play for a local league.

## PRESS REPORTING

In the early part of the season I noticed that although I continued to submit the Results & League Tables to the Bournemouth Echo, they weren't being published. Having established that there was a change of Sports Editor, I sweet-talked the new incumbent and the reports are appearing much more regularly, including Times & Directory results.

I also submit press reports which appear regularly in the New Milton Advertiser and Lymington Times which although covering the New Milton Club also promotes the Bournemouth & District League. Back copies of the reports can be found on NMTC's website at [www.newmiltonttc.com](http://www.newmiltonttc.com). Another of the clubs with a lively website is Bmth Sports which can be found at [www.bournemouthsportstabletennisclub.co.uk](http://www.bournemouthsportstabletennisclub.co.uk).

## BDTTA LEAGUE INFO

My BDTTA email address book now has 255 contacts and I am always happy to add to it. When we abolished paper distribution of Results, League Tables and Averages a few years back, it was agreed that team captains would pass on copies to their players who did not have access to the Internet. If you are not getting them, please have a word with your captain or club secretary.

To receive regular updates and notification of Results, League Tables and Averages please contact Results Secretary Malcolm Floyd by email on [malcolmfloyd@btinternet.com](mailto:malcolmfloyd@btinternet.com) or phone 01425 620370.

Also a reminder that every registered player is entitled to a free BDTTA Handbook each year. These are distributed to Club Secretaries at the start of each season, so if you don't receive a copy please have a word with your Team Captain or Club Secretary.

## RESULTS SYSTEM

I was hoping to use the new results system to produce the results, league tables and player averages this season but we had a few problems mainly due to the complexity of our league structure. Hopefully all of the issues have now been resolved and Melvyn Gregory is confident that we can have the system up and running for next season. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Melvyn for the considerable amount of time and effort that he has already spent on this project.

**In closing, once again I would like to wish good luck to those teams who are promoted, and hopefully a speedy return to those who have dropped down a division.**



**Malcolm Floyd**  
**BDTTA**  
**Results Secretary**

## INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Doug Crossley Memorial Finals Night was held for the first time at the Grange School Sports Hall, Christchurch. The evening of table tennis was very well supported, enjoyable with a good atmosphere, with Hannah McErlane (Bmth Sports) winning two titles and being runner-up in one, Max De Kment (Winton) and Kai Masters (Bmth Sports) both winning one title each and being runner-up in two and Matthew Stanfield (Bmth Sports) unfortunately being runner-up in all his three finals – a star of the future.



Matthew Stanfield "One for the Future"

There were one or two surprise results with Becky Kuzu (Bmth Sports) beating Hannah McErlane in the Ladies Singles in a close fought match 3-2. After Becky took a 2-0 lead, Hannah pulled the match back to 2-2. However, Becky regained the initiative with some excellent blocking to Hannah's topspin drives and won the fifth set 11-5. After four consecutive years of winning the Veteran 70+ title since its inception,

Danny Allen (Merton) lost to Tony Nixon (Ringwood) 1-3.

There were some outstanding matches – Division 5 final between Adam Garraway (Bmth Sports) and Matthew Stanfield with Matthew taking a 2-0 lead only for Adam to even the match at 2-2 winning the fourth set 12-10. The fifth set was very close with both players attacking whenever possible, however, Adam won the set 11-8 and the match 3-2. We have already mentioned the Ladies Singles. The Division 1 final between Richard Davies (Winton) and Max De Kment with Richard taking the first set 11-7, Max winning the next two sets 11-6 and 11-9, and with both players playing their attacking topspin shots



Premier Champion Stephen Foster and R/Up Nathan Bingham

Richard finally overcoming a determined Max 11-6 11-5 and therefore winning the match 3-2.

The Premier final between Stephen Foster (Bmth Sports) and Nathan Bingham (Bmth Sports) was of exceptionally high standard from two top players playing an attacking and counter attacking match. Stephen took a 2-0 lead with Nathan pulling it back to 2-2 winning the fourth set 14-12 with Stephen having a number of match points. The fifth set was very close and could have gone either way with both players endeavouring to get their topspin attack in quickly. However, Stephen eventually won the set 11-9 and the match 3-2 (getting his revenge over Nathan who beat him in the Group matches) – a really enjoyable match to watch.



Div 3 Champion John Tennant and R/Up Nick Dibben

Another highlight of the night was the Division 3 match between John Tennant (Bmth Sports) and Nick Dibben (Breamore). Both players with over an 86% league average were evenly matched (although Nick had beaten John twice in the league). John took a 2-0 lead with a number of attacking backhand drives (although in the second set Nick was 8-4 and 10-8 up before losing it 16-14). With both players playing a strong controlled pushing game mixed with Nick's forehand (Nick's a 'leftie') topspin attack and John's backhand topspin drive, Nick scraped the third set 12-10 and the fourth set 11-9 to bring the match to 2-2 all. In the fifth set John used his backhand attack more and eventually overpowered Nick 11-7 – a really enthralling match and was a rematch of last year's Division 4 encounter.

### Premier

Stephen Foster (Bmth Sports) bt Nathan Bingham (Bmth Sports)

### Division 1

Richard Davies (Winton YMCA) bt Max De Kment (Winton YMCA)

### Division 2

Jacob Elliott (Ringwood) bt David Cuddon (New Milton)

### Division 3

John Tennant (Bmth Sports) bt Nick Dibben (Breamore)

### Division 4

Kai Masters (Bmth Sports) bt Andre Coppard (Bmth Sports)

### Division 5

Adam Garraway (Bmth Sports) bt Matthew Stanfield (Bmth Sports)

### Mixed Doubles



Josh Warren & Hannah McErlane

Hannah McErlane (Bmth Sports) & Josh Warren (Broadstone)  
bt  
Becky Kuzu (Bmth Sports) & Kai Masters (Bmth Sports)

## Ladies Singles

Becky Kuzu (Bmth Sports) bt Hannah McErlane (Bmth Sports)

## Ladies Doubles

Linda Hales (Winton) & Hannah McErlane (Bmth Sports)  
bt  
Zita Winter (Bmth Sports) & Maggie White (Bmth Sports)

## Junior U13

Kai Major (New Milton) bt Matthew Stanfield (Bmth Sports)

## Junior U15

Matthew Daish (New Milton) bt Jamie Hall (Ringwood)

## Junior U18

Zac Dowling (Bmth Sports) bt Kai Masters (Bmth Sports)

## Veteran 40+

Mark Butler (Merton) bt Max De Kment (Winton YMCA)

## Veteran 50+



Over 50's Champion Shaun Newcomb

Shaun Newcomb (New Milton) bt John Tennant (Bmth Sports)

## Veteran 60+

Phil Beeden (Merton) bt Kevan Smith (Merton)

## Veteran 70+

Tony Nixon (Ringwood) bt Danny Allen (Merton)

## Bmth Closed

Zac Dowling (Bmth Sports) bt Gerard Redman (New Milton)

## Bmth H/Cap

Jacob Blackburn (Bmth Sports) bt Matthew Stanfield (Bmth Sports)

## Men's Doubles

Adam Elcock (Winton YMCA) & Max De Kment (Winton YMCA)  
bt  
Geoff Ware & Nick Dibben (Breamore)



Ian Robertson

Congratulations must go to all players in what was a most entertaining evening of table tennis.

**Assistant to  
Tournament Secretary  
Ian Robertson**

## Those in Charge!

Our thanks must go to the three ETTA County Umpires – Geoff Ware, Andrew Daish and Reinhard Lindner and supported by Bev Scott-Johns for officiating all of the 19 matches.



Umpires Reinhard Lindner and Bev Scott-Johns

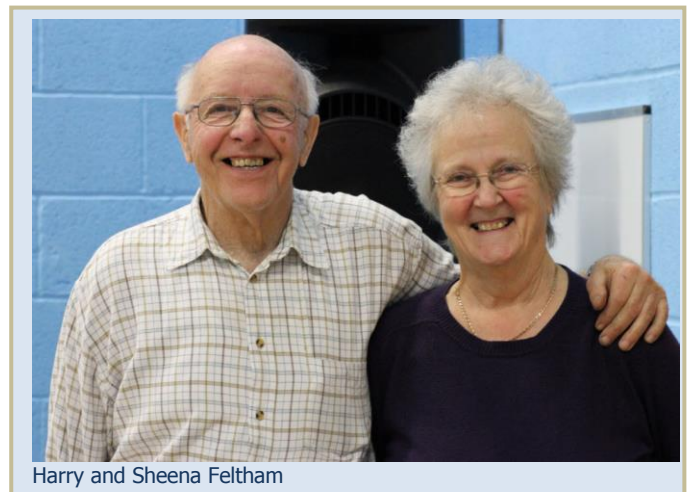


Umpire Andrew Daish



Umpire Geoff Ware

## The Dynamic Duo!



Harry and Sheena Feltham

Finally thanks must go to all the players and spectators over the past two weeks for helping to raise over £300 for Sheena Feltham's Special Olympics – an incredible amount. Thanks to Sheena for also running the refreshments throughout.

## The Times & Directory Cup

Merton A (Premier) won the Times & Directory Handicap Cup beating New Milton A (Premier) 5-3 in the final played on Monday 7th April. Merton represented by Mark Butler (+2), Mark Smith (+8) and Patrick Hurley (+7) overcame a determined New Milton side represented by Steve Hemmings (+6), Phil Handy (+6) and Umit Kaya (+8) in a most enjoyable and entertaining match. The match started with Patrick beating Umit 2-1, Umit taking the first game 31-25 but Patrick coming back strongly playing a more controlled game especially return

Merton A (Premier)



L to R. Mark Smith, Mark Butler & Patrick Hurley.

of service winning the next two games 31-26 and 31-24. Mark Butler then played Steve winning 2-0, Mark's strong attacking play was too much for Steve's defence. Phil then played Mark Smith winning 2-0 making the match score 2-1 to Merton. The fourth match between Mark Butler and Umit produced the best match of the night. Umit took the first game 31-14 with some controlled blocking and general good play, however, Mark came back strongly in the second game to win it 31-26. The third set was a 'blinder' with Mark gradually pulling back the points difference with some outstanding topspin attacking play.

At 23-23 it looked like Mark would win comfortably but the game went one way then the other with Mark playing his attacking shots and Umit playing a controlled push, half volley, attack game with two tremendous counter blocking shots which left Mark out of position. Umit then went into a 29-27 lead, only for Mark to pull it back to 29-29. With Mark's service and 'full-on' topspin attack Mark won the game 31-29, giving Merton a 3-1 match lead. Well done to both players for providing an excellent match. However, not to be deterred, Phil played Patrick winning 31-25, 27-31 and 31-23 with some controlled overall play and waiting for the right time to apply his attack. This made the match score 3-2 in Merton's favour. In the sixth match of the night, Mark Smith played Steve winning fairly comfortably 2-0 giving Merton a 4-2 lead. With the pressure now on Phil, his match with Mark Butler saw Phil dominate the match winning it 2-0, pulling the match score back to 4-3 to Merton. Mark Smith then played Umit winning a very closely fought encounter 2-0 (31-29, 31-29), to win the overall match 5-3. A most exciting, skilful and enjoyable match played in a friendly but competitive manner. Well done to Phil for winning in style all his three singles – lower handicap next season!

## The Times & Directory Plate

The 'Plate' competition was won by Winton C (Division 1) beating Merton G (Division 3) 5-1 in the final played on Monday 5th May. Winton C was represented by Alan Henwood (+15 [that will change!], Steve Davies (+8) and Max De Kment (+10) and Merton

Winton C (Div 1)



L to R. Adam Elcock, Steve Davies, Alan Henwood & Max De Kment.

G was represented by Les Suss (+17), Paul Nelson (+17) and Ray Davis (+17). Winton deserved their win with their attacking play but Merton fought hard with their 'golden oldies' defending well.

Winton took a 2-0 lead with Max beating Ray (31-20, 31-30) and Alan beating Les in a very closely fought match 31-30, 31-29. Paul then played Steve (both 'lefties'), with both playing their attacking shots which made for an exciting match with Paul winning 30-31, 31-30, 31-27, this made the score 2-1 to Winton. Les went on to play Max in the match of the night, with Les winning the first set 31-27 with some great defending and backhand hitting. Max came back strongly in the second set with a more controlled attacking game of topspin loops and pushes against Les's defence and backhand attack. The set swayed one way then the other with Max finally winning the set 31-30. The final set was similar to the second in attack and defence but Max gradually got the upper hand and overcame a stubborn Les 31-27. The next match was between Steve and Ray, and Steve's consistent forehand topspin attack was just a bit too much for Ray's defence, winning 31-25, 31-26. This brought the match score to 4-1 in favour of Winton C. Alan now playing the 'captains innings' playing Paul and with Alan's all round game won 31-25, 31-26 and therefore the overall match 5-1.

Merton G (Div 3)



L to R. Paul Nelson, Ray Davis & Les Suss.

### T & D Finals

'Main' competition  
'Plate' competition

### Winners

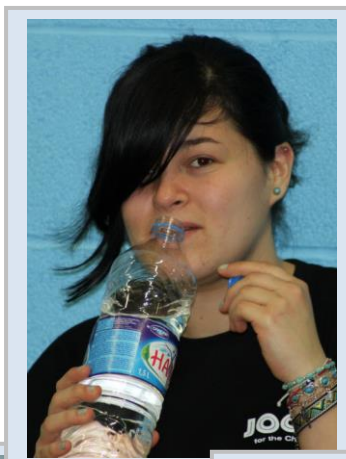
Merton 'A'  
Winton 'C'

### Runners Up

New Milton 'A'  
Merton 'G'

Congratulations to both winners and commiserations to both runners-up on what were two enjoyable but well fought matches.

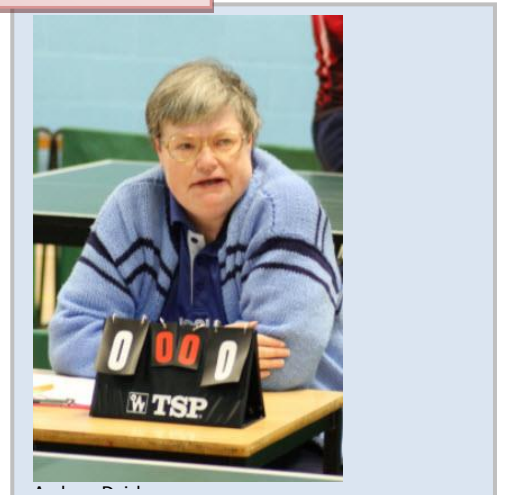




### **BRING ON THE GIRLS!**

It is pleasing to note that more of the fairer sex were playing in our league this season. The league has one all-ladies squad in Bmth Sports S (Karen Kelly, Marina Scott, Maggie White, Rita White & Zita Winter) and New Milton K, also in Div 5, is dominated by the ladies (Lucy Craddock, Fern Daish, Lynn McGivney and Lynn Willrich who keep an eye on the male contingent Campbell Golding & Alex Whitehead). The closest we got to an all ladies match was in Week 20 when Alex Whitehead was the sole male in the match between New Milton K (Lucy, Lynn & Alex) and Bmth Sports S (Karen, Maggie & Marina).

We currently have 31 females registered in the league, only 10% of our total registrations, which although improving, is way behind the national population demographic of 51%. The New Milton Club has set itself an objective to bring more ladies into the sport but they cannot do it all on their own, so come on ladies, try to persuade your friends to join the league.



## COACHING OFFICER'S REPORT



James Lewis & Steve Foster

After many months of planning, it was extremely exciting last August to see the opening of the new Dorset Table Tennis Centre based at the Grange School, Christchurch. This coach-led initiative came from the desire to provide local young players, along with keen adults the opportunity to have greater access to coaching and table time. The Grange's brand new Sports Hall boasting 16 tables became available now to coaches and players, week nights, weekends and school holidays. This new venue has certainly made a positive impact on both coaching and player development this year

and my thanks go to all those who have supported this initiative over the past couple of years.

With the ETTA's new restructuring, we were sad to see Paul Whiting's departure from his role as South West Regional Coach. Paul, over the previous 3 years, had been a regular visitor to Bournemouth, travelling from Plymouth at least monthly to coach and advise both players and aspiring new coaches alike. His commitment and energy will be sorely missed but we wish him all the best in his new role as South West Talent Coach based at Woolwell Table Tennis Club in Plymouth.

Fortunately with the strength and depth in our local coaching team, this has not like other areas reduced the coaching offered to our youngsters. Steve Foster kindly accepted the role of Lead Coach to the Bournemouth South West Regional Squad and through the year has been ably assisted by a number of coaches offering both individual and group sessions at the centre.

This year, coaching sessions are being led by Rowden Fullen, Nathan Bingham, Olympian Alison Broe, England International Matt Ware, National Coach Alex Perry, Rob Searle, Julie Smillie, James Lewis, Michael Robertson and Steve Moreman.

Many thanks to all of these coaches for their hard work this year.

### **Bournemouth League Saturday Coaching at Dorset Table Tennis Centre**

This year we ran two blocks of 10 weeks' coaching during the Autumn and Spring term. A beginner's session was run between 10 and 11:30am followed by an intermediate session between 11:30 and 1pm. With both James Lewis and Jo Kuzu no longer funded to deliver these sessions by the ETTA, the Bournemouth league kindly supported both the payment of coaches and the venue hire. Steve Foster took charge of these sessions ably supported by Nathan Bingham, Julie Smillie, Rob Searle, Michael Robertson, Steve Moreman and James Lewis. This attracted about 15 youngsters weekly with a number of the better players sparring in the first session for the beginners. I do hope next year we as a league can really promote these to increase numbers thus making them ensure they are more financially viable. Many thanks to members for supporting these sessions which are a super pathway for players from our schools into local clubs. If you would be interested in finding out more about Saturday Junior Coaching, please contact Steve Foster [sfoster7@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sfoster7@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Sunday Adult and 1-1 Coaching at Dorset Table Tennis Centre.**

Olympian Alison Broe has kindly taken on this mantle from Jo Kuzu offering adult coaching provision on Sundays. In blocks of 6 weeks she has led a U3A group between 11:30 and 1pm and a league coaching session between 2:30 till 4pm. This has attracted about 20 or so adults who have really enjoyed her enthusiasm and technical expertise. During the other times, she has offered 1-1 coaching. If you would be interested in finding out more about when these sessions take place, please contact Alison at [alison@cleandistribution.com](mailto:alison@cleandistribution.com). Her next block of sessions will start on Sunday 15th June for six weeks. Adult coaching £5 / session. 1-1 coaching £25 / hour (This can be 1-4 players).



Alison Broe with Tressa Armitage

### **Tuesday Bournemouth SWR Development and High**



Bournemouth South West Regional Squad

### **Performance Squads**

I am pleased to say these sessions, having moved from Harewood College to the Grange, have not seen a diminished number of keen attendees. 40 or so youngsters turn up religiously each Tuesday evening for both the development session between 5:30pm and 7:15pm and the high performance session between 7:15pm and 9:00pm.

Popping in occasionally, I have been extremely impressed by the rapid improvement of our young players, particularly a number of the 9 and 10 year olds who have been spotted by talent scouts around the country. Many thanks to Steve Foster, Nathan Bingham and Rowden Fullen for their hard work and inspirational leadership. Along with great improvement, their model of good sportsmanship and player etiquette being imparted to our young players is exemplary.

I would also like to thank Dean Morgan who has kindly taken on the role of "accountant" for these sessions. Thanks to him, these sessions have continued to be self-funding with player's subs paying for both the coaches and venue costs. If anybody would be interested in trialling for these sessions or would like further information, please contact Steve Foster at [sfoster7@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sfoster7@hotmail.co.uk)

Top league division players are also invited to come and spar. Please contact Steve if you would be interested in discussing this opportunity.

### National Cadet League and National Junior League

As last year, the Bournemouth League entered 8 teams into these two competitions. Each competition is run over 4 weekends with our teams comprising 3 players competing against other teams located around the South of England. Each competition hosts three different divisions enabling all players to compete at their respective level.



(left to right) Kai Major, Sam Perez-Haynes, Jamie Hall

This year over 30 young players from Bournemouth competed in these events. Well done to all players involved!

Special congratulations must though go to our A team, comprising Jamie Hall (Ringwood), Sam Perez-Haynes (Ringwood), Kai Major (New Milton) and Ross Campbell (Bournemouth Sports).



(left to right) Georae Hudson, Ben Kinch, Miles Keene

These cruised through each match day and were rightly crowned Division 1 Cadet Champions. Well done also to Bournemouth B players, Ben Kinch, Miles Keene, Emilio Frigo, Lewis Nicklen and George Hudson who came a creditable 2nd in division 2. A great outing was also had by our younger grafters, Matthew Stanfield, Barney Jackson, Jamie Barrett, Dane Major, Lewis Pickup, Harry Nicholson, Luke Dupreez and Alfie Appleby who came 2nd and 3rd in division 3.

In the National Junior League competition, the standard was extremely strong. Even so, all players battled hard and our 2nd team managed creditable runners up in division 2. In division 3 our 3rd team managed a solid 3rd place. Congratulations to medal winners, Kai and Dane Major, Emma Blachford, Ollie Crossley, Jacob Blackburn and Harry Nicholson. Many thanks to all parents who helped with these events co-ordinating teams and attending match days. Many thanks to the League for again financing the team fees for both competitions.

If any young players would be interested in representing Bournemouth in either the cadet (U15) or the junior (U18) league, please contact James Lewis [jlewis@etta.co.uk](mailto:jlewis@etta.co.uk)

### English Schools Table Tennis Association

Expansion of table tennis in Bournemouth schools continues to reap fantastic results. The English Schools Table Tennis Association holds both a team and individual championship for schools around



(left to right) Matthew Stanfield, Dane Major, Barney Jackson

England. These competitions start at a county level, then winners from each county move onto one of 12 zone finals, then to 1 of 4 regional finals with the winners of these heading to the national final.

This year Bournemouth teams from Park School, Harewood College, Talbot Heath and Bournemouth and Poole College having won their county final in their age group travelled to Plymouth for their Zone Finals. These teams managed then to qualify for the Regional finals held in either Bournemouth or Bristol. This year, for the first time ever, a Bournemouth team, Park U11 Girls team managed to win their Regional Final and earn their place in the National Final. With grit and determination throughout the day they managed to remain unbeaten and were crowned National Champions. This success truly reflects the coaching expertise, enthusiasm and team spirit present in Bournemouth today. These four young players had been coached, nurtured and supported by over half a dozen of our local coaches in the past two years. It also highlights the direction in which Bournemouth development continues to move.



L TO R. Kayleigh Rees, Charlotte Feilden, Ron Rubin and Front Jess Holloway.

Many thanks as ever to the Committee; all the inspirational coaches, parents and finally to the players who work hard, have fun and achieve great things!

Let us hope these successes continue in the months and years ahead.

James Lewis



James Lewis

## Remembering those no longer with us

### Andy Seward. 1944 – 2014 ETTA Chairman

Andy became Chairman of the ETTA following an election in early 2013 and took over the post in July 2013. He arrived at what was probably the most difficult time in the history of the national sports governing body. The ETTA and table tennis had just faced an independent review which made it clear that wholesale changes needed to be made. Andy came in when the Association was facing an uphill journey to reform itself, and demonstrate it could and would change.



Andy Seward

### Tom Hales.

Most of us remember Tom from his playing days in the BDTTA and as chairman of the Dorset TTA but before he moved down to Dorset he helped to found the Burnham and District TTC. One of their members has written this small piece.

To those older members of the League, I have just received the sad news that Tom Hales ex President and one of the founder members of the League died on Thursday 17th April. He had been suffering from leukaemia and his long term partner Linda Hales née Barrow phoned to tell me the news. Tom was a stalwart of the league for as long as I can remember and was going to be invited to our 50th anniversary D&D but sadly won't be making it. Those who remember Tom will know that he

played for Burnham Sports with Robin Tucker [ex chairman] and Dick Chamberlain [known as Tom, Dick and Harry]. Tom was President of the league from 1974 - 1998 and previously had held just about every other position on the League committee.

He also played at various times for Latchingdon and Burnham Sailing Club, all club names sadly from the past. He may be remembered by some older players for his comments of "Lucky" when you played a good shot or "There's nothing on it" when the ball hit his bat followed by the wall.



Tom Hales

Tom did almost a lifetime of work for the Burnham league and will be remembered by many.

RIP Tom. Dave Goody

### Trevor Parry.

It is with great sadness and fond memories that I write about Trevor Parry having passed away at back in October of last year. He was an interesting character to say the least and someone that will always be remembered for his dedication and commitment to table tennis as well as helping cadets and junior players progress through the ranks.

On a personal level he not only helped me with my table tennis but as a friend he taught me a great deal about life. As I'm sure you will recall, the difficult part was getting him to stop talking.

For me personally he was one of those larger than life and interesting characters with a kind heart and always extremely generous with his time and coaching.

Unfortunately as many were unaware that he passed away if you wish to pay your respects his ashes have been scattered in the gardens at Poole Crematorium.

RIP Trevor. Lee Dredge

### Dennis Joyce. Broadstone TTC

Dennis was born on April 18th 1937 and lived with his parents and sister Sheila at 6 Pound Close, Oakdale. He attended Oakdale Primary School and then moved on to Henry Harbin Secondary School in Poole, it was during his time there that he discovered his love of sport and he played football for the school team. As a teenager he joined Longfleet St Marys youth club and it was here he learnt to play table tennis which became the love of his life.

On leaving school he went to work for Christopher Hill Ltd on the quay in Poole, training as a rep and at the same time he played football for the local junior police team. In 1955 he was picked to play for Poole Town FC and he also started playing cricket. At 18 he was called up to serve his National Service in the Royal Air Force, he was stationed at St Athens in South Wales. There wasn't much square bashing though; he spent his time playing football for the RAF team!

When the two years of National Service were finished he returned to work at Christopher Hill Ltd and this is where he met Mary and later they were married and started a family. In the meantime he changed his job and began working for the concrete manufacturers, W.S Try Ltd. In 1964 Dennis passed his City and Guilds Exam in work study and became the company's Quantity Surveyor. Shortly after this the new family moved into a bungalow in Broadstone. Dennis stopped playing football and cricket and took up golf, becoming a member of Broadstone Golf Course. Golf took him away from home some weekends; he played at different golf courses and won several trophies. Dennis also joined Broadstone Athletic Club to continue his real love, table-tennis, he soon became one of their strongest players and won countless trophies. He played for a top team at Broadstone, the Broadstone Old Boys. Dennis was captain of the team and went on to play for the Dorset County Team and travelled the country playing for Dorset against many other counties. He also coached many young players.

The family moved again in 1977 to a four bedroom house in Corfe Mullen. After many years of working for W.S Try Ltd the company decided to close their southern branch so all the employees were made redundant. Dennis along with two other directors and with the help of a local development company, took over the business and retained many of the staff. Dennis was made Managing Director. The family enjoyed many holidays touring the south of England and Wales in their new caravan which they all loved, even the two long haired dachshunds! The cat stayed at home! The family loved these holidays together and even took weekends away in the New Forest with the beloved caravan. After a while of course the children grew up and got married, both had boys in the same week in 1992, just three days apart!

Unfortunately, Trys Wessex, the new firm Dennis established from the former W.S Try Ltd did not survive due to the recession, major contractors didn't pay their bills so the company was closed. This was a very difficult time for Dennis, he had loved his working years and as a result, his health deteriorated. Dennis's poor health meant that he had to give up playing table tennis and golf, another bitter blow.

Over the past few years, Mary and Dennis have made numerous visits to France to spend time with their son Peter and his wife Jo, who have a second home there. This has brought them all great joy. Until recently he had also enjoyed going to watch Bournemouth play football, with his son Peter and his grandson,

Brennan. The three generations of Joyce have lots of fun supporting the Cherries!

RIP Dennis. Chris Turner

## Cyril Theodore Bush 1928 – 2013 Broadstone TTC

Cyril was born in Worcester and moved with his family to Bournemouth when he was 5 years old. He grew up in the Iford area of town and towards the end of the war he served his country in the RAF where he enjoyed the comradeship of his fellow airmen.

Cyril met his future wife Dorothy at the Young Conservative Club and they were married in November 1950. They enjoyed 55 happy years together until Dorothy sadly passed away in December 2005. Throughout most of their married life Cyril worked as a stamp dealer, acquiring great knowledge in the field during this period.

Cyril enjoyed the simple things in life. He was a great lover of the outdoors and an enthusiastic supporter of butterfly and wildlife groups, attending many local field trips both with Dorothy and their daughter Joanna. In recent years he also supported the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and the RSPB. He always loved cats, enjoyed keeping chickens and made his own homemade beer. He was also a talented gardener, keeping the family kitchen stocked up throughout the year with a wide selection of fruit and vegetables. In recent times his gardening knowledge and advice was invaluable to Jo and Dave when they were setting up their own allotment in Puriton.

Cyril was a highly respected table tennis player in the local area, representing Hampshire, Dorset and Bournemouth on numerous occasions. He was a member of Broadstone and Merton table tennis clubs and he made many lifelong friendships with fellow enthusiasts. Cyril's friends will no doubt remember Cyril's special ability to create and develop a strong team spirit and will probably recall his highly determined and competitive nature and also the high degree of fairness that he always showed in matches.

Many people will most remember Cyril for his great sense of humour. Cyril's sister Thelma and his brothers Joe and Brian were amongst many who dearly loved this quality. Cyril liked nothing better than to have a good laugh with family and friends. Joanna affectionately remembers him cutting out the 'Matt' cartoons from The Daily Telegraph newspaper of which he was an avid reader and him eagerly waiting to show her one that had particularly amused him so they could enjoy a good laugh together.

Cyril was a person of simple values who showed a high degree of integrity. He greatly valued family life and he continually encouraged and supported his three grandsons Peter, Ben and Tom in their schoolwork and the numerous activities and hobbies which they pursued. He was a great listener; always interested in other peoples' stories and willing to give his time to others and all that knew him will miss sitting down and having a 'good old chat'.

When Dorothy sadly died in 2005, Cyril decided to move to Puriton in Somerset to be close to his family. The move enabled him to take on some fresh challenges and he enjoyed travelling abroad for the first time in his life at the age of 79! He went on trips to Amsterdam, Venice and Paris with his family and also had several trips to the Scilly Isles where he loved the simplicity, beauty and tranquillity of these stunning Cornish Islands.

Cyril continued with his table tennis for the first three years after his move to Puriton, playing in the local Bridgwater League. The two years that he played in a family team with Jo and Ben were particularly special for all involved. In 2010 the family team spanning three generations managed to win the first division to gain promotion to the premier division. However, it was at this point that Cyril decided that he was finding it too difficult to maintain the high level of fitness required to play table tennis at a competitive level and he finally decided to put his bat away and retire from the sport at the ripe old age of 82 years!

Cyril loved playing games of any type and he enjoyed many card games with his late brother Joe, Dorothy, Joanna and in recent times his grandsons Peter, Ben and Tom. Cyril always eagerly awaited Peter's return from university so they could play games, share discussions on numerous current affairs and most importantly enjoy a few laughs and beers together. He also enjoyed discussing any sporting stories that were topical with Tom.

Cyril always thought he had never lost a match until he had lost the final point and it was with this philosophy that he approached his gradually worsening health over the last few months. Cyril never gave up and he would have been relieved to know that his life would end suddenly in his own home with his family nearby.

CT as he was known to his closest family was an absolute treasure. He was dearly loved and will be much missed by all that knew him but family and friends should take comfort in the fact that he lived a full and active life until the age of 85 years of age, finally passing away in a manner that he would have wished for; saving both himself and his close family from any further distress and suffering. Cyril would hope that all that knew him will remember the special moments and happy times that they spent together during his long and fulfilling life.

RIP Cyril. Jo Le Neve-Foster

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## Doug Crossley. Lynwood TTC



Doug Crossley

Local sports enthusiast and RAF war veteran Douglas Crossley died suddenly at home on Saturday, September 21, aged 89.

Born in Winn Road, Southampton, on May 9, 1924, Mr Crossley's life-long interest in sport was encouraged by his father, who took him to watch cricket and football matches – including occasional trips to Lords and Arsenal FC in the 1930s.

Doug became an ardent supporter of Hampshire Cricket Club and Southampton FC, still attending matches until last year.

After a short time at boarding school, he attended the Collegiate School in Westbourne, and in 1943 he joined the RAF, where he served as a compass adjuster in the Far East and India. He keenly attended many 684 Squadron reunions in the special years that followed. When he was demobbed Mr Crossley worked at Bournemouth & Boscombe Athletic FC as club secretary, but most of his 30-year working life was spent as an office manager for Drakes shop fitters in Pokesdown.

He lived in Arnewood Road in Southbourne, and was a founder member and long-term chairman of Lynwood Tennis and Table Tennis Club in the 1950s, where he met his wife Sylvia.

They were married on May 23, 1959, at St John's Church and they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a surprise party at West Hants Tennis Club in 2009. They soon moved to Meon Road in Iford and remained there ever since. They had three sons, Stephen, Martin and David, and six grandchildren – Adam, Ben, Ella, Georgina, William, and new arrival Jenna whom he met the day before he died.

Mr Crossley's interest in sport passed on to them, and he was often to be found on the side-lines scoring/umpiring or watching them play football, cricket or table-tennis for their schools or local clubs. He was a stalwart of Bournemouth League table tennis, making his debut in 1951. He was chairman of Old Bournemouthians Cricket Club and became secretary of New Forest club The Robins in 1986.

RIP. Doug

## Bournemouth Sports TTC.

### Senior British League

The final weekend of the Senior British League on the weekend of March 15th-16th saw Bournemouth Sports, consisting of: Steve Foster, Nathan Bingham, Matthew Haynes and Chloe Thomas secure 2nd position in Division 1 South, book themselves a play-off place for the Premier Division for next season.

Circumstances led to a slight change in personnel for Bournemouth Sports. Matt Haynes travelled from Limerick in Ireland provided cover for absentees Hannah Hicks, who played in the Elite division in Sweden, and Hugo Pang, who represented England in the Cadet Home 6 Six Nations in Guernsey. The change did little to effect the team's winning capabilities as they won 3 out of their 4 matches against Godalming Coversure (6-2), Fusion 2 (8-0) and Crusaders (6-2), while drawing the match against a strong Cippenham I (4-4).

Well done to all the team, including: Hugo Pang, Hannah Hicks, Tony Clayton, James Whitehorn and Finn Morgan-Bayliss who contributed to the team's success this season. The team has performed very well this year in a much tougher league and can be proud of their achievements. The team can now look forward to the play-offs in May, when they will play against all the 1st and 2nd placed teams from the 3 Division 1's (North, Midlands and South) to compete for the two available Premier Division places.

### Junior British League

Success for the Bournemouth Sports Junior Boys who won Division 1 and have now gained promotion into the Premier for next season. The team consisting of Jamie Trevillion, Hugo Pang, Finn Morgan-Bayliss and Zac Dowling even though winning the Division found things a lot tougher in the final weekend of matches of February 8th-9th. After the first weekend the boys were 3 points ahead of 2nd placed Ireland, after winning all their matches, so they just needed to make sure they did enough in the final weekend of matches to secure 1st place.



(left to right) Zac Dowling, Hugo Pang, Finn Morgan-Bayliss & Jamie Trevillion

Bournemouth continues to have representatives playing at National level. Hugo Pang has demonstrated his developing maturity and working closely with another ex-BDTTA player Matt Ware who has put in sparring time with Hugo even though he is himself still recovering from a knee operation. Hugo has played for England in the Home 6 Nations in Guernsey and will represent England again in the Cadet 6 Nations in Cardiff (where teams from top European countries compete). He was runner up in the Schools Under 16's Individuals in Doncaster. Matt as a matter of interest was runner-up in the final singles Open placing in the UK Grand Prix Tournaments and winner in the doubles playing mainly with Mick O'Driscoll.

On the women's side Hannah Hicks played in the World Championships for England; unfortunately England women didn't quite make promotion to the top division and remain in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division. Hannah will also be representing England in the Commonwealths in Glasgow at the end of July. Chloe Thomas performed well in the Luxembourg Open beating players world ranked 200 places above her. She will also play for Wales in the Commonwealths and there can't be many leagues in the country providing 2 players in this prestigious event.

Rowden Fullen

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## Willmott & Carter Cups + Rose Bowl & Bromfield Trophy

The weekend of 12th/13th April saw the regional qualifications for the League Cup events, the Willmott and Carter cups for men and boys and the Rose Bowl and Bromfield Trophy for women and girls.

These events are to find the best league teams in the country in the various categories.

Teams from Bournemouth dominated to reach the finals (to be played in June) in all 4 events. In the boys Hugo Pang and Zac Dowling won all their Carter Cup matches beating Brighton, Bracknell and 2 strong Plymouth teams by scores of 3 - 0 or 3 - 1 and were never seriously under pressure. The girls had a bye straight to the finals. In the men's and women's on the Sunday Bournemouth was equally dominant. Our women's team of Chloe Thomas and Linda Hales cruised through against Bracknell, Guildford and Brighton 5 - 0, 4 - 1 and 3 - 2.

It was particularly satisfying to see how well they worked and played together in the doubles. The men's team of Nathan Bingham and Stephen Foster had probably the toughest draw with matches against Brighton, Plymouth and Portsmouth but once again showed the depth of talent in the Bournemouth area by triumphing 5 - 0, 4 - 1 and 3 - 2. The crunch match was the last one against Portsmouth who were also unbeaten with Jimmy Yeung and former Polish International Adam Proszko making formidable opposition. But no problems for Bournemouth; Nathan and Stephen were too experienced for Jimmy and Nathan performed superbly to beat Adam close on the fifth end.

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## RINGWOOD TABLE TENNIS CLUB

### 25th ANNIVERSARY WITH PONT AUDEMER

At the RINGWOOD TABLE TENNIS CLUB we are looking forward to receiving our table tennis friends from Pont Audemer for a long weekend at the end of May.

We will be celebrating 25 years of this event, and the club is aiming to win the annual trophy. The club has had a very good season in the Bournemouth league, with the Division 2 side staying up for their first season in that division. The Division 3 side have also gained promotion to Division 2, finishing runners-up. In the

Wimborne League our team finished 4th, which for their first season was very commendable.

Ringwood have 3 finalists in the Bournemouth Championships, so there are a few trophies for cabinets this season.

Our Summer League Competition is again full, so it will keep all the players ready for the new 2014/15 Leagues.

The club juniors continue to impress and have represented Bournemouth and Dorset in their age groups, and are great assets to the club.

Pat Baldwin. RTTC

## New Milton TTC.

### PUB PING!

#### Or how Shaun and Malcolm put the "local" into local table tennis.

One of the locals in the Carpenters Arms in Bransgore who goes by the name of "Mick the Brick" kept challenging Shaun Newcomb and Malcolm Floyd to a game of table tennis as he professed that he would wipe the floor with both of them. By way of explanation, Shaun and Malcolm can often be found in that particular hostelry after table tennis or Saints football matches or to celebrate a particular event. On the day in question, not only was there Mary Hopkin's birthday to celebrate but Saints played away against Swansea (and won by the flukiest of goals). Well, Mick the Brick was in his cups and once again told all and sundry how he would thrash us at table tennis.

Not being one to resist a challenge, Shaun just happened to have an "Instant Ping! Pong" pack in the boot of his car, and quick as a flash the net was set up on one of the tables. Shaun suggested that Malcolm should go on first and managed to humiliate himself by losing to Mick the Brick, much to the merriment of all (kept serving off the end of the table, so no change there then!) Flushed with success, Mick the Brick returned to the bar to get on with some more serious business and could not be persuaded to chance his arm against Shaun.



I bet she beat you Malcolm.....Hmmm!

Not to be deprived of his sport, Shaun inveigled a very nice young lady by the name of Cheryl to give him a knock which she seemed to enjoy. Well it was soon time for Shaun to go out for a ciggie so Malcolm took over. If you look at the



photo close enough you can see Mick the Brick in the corner wallowing in his victory and boasting of his prowess to the barmaid (unseen).

Malcolm took over the serious business of keeping the lady entertained and by showing her how to serve (once he'd finally got the measure of the table!). As Floydie said "it's a tough job but somebody's got to do it!"

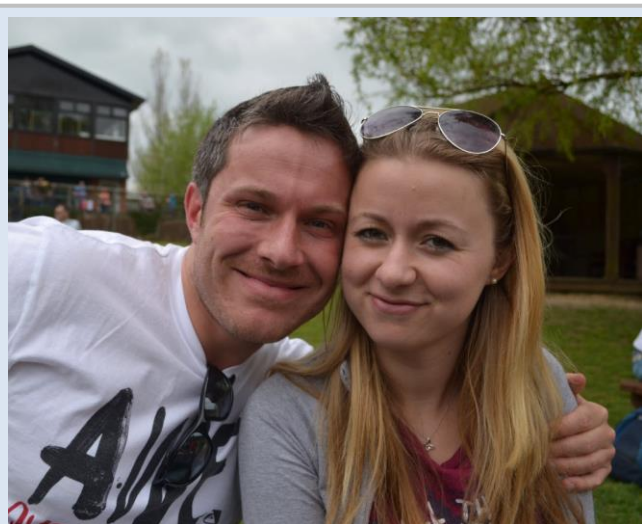
## ANDREW CALLED UP TO UMPIRE IN CARDIFF

New Milton's Andrew Daish has been called up to umpire at the Senior Schools Internationals in Cardiff in June 2014. Andrew acquired his ETTA County Umpire's badge in February 2012 and has already volunteered and taken part in a number of tournaments to get his feet under the table.

Andrew had a bit of a baptism of fire at his first event as he had to give out 3 cards on the first day of the Junior British League back in February this year. Other tournaments in the offing likely to benefit from Andrew's services are the Sainsbury's School Games in Manchester in September and the Junior British League in Lilleshall on October.

Andrew was one of the official umpires along with Reinhard Lindner and Geoff Ware ably supported by Bev Scott-Johns at the recent BDTTA Finals Night but didn't have to hand out any cards at this event.

The photo shows Andrew looking rather dashing in his County Umpire's livery.



The Happy Couple Phil and Fern

## TWO DYNASTIES MERGE

At Phil Handy's 30th birthday bash at the Sway Village Hall last December, he announced that he had just got engaged to Fern Daish. After twenty years of friendship, Phil had finally proposed and they will tie the knot in St Thomas' Church, Lymington on 27th December this year. Tom Daish (Fern's brother) is the best man for what will be a day of delight and jollity, as Phil puts it. The happy couple will be honeymooning in New York and will make their home in the New Forest area.

Phil moved from London as a child and met Fern at St Luke's Church in Sway. Both the Handy family and the Daish family were home educated and as a result Fern and Phil spent many years sharing lessons and competing against each other in sailing regattas.

Despite studying English and teaching, she has always had a strong interest in Music. Phil, an accomplished cellist and conductor, completed his studies at Birmingham Conservatoire graduating with a First Class Distinction and is a Teacher of Cello across the south of England and also conducts a number of different orchestras.

Phil has also travelled the world performing on the P&O cruise ships. You can often catch Phil in concert locally with various ensembles, often with younger brother Frank who plays violin.

Both Phil and Fern play table tennis for the New Milton Club in the Bournemouth & District league albeit at opposite ends of the league. They are both members of the St Thomas Church Choir and can be found singing their hearts out in the choir pews on a Sunday morning. Fern has five younger brothers who also sing in the choir, four of them also play table tennis for various New Milton teams in the league; Andrew, Simon, Peter and Matthew.

The Daishes and the Handy's, what an alliance! As Phil says "Beauty and the Beast are getting married at last!"