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DIGEST**

Official Magazine

OF THE

LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE

TABLE DIGEST TENNIS

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No. 3

Editorial

The main theme for Table Tennis today is publicity, for if we are to move forward and gain ground on other sports we must get more publicity. The "Table Tennis News" urges all leagues to try to get a regular spot on local radio. We in the Liverpool League have been making strenuous efforts in this direction, for although local sports do get quite a bit of air time, Table Tennis gets none. However, our efforts have recently met with some success as we managed to break through the barrier and got a spot for our Open Tournament. Many of you may have heard Brian Leeson on his radio debut and it would be interesting if we could have your comments on this.

If the new "Graded" tournaments are to be the success which I personally think they will be, then publicity is vital to bring back the support we once enjoyed. The new cash prizes will soon provide incentive to players to enter more tournaments and this should soon improve the standard of play with more "Stars" emerging. The biggest stumbling block is sponsorship, which is vital if prizes are to become big enough to provide the required incentive to players. We failed to get any support from local firms this season and have lost money on the "Open" tournament. We now have time to go over this problem and find new approaches which will bring more success in this direction.

Sponsorship and publicity go hand in hand, each is necessary to the other and once we can make a real break-through then we will be on our way to our eventual aim which is to make the "Merseyside" a must for every star player in the country. This can only be for the good of all players in the league who will be able to watch these players on their own doorstep.

One important point about sponsorship is that the amount a sponsor is prepared to offer is not important at this stage, it is sufficient that they are prepared to offer something. A dozen firms offering £5 is just as important as one offering £60 for the publicity is shared out in accordance with the amount of sponsorship. If you know, even now, of a firm who may offer some form of sponsorship for next year then let us know in order that the necessary contacts can be made.

We were very late with publication of the January issue and this was due to circumstances beyond our control. It also became necessary to ask the divisional writers for their notes for this issue at very short notice due to the closing date of the "Closed" being the 14th March. In spite of this they all got their notes in ahead of time, for which I am extremely grateful.

Will everyone please note the closing date of 14th March and get your entries in as quickly as possible (*see middle pages for entry form*). The Restricted Singles is wide open this year so let's have a good entry for this event.

Lancashire & Cheshire League

By Alec Davidson

It is quite praiseworthy that at this stage of the season we still have three teams who are undefeated.

Although finishing third in Div. 2 last season the Junior team was promoted and has to date had four keenly fought matches, winning one and drawing three. Their latest draw, away to Bolton, was a thrilling fast encounter.

The Ladies 'A' team continued their victorious way by winning 10-0 at home to St. Helens and 7-3 away to Blackpool 'A'. For both these matches Diane Williams joined the regular team of Margaret Collins and Jean Reynolds. Diane was also selected for the Lancashire team which played Durham.

Our Men's 'A' team are also undefeated, winning lately at home to Preston 10-0. Their away game at Burnley was postponed due to the failure of the Burnley league to send notification of venue in sufficient time. Their next match, away to Bolton 'A' who are also undefeated, could be the most crucial of the season.

The Youth team were disappointed by the non-appearance of their opponents recently. Again the Burnley team were at fault, although this time it is understood that the car bringing them to Liverpool broke

down. The only match played by them this year resulted in a 10-0 win at Stockport against the Y.O.C.

Our Ladies 1st team have also only played one match this year, winning 6-4 at Crewe. The team play their last match of the season at Crawfords on Friday, March 20th v. Stockport when they would welcome your support.

Finally, the Men's 1st team were defeated 7-3 by Stockport and won 9-1 against Hyde. For the Stockport match Ted Mandaluff stood in for Tony Clayton who had unfortunately been admitted to hospital. We hope that by now Tony is out and about again and once more enjoying his table tennis.

County Match - Premier Division

Cheshire will be playing Surrey in a Premier Division match at Hoylake YMCA on Saturday, 21st March, 1970. It is hoped that Mary Wright and "Connie" Warren will be playing for Surrey and Mike Johns for Cheshire. Tickets priced 3/6d. can be obtained from Miss Barbara Cain, 42 Chiltern Rd., Birkenhead, Cheshire, L42 6SG.

Hoylake YMCA is situated on the main 553 road from Birkenhead or 5 mins. walk from Manor Rd. Station, Hoylake.

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Tournaments are such fun!

writes Philip Reid

I want to refer to one sentence by Tom Blunn in last month's "Digest." It's well worth repeating so here goes . . . "I am fully convinced that only by continual competition in Open Tournaments will the juniors make the grade."

There is no doubt at all he is right. Look at the England Ranking List and see how many (or how few) juniors do NOT go round the tournaments. Tournaments bring out the best in everyone—seniors or juniors—and they are great fun. There's no two ways about that.

My own county have not been conspicuous in the past for their entry into Open Tournaments but this year there has been a change. Almost every week some players have gone to some tournament or other and even those who get knocked out in the first round have thoroughly enjoyed themselves. All right. They play a ranked player in the first round. Out they go (what a pessimist I am!). But there's that chap I played in a county match or a town match not so long ago. Wonder how he's going on? I'll find out. He's out too. "Who did you lose to?" "Let's go for a tea." "There's still the doubles—you should do better there."

Tournaments are the great social events in table tennis. These are the times you can ASK Denis Neale what type of bat he plays with, you can ask Trevor Taylor why he prefers to defend. Table tennis is a personal game, a game where you are able to speak to anyone.

At the recent 'Midland Open' I was lucky enough to be introduced to Maureen Robson's husband, a very useful player, but better known for

his exploits as an inside forward for Newcastle Utd. Modest, interesting to talk to and happy to be amongst the table tennis fraternity. It wouldn't have been possible at a football match—he would have been besieged for his autograph!

Whilst to reach the top it is essential to go to the big Junior Tournaments whilst you are young (there may be the odd late developer or genius who will get to the top without this background, but not many) there is absolutely no reason at all why the ordinary player should not go in these tournaments for the fun of it. A chap of 27 in my local league has suddenly started to go round the tournaments. He has no chance of winning anything and if he gets through a couple of rounds he is delighted. I asked him bluntly, "Why do you go?" "I've never enjoyed table tennis so much. I go there knowing I have no chance of winning the tournament so I'm not disappointed when I lose. I try, I'm relaxed and I play as well as I've ever played in my life. When I'm out there's so many good games to watch and I can always have a drink later on before watching the finals." A man who enjoys his table tennis obviously.

But then Table tennis is MEANT to be enjoyed. It might not appear so when you see some of the expressions that—oh never mind names—pulls. But it is a great game. A great social game. Tournaments? I've been to eight this season. No, I haven't entered any. I've enjoyed them all. And there's more to come. Maybe I'll see you at some of them—playing.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I am glad to see the present interest in team formations, a full evening for two sets only has never been my idea of the best arrangement. It is my opinion that 4 a-side with doubles is the best compromise and brings in the other half of competitive play. Imagine how much less interesting lawn tennis at Wimbledon would be without doubles.

The old arguments about limitations of space will crop up, of course, and again I think the answer to that would be to have a Premier Division playing 3 a-side, or even the present 5 a-side.

Good luck to all the reformers.

Yours faithfully,

EDDIE CAMERON
(Crawfords T.T.C.).

:: :: ::

Dear Sir,

During the last few seasons I have heard numerous complaints regarding the social side of the Liverpool and District Table Tennis League. This season Cadwa have decided to try and alter it, we are organising a

Dance at Cadwa Hall for players and friends, fully licensed bar, buffet and a versatile group.

Details will be circulated to all secretaries and tickets may be obtained direct from Cadwa or from our members at the Liverpool Closed Tournament. Please support this dance and then may be we can convince the Management Committee that there is a demand for an annual dance.

Yours faithfully,

VAL LEE
(Secretary).

:: :: ::

Dear Sir,

With reference to my letter in the last magazine, and in fairness to would be spectators (and there were many) at the Liverpool v. Manchester match. I must say that for the first time this season, date, time, venue and publicity were all given correctly and at the last minute the match was called off!!

Yours faithfully,

JACK LAMBERT
(Eng. Elec. T.T.C.).

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'Around the Divisions

Division 1.

By John Wren

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
L'pool YM	17	15	2	0	145
Eng. Elec.	16	16	0	0	142
W'tree Lab.	17	15	2	0	120
L'pool YM 'A'	18	11	6	1	98
Mossley Hill	17	9	4	4	91
W'tree Lab. 'A'	17	6	8	3	85
Rafters	18	7	9	2	84
W'tree Lab. 'B'	18	7	9	2	80
Eng. Elec. 'A'	17	7	8	2	77
Colonsay	17	6	9	2	74
Beauclair	17	4	10	3	69
W'loo Park	17	3	12	2	58
Bath St.	18	1	14	3	54
Cadwa	16	1	15	0	23

The outstanding match since the last issue of the "Digest" has undoubtedly been that between the YMCA and Eng. Electric. As everyone must know by now this resulted in an 8-2 win for Eng. Electric, who must now be the favourites to win the division this season. The YMCA's points came from Ted Mandaluff, playing at No. 1 who beat Eric Youd in two straight and George Smith, playing at No. 5, who beat Dave Butterworth in the third. Ted also came very close to beating Gordon Birch before eventually losing 21-19 in the third. The long awaited clash between Brian Parkinson and Tony Clayton ended with Clayton winning 11 and 19, while Brian lost in straight sets to Gordon Birch.

W'tree Labour seem to be having a season of mixed fortunes. On the one hand they have some fine performances from their 'A' and 'B' teams, particularly the latter, but the 1st team has not done as well against the two top clubs as in previous seasons, losing 9-1 to Eng. Elec. and 8-2 to the YMCA. In the former game their only win came from John Barton, playing at No. 1, who put in a tremendous effort to beat Pete D'Arcy 21-13, 19-21, 20-22, whilst against the YMCA their points came from wins by Trevor Owens and Pete Hurworth.

Below these teams there are several clubs turning in consistent performances. Rafters, as ever, are

providing a consistent challenge to all but the top teams and turned in two particularly good results recently beating W'tree Lab. 'A' 6-4 and Labour 'B' 7-3. Mossley Hill followed their victory over the YMCA with a 7-3 win against W'tree Lab. 'A' and look certain to finish high up the table, as do Colonsay, with whom they recently drew. For Colonsay Les French, playing at No. 5, beat both the Hollands brothers in straight sets. The match between Colonsay and Rafters ended in a 7-3 win for the former, with C. Fay winning both his sets for Rafters 22-20 in the third.

At the bottom of the division the position seems to be no clearer than in the last issue of the "Digest." Cadwa are certain to go down—a fact which must have been obvious to them from the start of the season. I can only sympathise with them for losing all their best players and offer congratulations to M. Deane, I. Blore and Kath Pemberton who have taken sets off Bath St., Colonsay and W'tree Lab. 'B'. Bath St. continue to look most likely candidates for the other relegation spot although they have turned in some tremendous performances of late, mainly due to Messrs. Taylor and Clayton. Bill Clayton, playing at No. 5, beat Eric Youd 22-20 in the third and Eddie Clein in two straight to take two points from their match against Eng. Elec. whilst against W'tree Lab. he beat both Eddie Moran and Roy Smith over three games. Beauclair, too, have their problems although the situation has improved of late with Bob Owens making a welcome return to the game to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Wally Allanson. This only leaves us four new players to find! Waterloo Park, too, are still in the danger zone despite some good wins from Messrs. Chesham and Reid. Vic Chesham in particular, has had fine victories over Eddie Clein and Peter Turtle and has picked up two useful points for his team by beating both Bill Harris and Jimmy Clewitt from the YMCA 'A' team.

Division 2.

By Keith Fitzsimmons

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Linnets	17	17	0	0	155
Colonsay 'A'	18	10	5	3	107
Trinity	16	13	2	1	103
Knotty Ash	16	12	2	2	98
Linacre	18	9	8	1	98
Police	17	7	6	4	89
Crawfords	17	7	5	5	83
Colonsay 'B'	15	8	5	2	76
Trinity 'A'	18	3	12	3	71
Sparta	16	6	10	0	67
University	14	7	7	0	66
L'pool YM 'B'	18	2	15	1	59
W'loo Pk. 'A'	17	3	13	2	57
Eng. Elec. 'B'	17	0	15	2	40

With these notes coming so soon after the January ones the positions at the top and bottom of the division have not altered very much so for a change I will give a little space to some of the teams in the league not so far mentioned.

I will start with a team in the middle of the table—Crawfords. At No. 1 is Mike Truman, a player capable of beating the best in the division with his very good defensive game. He has an unusual habit of having a short knock-up with a table tennis bat about 3 ins. in diameter which affords great amusement to all those present. I often wish he would play with it in a match, it might make beating him a little easier. At No. 2 is R. Conley, a very awkward player to play against, with some useful shots. He has so far not had a good season and he might benefit from a position lower in the order. No. 3 is Andy Byrne, who I am sure you all know. Andy plays with the penholder grip and usually concentrates on his strong backhand half-volley, in fact I don't think it would be unkind to say that it is quite an occasion when he hits a forehand. No. 4 is Stan Harvey, another awkward player to have to play against, with a very useful forehand attack which is very difficult to return, due to the fact that you don't usually know which way the ball is coming over the net. At No. 5 is Les Evans, the secretary of the club, who plays slightly more of an orthodox game. Not that this makes him any easier to beat, his average in the team is second only

to Mike Truman's, which is certainly no disgrace. This then is the Crawfords team and I don't think anyone will disagree that a pleasant evening and a hard match is assured when they are providing the opposition.

Sparta have some good players in their team and when they have played their outstanding games I think they will be out of the relegation zone. In George Saunders and Ted Barnes they have two players who are well capable of winning a majority of their sets, for both have good all round games. Terry Holloway has about 50% average, although I have heard strong rumours that some sets were won by talking his opponents out of them. Ray Tyler, the well-known fast bowler from Liverpool Cricket Club and Alan Short, who plays a fair game of golf, complete the line-up and these five players plus one or two reserves should keep the team in the 2nd division next year.

I had thought Linacre might have been a bit higher. They have the same set of players that have been there for many years and in Jack Davidson they have a more than useful No. 1. No. 2 is Norman Cook, although not as successful as in recent seasons he still provides stiff opposition. No. 3 is Frank Lacey whose awkward style is just as effective now as it was when he started playing. Their other three regular players, K. Ainsworth, A. Horwood and Alec Davidson are all difficult players to beat on their day. In a few more years this team will be known as the "Rafters" of the second division, for as Rafters they are respected in the league for both their playing ability and their hospitality.

Let's have a look at some averages. Top is Keith Jackson of Linnets with 96%. His only defeat was by Don Gauld. Next is Frank Thomas, also of Linnets, with 92% and joint third are Phil Blake and Tony Green of Linnets, and myself (I have got to get a mention somehow) all on 90%. One other average worth a mention is that of B. McLeod of the Police, who, so far as I know, is in his first season in this division and has at the time of writing only lost 3 sets with an average of 89%.

Division 3A. By Eddie Cameron

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
L'pool Jewish	17	16	0	1	142
Sefton	16	14	2	0	126
Stanley House	18	10	6	2	105
L'pool YM 'C'	15	11	3	1	96
Bath St. 'A'	17	10	5	2	96
Maghull	14	8	4	2	82
Vagabonds	17	6	7	4	74
Police 'A'	18	4	13	1	73
Crawfords 'B'	15	7	6	2	71
Linnets 'A'	17	3	13	1	63
W'tree Lab. 'D'	15	5	8	2	62
L'pool Jew. 'B'	16	1	13	2	46
University 'A'	13	4	8	1	43
Cadwa 'A'	15	2	13	0	41

At the time of writing Maghull C.C. have not played a home match for over a month. Unfortunately vandals broke in and tore the place apart. This is, I believe, the second time, but this time the damage has been more extensive. It must be heartbreaking for the lads who were given a farm building to convert into a club. They cleaned, painted and wired it to provide a first-class table tennis centre. There was some talk of giving up, but it is hoped that the initial disappointment is over and that Maghull will be with us for many more years. We certainly need more clubs in and about that area. In their last ten matches Maghull have only lost to the big two, the fighting spirit is there but they will be having quite a backlog to catch up if they do not start soon to play home games.

L'pool Jewish have failed to win their first match, Stanley House managing a meritorious draw at Upper Parliament St. This was a very good performance by Stanley House whose all attacking style is favoured by their fast table and conditions.

Sefton, on the other hand, have been plodding on picking up the points and by the time they meet the Jewish again, who knows, they will be within striking distance.

I was at W'tree Labour recently to find quite a different team to that representing them earlier in the season. In a big club reserve calls can play havoc with a normal team as low as a 'D'. It speaks a lot for

the strength of the Labour club to find first of all a 'D' team in Div. 3 and then to find a reserve team as strong as the team it replaced. Moon and Hamilton were the only members from the first match, replacements included Fleming and Chris Lavelle, both these players have a great future and both appear dedicated enough to practise and practise. Their lack of experience was their undoing in this particular match, but maybe that is why they were selected.

University are currently holding up the league, mainly because they are not playing enough matches. This is a very serious position and I would advise all clubs to make sure any outstanding match is organised and a date fixed for it to be played. I understand the Fixture Secretary is about to come down heavy on this any day now.

How does it feel to be at the wrong end of a success-failure double act? L'pool Jewish 'B' are in this position and are currently competing with the University for next to bottom place. They have had a spot of bad luck losing Bob Platt, who is not very well at the moment. I have had many a good bashing match with Bob and am sure I speak for all the division in wishing him a speedy recovery. Nelson, a Police transfer, has duties to contend with and Warren Davies is shouldering the responsibilities of the No. 1 spot. Burman, Taylor and Simon are regulars doing their best to stay up. Taylor plods on to many a good win, but Burman and Simon are both youngsters lacking experience and as we all know it is much harder to gain confidence when wins are hard to come by. I asked the lads what they felt about the possibilities of finishing relegated, their replies were interesting and educational. One member suggested that all they needed was four more Taylors (it was not Taylor who said it). Another suggested that they were jockeying with University to make life more interesting, whilst Simon said "Knickers." All were in good spirits and were enjoying their game, which to many is more important than winning.

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Division 3B.

By Rob Lock

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
W'tree Lab. 'C'	16	15	0	1	124
St. Edwards	16	14	2	0	124
Odyssey	15	11	3	1	100
Crawfords 'A'	17	10	5	2	93
Bath St. 'B'	16	7	4	5	82
Orrell	16	6	7	3	81
Bootle YM	15	6	6	3	77
Hilltop	16	4	8	4	70
Rafters 'A'	17	4	10	3	67
L'pool Jew. 'A'	15	5	8	2	60
Colonsay 'C'	15	3	11	1	55
Eng. Elec. 'C'	16	2	12	2	50
Beauclair 'A'	14	1	12	1	37
Panto—Resigned (Records expunged)					

W'tree Labour for the double! That's my prediction anyway. The semi-final draw has paired Labour with Odyssey and L'pool Jewish with St. Edwards, which still leaves a 3B final possible! Actually I don't think half the teams in 3A would survive in this division. The last eight in this year's Hyde Cup consisted of SEVEN teams from 3B (half the division) and ONE from 3A, namely L'pool Jewish, who have a very strong side and will, I imagine, give St. Edwards a tough match. Odyssey, who have had a successful first season in this division, may not be strong enough to defeat the Labour side.

Back to the league table, St. Edwards have lost the leadership to W'tree Labour who are now 8 points clear, but St. Edwards have a match in hand.

Orrell, Crawfords, Hilltop and Bootle YM seem to be playing in a league of their own as they contest for 4th place. Having played against Orrell recently I noticed they were bubbling with confidence, as they predicted they would win the league—NEXT YEAR! So beware, you have been warned.

Incidentally Cyril Callghan, Orrell's No. 1, seems to have the best personal record of 94% after his two wins over Hilltop, in which the match was drawn 5-5. Cyril beat Rob Chew 15 and 19 and yours truly 21-13, 18-21, 21-17. I promised to mention Gordon Kirk as he never gets a mention in the notes. Well Gordon lost to myself 21-14, 19-21, 24-22 in a very close game, but went on to beat Barry Weldon 16 and 16.

At the bottom end of the league Beauclair seem favourites for relegation with Eng. Electric and Rafters living dangerously. It is noted with regret that Panto have had to drop out due to lack of players, as one member of the side has emigrated and the illness of Tim McCoy, so I am sure you will all wish Tim a speedy recovery, and we look forward to seeing him on the table again.

Finally, I would like to make a suggestion. Just to prove to Eddie Cameron how strong this division is, I think it would be a good idea for the first three teams in 3B to play the first three in 3A. The winners would be determined by the total of sets won by the three teams. These matches would, of course, have to be played at the end of the season, and staging the matches may lead to some difficulty, but if Odyssey, St. Edwards and W'tree Labour are interested in a few extra matches, then I would be pleased to hear from them—and Eddie!

One last thought, if anybody has any information, views, etc., that they would wish to have published, then please don't hesitate to drop me a line or phone.

Division 4A.

By Brian Jennings

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Palatine	14	14	0	0	112
Rafters 'B'	15	10	3	2	107
Bohemians	15	10	2	3	102
Poli e 'C'	16	9	4	3	91
LYCA	14	8	2	4	86
W'loo Park 'B'	14	8	4	2	79
Knotty Ash 'B'	14	7	6	1	66
Eng. Ele. 'D'	16	4	10	2	65
Pirates	14	4	7	2	55
Colonsay 'D'	13	3	9	1	54
Palatine 'A'	15	1	13	1	46
Bath St. 'D'	16	2	13	1	44
Rafters 'C'	13	2	11	0	39

I am starting these notes on the relegation issue. This is mainly due to my forecast of Bath St. for the wooden spoon. Recently they must have had a sudden influx of players, so much so, that the team they fielded at the beginning of the season has disappeared and they now have a side that is capable of taking them well away from the relegation area, as results like a 5-5 draw with LYCA prove. Rafters 'C' are also

showing a marked improvement. They had a good 7-3 victory over Eng. Electric, Brian Wooley becoming the first Rafter's 'C' player to beat an opposing No. 1.

After recently playing Pirates, Les Davies tells me that it is unlucky for them to field a full side. On the two occasions that they have done so they have been soundly beaten. Perhaps he is right, because when they came to Rafter's they took three sets off us, yet on their own table, with a full team, they were beaten 10-0, although the score line does not have much resemblance to the play, as most of the games were very close.

Waterloo Park 'B' after a slow start to the season have now come into their own. They have avenged the 10-0 defeat by Bohemians by beating them 6-4 in the return. Their skipper, D. Bridge, and D. Olsen scored doubles for Waterloo with Ken Jones winning two for the Bohemians.

I have been rushed into writing these notes because the Management Committee are hoping to print the entry forms for the Liverpool Closed in this issue. Usually fourth division players do not get very far in this competition, but this year, with players like Barraclough and Jones of Palatine and Maurice Oakes, a recent addition to the Rafter's team, the third division players will certainly not have their own way in the Restricted Singles.

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Division 4B. By Jack Lambert

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Sparta 'A'	18	17	1	0	149
Police 'B'	18	13	3	2	125
Bohemians 'A'	17	13	2	2	123
Orrell 'A'	17	12	5	0	102
Bath St. 'C'	15	9	4	2	87
University 'B'	16	8	7	1	81
Police 'D'	15	7	7	2	71
Knotty Ash 'A'	15	8	6	1	70
St. Edwards 'A'	14	7	7	2	67
Coll. of Tech.	17	3	9	5	64
Giro	16	3	12	1	60
Mossley Hill 'A'	16	4	10	2	56
Eng. Elec. 'E'	17	1	15	1	44
Colonsay 'E'	16	1	14	1	38

Sparta 'A' have the distinctive look of champions at the half-way

stage. Leeming was the last player in the division to lose his 100% and to date has only lost one game. He is closely followed by Kneale and Holmes of his own club with Dyson of Police 'B' the main challenger with his team-mates G. Jones and Christian and D. Cunningham of Bath St. not far behind.

We have now got full coverage on Cup games for the first time. This unhappily shows Bath St. 'C' with a walk-over against Sparta 'A' in the Forrest Cup quarter-final. Having heard only one side of the story it would be unfair to comment. But I must say I feel sad at hearing of any walk-over, but particularly so at this stage of a Cup competition.

Colonsay 'E' and Eng. Elec. 'E' look favourites for the wooden spoon. Although the latter have collected a few valuable points lately, thanks to Johnson's improved game but they had a Hands double to thank for their first win against Coll. of Tech. (Horne 2). Colonsay received rough handling from Police 'B', Sparta and Bohemians but most of us do. Ellis had a solo against Police 'B'. Two heroes for Police 'D' in their local derby with the 'B' team Garnett and Birch.

Coughlan of St. Edwards is getting very cheeky—scores his team's two sets v. Sparta and then with Handley (2) helps his side to a 5-5 draw with Police 'B', Heague and Dyson saving the day for Police. Brint of Orrell has returned to the fold and is slowly finding his form; Orrell's results are coming good, but it was Billy Illidge (2) who made the Bohemians pull all the stops for a 6-4 win with Rycroft, who is having an excellent season (only dropping 3) scoring a double.

Good to see Letch of Bath St. back after injury and winning two in his side's 7-3 defeat against Knotty Ash who in turn had a battle royal with Coll. of Tech., drawing 5-5. Hall and Horne winning two apiece and Patel beating McCracken 23-21, 25-27, 21-18.

You don't get much news from University because I don't hear much of them and anyway I can't spell JARZECKI once, never mind twice.

Pratt scored his side's only two sets for Mossley Hill against Orrell. Myra Lovelady (Orrell) and Hughes

(St. Edwards) were their side's sole winners against Sparta and Bohemians. Woe is me, Mossley Hill 10, Giro 0, Giro 10, University 0, both walk-overs!

Division 5. By Tony Arthur

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Stan. House 'A'	16	11	3	2	110
W'tree Lab. 'E'	15	7	6	2	92
Police 'E'	13	9	3	1	91
Old Swan	12	10	0	2	90
Trinity 'B'	13	9	3	1	83
S. Katharine's	11	8	2	1	77
Vagabonds 'A'	16	6	10	0	62
Cadwa 'B'	12	3	5	4	59
Maghull 'A'	12	3	8	1	53
Linnets 'B'	16	5	11	0	53
Cheshire Lines	11	2	9	0	27
Maghull 'B'	13	0	13	0	3

As I haven't yet received the last magazine I am left at something of a loss in the writing of this one, as my mathematics isn't up to working out how many points everyone has got, and as there are some snide remarks put in by our prejudiced and ill-informed Editor, upon which I would have liked to correct him.

I might as well start therefore by quoting one or two facts about W'tree Lab. 'E' who I feel are losing their edge. Cadwa 'B' drew with them and Old Swan and Trinity 'B' positively annihilated them 6-4. Trinity 'B' whom I have hardly mentioned yet seem to be doing well, having narrowly beaten St. Kath's 6-4 since the last magazine. They should be fairly near the top by now. I guesstimate that Old Swan will be at the top, however, as they beat their main rivals Stanley House 'A' 7-3, while maintaining their high standard against Maghull 'A' and Vagabonds 'A'.

On one of the score cards sent to me, gleefully inscribed by Linnets are the words "Cheshire Lines failed to arrive, Linnets claim match 10-0." I am not surprised they didn't arrive. If any of you haven't been to Linnets before, I'd advise you to take a day off work, start early, and have a couple of packed meals prepared. I myself started out in good time and good faith for an away match at Linnets and was still driving around picturesque L'pool 8 and 17 at 10 o'clock. I was told afterwards that I was within a

100 yds. of the grounds in which their clubroom stands, which was no consolation whatsoever.

I think I would be on safe ground if I concluded by wishing everyone a happy Easter, but in case this issue isn't out by then I would like to wish you a merry Whitsuntide.

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Women's Division.

By Joyce Randall

	P	W	L	D	Pts.
Crawfords	13	12	0	1	111
Cadwa	10	8	1	1	80
Colonsay	12	7	5	0	63
Crawfords 'A'	12	4	8	0	56
Police	11	2	9	0	25
Knotty Ash	10	0	10	0	5

May I start off by wishing you all very belated good wishes for 1970. I see by the score cards that Crawfords 'A' and Colonsay have had a walk-over against Knotty Ash. The latter turned up short against Crawfords, Colonsay and Cadwa and have now withdrawn from the league. I know it's disheartening to lose every week, but it's equally disheartening to the opposition to find, having made the effort to turn up, they only get one game, and in some cases none. So please make sure, ladies, that everyone is available for the next match, also the date and venue.

The Police are starting to win a couple of games now, in fact they have won two matches against Knotty Ash, on both occasions the latter fielded a full side.

On the 5th Nov. '69 Crawfords played Cadwa in the league winning 7-3. They again met the following week in the cup match, this time Cadwa won 6-4. Cadwa had one alteration in the form of K. Pemberton in place of Carol Flood. I still think it was a pity these two teams had to meet in the 1st Round. How many of you agree?

If any of the new and younger members of the Ladies' division find themselves without a club to play in, due to having to withdraw the Ladies team, let them please contact me at my home address, it's in the handbook, or any member of the Management Committee. We will do our best to help you.