

# Table Tennis Digest

Volume 28

Number 1



*Official Magazine*

OF THE

**LIVERPOOL & DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE**

# OFFICIAL



Recent adoptions :

European League Matches

1974/5 and 1975/6 Seasons

1974 Asian Championships

1974 European Youth Championships

1974 English Open

1974 Scottish Open

1974 Welsh Open

1974 All African Championships

1974 Canadian International Championships

1974 Belgium Championships

1976 European Championships 1976



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# TABLE TENNIS DIGEST

All correspondence must be  
addressed to the Editor  
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— Editorial Board —

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## *Editorial*

We extend a cordial welcome to Messrs. Chujor, McDonald and their respective clubs, St. Katherine's and Fazakerley Hospital, may their association with us be long and happy. A couple of pre-season friendlies would help to acquaint new teams with our routine and match system.

Confidentially, between you and I, don't let it go any further—but people are actually contacting me with news for our mag. (despite a lack of correspondents Divs. 1, 2, 5A). Originally I was shattered by the almost complete lack of participation that existed—but now the items are creeping through, which is a good sign. It has been suggested that Lydia Teapot and Teresa Green are never mentioned in the magazine, but they must have a baby or be selected for England! or be "news" in some way.

One hardy annual which needs mentioning—let's leave the "aggro" for silly little boys who stand behind the goal at football matches, and aggressive profanity, in the gutter, where it belongs. I don't have to go into details but the higher the standard of play the worse the "aggro" becomes; little boys must accept the fact that they must lose now and then and big boys must accept defeat by them or others. Agreed, profanity is becoming more a part of our everyday language and we are allowed a little more than "Flip" or "Crumbs" after the 21st net cord. As an ex-Army type I have a fair vocabulary—but please, let's leave the aggro with the kiddies behind the goals. Incidentally, if you could get to a match by 7:30 p.m. this could help, particularly if you are the home side!

Our Chairman has put on record the deep sense of loss our league has suffered with the sudden passing of our sincere friend and brilliant administrator—Rene Sturgeon. The words of Arthur or myself are of little consolation at a time like this but we, and her many friends and acquaintances throughout the league, will have to learn to accept the loss of this charming lady from our midst, whom we will miss so very much.

# LOCALS ABROAD

For the first time in many years, the league has entered only four teams in the Lancs. and Cheshire League, these being Men's, Ladies, Youth and Junior, the unfortunate omissions being, Men's "A" and Ladies' "A". Difficulty in obtaining non-playing captains with transport plus the high costs of running six teams, were the main reasons for this action by the Management Committee. However, the four teams have made a fine start by winning five and drawing one of the first six matches.

The men's team of John McNee, Pete D'Arcy and John Marshall had an excellent win defeating a strong Farnworth side of Bob Kelly, Bryn Farnworth and Clive Heap by 8 sets to 2, McNee and D'Arcy both gaining trebles.

The ladies entertained Crewe in their opening match, recording a 7-3 victory. As in the past, we were unable to play our strongest team, but new Lancashire No. 2 Senior, Barbara Kirkman, and Lancashire No. 1 Junior, Julie Black, both gained trebles and combined to take the doubles, to make a satisfactory start. After near misses in the last few seasons, let's hope the girls can pull off the Championship for the first time since 1949.

This season we can call on a strong squad for the Youth Team with John McNee, John Marshall, Keith Williams and Brian Davey, all from Rafters, and Eric Hardman, from Trinity.

The opening match saw John Marshall and Eric Hardman both win three singles each, and Keith Williams one, defeat Wigan by 8 sets to 2, with Marshall and Williams taking the doubles. I have high hopes that this team will win the division this season for the third time in four years.

The Junior team, playing in Division One, did well to hold a strong Barrow team to a 5-5 draw, in a very exciting match. Liverpool Junior Champion, Neil Roberts, and Lancashire No. 3 Junior, Keith Roberts, both won two singles and 13-year-old Tony O'Connor winning one, on this, his debut.

The same team travelled with non-playing captain, Bob Roberts, to Bolton and came away with an excellent 6-4 win.

Once again Keith 2, Neil 2, and Tony 1, were singles winners with Keith and Neil clinching the doubles.

In the Ascot Butterfly Championships, Liverpool Men's Team have been drawn away to Lytham St. Annes in the Wilmott Cup 1st Round. The Ladies have a 1st round bye in the J.M. Rose Bowl, but meet old rivals, Manchester, in Round 2, at home.

The Junior Boys, in the Carter Cup, also have a 1st round bye, but play Blackpool at home in Round 2.

In this league's most successful cup in recent years, the Bromfield Trophy, the Junior Girls have byes in rounds 1 and 2 but then travel to Leeds in Round 3.

Julie O'Malley (Liverpool Jewish) finished number 7 in the girls' under-13 English Championships at Redditch. Well done, Julie.

English Electric will again represent our league in what is now styled the Stiga National Club Championships. Stiga now donate cash awards and medals from the area finals onwards. The Electric club must look back to their halcyon semi-finals with a tinge of regret as under the present generous Stiga rules they would have been eligible for about three or four cash awards plus medals.

Lancashire County Junior boy rankings include Keith Williams (Rafters) 3; Clive Strettle (Eng. Elec.) 6; Tony O'Connor (Colonsay) 7. In the girls Julie Black (Eng. Elec.) 1; Julie Turner (Liverpool Jewish) 5.

In the Stiga English Schools' Individual Championships, Keith Williams (Rafters and Roby Comp.) reached the semi-final of the under-17. In the Lancs. Open, Barbara Kirkham (Colonsay) beat Julie Black (Eng. Elec.).

both girls combining for a superb doubles win. Julie beat Kathie Cropper (Blackpool) in the semi-final of the ladies' singles and lost to her in the final of the Junior Girls'. John Marshall (Rafters) and Clive Strettle reached the semi-finals of the men's singles and boys' singles respectively. George Smith (Liverpool Y.M.C.A.) won the veterans' and Tony Connor (Colonsay) won the under-13's without a set dropped—not bad.

George Smith lost to our new veteran, Pete D'Arcy (Eng. Elec.) in the Cumbria Vets. Peter's second Vets title was a real triumph in the North Middlesex—beating G. Chapman (Surrey) and I did hear someone say now for the English Closed!

Don Davies, in his first year as match secretary, has achieved what Jimmy Green so passionately wanted to do—beat Manchester on their own table—what a great win for our boys—and my bad luck as I would have been there only for having a game. They turned a 0-2, 2-3 deficit to a 6-3 lead, thanks to double wins from D'Arcy and Marshall, one from John McNee (Wav. Lab.) and a doubles from D'Arcy and McNee—dig in chaps, this is your big chance—again!

DON DAVIES/J.A.L.

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## Handbook Alterations

### Fixtures

Bath Street: Change over Secretary's phone numbers, club and home.

Barker & Dobson: 226 4133 is a home number.

Beauchair: Sec. F. Murphy, 6 Moss Hill Close, Maghull. 526 3058.

Fazakerley Hospital: First and "A" team, Div. 5B take over B. & C. fixtures. Match Night—Friday.

Cadwa: Change over home and club numbers.

Colonsay: Delete "F" team 5A.

Knotty Ash: Delete "B" team 4A. "A" team 4B—Match Night.

Linacre: Secretary's phone 924 8905.

Litherland: 5A out.

Liverpool Jewish: "B" team 5A. Match Night—Thursday; "A" Team 3B, Match Night—Wednesday; Add "E" team 5A, Match Night—Monday. "A" Fixture.

L. & B. Police become Merseyside Police and play at Westminster Road, until December 2nd when they move as per handbook to the Sports Club at Fairfield. "F" team—Thursday at Kirkby Police Station.

Division 5A: Add Liverpool Fire Service, who take over Colonsay "F" fixture. Match Night—Friday.

Division 1: Liverpool Y.M.C.A. "A" team Match Night now Monday.

Division 5A: Panto or Post Office take over Fixture Match Night.

Old Swan B.C.: First and "A", Match Night Friday, 3A and 3B.

Orrell: Secretary, Les Walsh, 95 Poulson Drive, L30 2NN.

Rafters: 1st Team, Match Night—Tuesday; "A" Team, Match Night—Thursday and change over fixtures in Fixture List, Div. 1. Rafters become Rafters "A" and Rafters "A" become Rafters "G". Team 5A out.

St. Hugh's: Secretary's phone: 733 9370.

Sefton General: Secretary's address: 34 Brooklet Road, Barnston, Wirral. 342 4743.

United Biscuits become Crawfords and add "A" Team; 5A Match Night—Thursday. "B" fixture.

Rafters "F" 5B: Will play fixtures as per book.

Liverpool Fire Service: Secretary, R. Gavin, 4 Valerie Close, L10 4XS. Home—521 4802; Bus.—727 6397.

Liverpool Polytechnic Sports: Science Lab. 5, Ground Floor, Byrom Street. Secretary: J. A. Foster, Biology Dept., Liverpool Polytechnic. Byrom Street, L3 3AF.

J.A.L.

## Obituary

The Liverpool & District Table Tennis League commenced its 1974-75 Season under the shadows of a grievous loss following the death on 9th September, of one of its esteemed Vice-Presidents, Rene Sturgeon.

Rene's active association with the League dated back to 1946 from which time until 1951 she was the Secretary of the then Aigburth Club. In 1952 she was appointed Secretary of the League's Central Region, an office which she continued to hold until 1956 when a restructuring of The League was implemented resulting in the discontinuance of the Regions. During 1953 she undertook the task of Secretary of the Beauclair Club and its members had reason to be grateful for her dedicated service which she gave unstintingly during her recently completed 21 years with the club. In 1958 she became the League's Catering Officer and it was in this particular capacity that she excelled, and countless table tennis players and officials both locally and nationally, reaped the benefit of her tireless efforts, either at the League's Closed Championships or at the Merseyside Open Tournament. A member of the League's Executive Committee since 1966 and Cup Fixture Secretary since 1971, she also undertook the responsibility for distribution and collection of the annual E.T.T.A. Lottery tickets. Her persistent efforts in this latter connection helped the League to benefit to the extent of approximately £200 over the past four years.

Possessed, as indeed she was, with a friendly and cheerful disposition she earned the respect and affection which was readily bestowed upon her by her colleagues, and their gratitude was expressed when, as an acknowledgement of her untiring efforts, the league honoured her with the title of Vice-President.

Through these columns we extend to her daughter, Jean, and her family, our deep condolences in the sad loss which they have sustained, and we who consider ourselves privileged to have been numbered amongst her countless friends, shall cherish her memory.

ARTHUR E. UPTON,  
Chairman.

John McKim informs me that Rene's family have kindly offered to donate a cup to the league to perpetuate her memory in the game and environment she loved so much.

The Beauclair Club have also made a donation which will help to pay for replicas for whatever the Committee decide to utilise the cup for. If any other club would like to donate—Don Cameron or John McKim will be pleased to receive donations.

J. A. LAMBERT.

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## **Letters to the Editor**

Dear Sir,

(Excuse me while I move over to my secretarial chair) I feel I must mention the facetious remarks of your last season's Div. 1 correspondent, even though he is no longer with us.

I would like to point out that a title is won by having the best record over 26 matches and to pick one match out and say—but for that one—is quite ludicrous. In the particular game mentioned a 7-3 deficit would have had to be changed to a 9-1 win to gain the championship—a bit much?

The point I am making, however, is that any team finishing the season top of its division deserves all the credit it can get—and not a few disparaging remarks. I felt so strongly about a team getting its just deserts a couple of years ago, that I took a case of two teams who finished joint top BOTH getting their due rewards (one of the teams happened to be your correspondent's) to the Board of Appeal and won credit for a team or teams finishing top—so let all our winners have their moment of glory and credit where it is most deserved—to the champions, whoever they may be.

JACK LAMBERT,

(Hon. Secretary, English Electric).

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Dear Sir,

It is with deep regret that I am inserting this letter in the Digest, but circumstances at the present time dictate that this club take some form of action in regard to secretaries' requests for cancellation of this club's home matches, due to shortage of players.

As you will be aware, we have 10 teams and are only able to use our premises on three nights a week. We normally play every week at home at least 4 or 5 matches, to say nothing of any cup matches that we happen to be involved in.

Naturally, if we are asked to cancel matches, and so far this season we have accommodated at least two secretaries, eventually there must come a time when we will be a considerable number of matches behind, possibly to such an extent that we will be unable to complete our league programme.

This problem is one that affects all clubs, but is very acute at our club being so short of match nights.

I am therefore requesting that in future, no requests are made by secretaries for cancellation of this club's home matches, except as allowed for in the rules of the league. Similarly, may I assure all secretaries that, whilst I remain secretary of Trinity, you will receive no request for cancellation of your home matches.

We will always, however, try to accommodate players who may wish to arrive late at matches. We have done this in the past and will contrive to do so in the future.

Trusting this will clarify the matter.

JOHN HANKIN,

(Secretary, Trinity).

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Medellin, May 10th, 1974.

Apdo. aereo 1981,  
Medellin, Colombia,  
South America.

Dear Mr. Lambert,

I am interested in getting a sea mail subscription to "Table Tennis Digest." Please quote the price of the subscription to the following address:—(As quoted above).

With thanks beforehand, I remain,

Yours very truly,

JORGE H. ARANGO.

# DIARY DATES

- Dec. 21—Jan. 6—A few nights here for outstanding games.  
Jan. 4-5—Yorkshire Junior 2-Star, Hull.  
Jan. 9-10-11—Norwich Union English International Championships, Brighton.  
Jan. 17—Men v Blackburn.  
Jan. 25—Pontefract Open.  
Jan. 31—Men v Chester.  
Feb. 1—Lancs. 2-Star, Bolton.  
Feb. 2—S. Yorkshire 1-Star, Sheffield.  
Feb. 15—Lancashire v Yorkshire.  
Feb. 22—Yorkshire 2-Star.  
Feb. 22-23—W. Midland 2-Star, Birmingham.  
Mar. 7—Preston v Men.  
Mar. 7—Ladies v Southport.  
Mar. 9—Lancs. 2-Star Junior, Bolton.  
Mar. 7-8-9—Welsh Open, Cardiff.  
Mar. 21—Men v Stockport.  
Mar. 21—Ladies v Bolton.  
Mar. 25—Readman Cup Final.  
Mar. 21-Apr. 3—Liverpool Closed.  
Apr. 3-4-5—Norwich Union English Championships, Crystal Palace.  
Apr. 10-11—England v France, Bolton.  
Apr. 26-27—Lackie Junior 2-Star, Birmingham.  
May 10—Lancs. & Ches. Closed, Bolton.

The Ladies' and Men's teams will play at English Electric. The Youth at Wavertree Labour and the Juniors at Rafter's, providing these premises are available.

J.A.L.

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## Divisional Notes

### DIVISION 1

	P	W	L	D	Pts
L'pool YMCA....	9	9	0	0	83
Eng. Elec. ....	9	9	0	0	76
Rafters .....	9	8	1	0	71
Wav. Labour ....	9	6	3	0	56
Palmerston ....	9	5	3	1	48
Trinity .....	8	4	3	1	42
Eng. Elec. 'A' ..	7	3	4	0	36
Rafters 'A' .....	9	2	7	0	32
Bath St. ....	9	3	6	0	30
Sefton .....	9	1	7	1	25
Colonsay .....	8	2	5	1	24
Trinity 'A' .....	6	2	4	0	23
Wav. Lab. 'A' ....	8	2	6	0	23
L'pool YMCA 'A'	9	1	8	0	21

Are we going to have a season of surprises or will it in the end follow the pattern of previous seasons? Indications are that in spite of everything, the top of the table will look pretty much the same with Y.M. at the top at the moment, and looking likely to stay there (always believe in being wrong as early as possible), closely followed by Eng. Elec., Rafters and Wav. Labour, although not necessarily in that order.

Rafters expected challenge to be spearheaded by their new acquisition, John McNee, appears to be doomed to failure as they forgot to put a sting in the tail. I wonder what their regular players are thinking of the decision to put a new and virtually unknown player straight into the 1st team and who, on results to date, can hardly be called an overnight success? One question concerning Rafters which many players would like answered is, why were they allowed to reverse fixtures with the "A" team? Rumour has it that the considerations of the Liverpool League played a non-existent part in this. Perhaps next summer the Fixture Secretary could get together with Rafters' players when arranging the fixtures then they can pick their own!

Liverpool Y.M. are using an any four from five at the present time and as any permutation leaves them with a very strong team, they should finish up winners, for their other rivals have problems besides Rafters. Wav. Labour have lost McNee and Burke and I have heard the term "part-time" applied

to some of Electric's 1st team. All of which puts the Y.M. in a very strong position.

Down at the bottom the position is really hair-raising, with at least seven teams enmeshed in the relegation struggle. A position made more interesting by the fact that Liverpool Y.M. "A" and Wav. Labour can both be considered as strong candidates for the drop after years of 1st div. status. The winds of change seem to be blowing stronger than was expected.

With some of the teams concerned in this battle turning in some good results and making a steady haul of sets, the position will probably remain uncertain until the latter half of the season. These include the two promoted teams, Rafters "A" and Trinity "A", who must already be considering staying for another season. Trinity "A" took 4 sets off Rafters with that "old" stalwart Bill Harris beating Merrick and Williams and adding the doubles with Joe Griffiths. They also took 4 sets from Wav. Labour and defeated Sefton 6-4, so cannot really be termed relegation material. Rafters "A" have beat Y.M. "A" 8-2 and taken four sets from Wav. Labour "A" and 3 from Bath St. and Elec. "A". Some of the teams involved have so far only played against the top teams so it is difficult to assess their position and we can look forward to plenty of relegation battles combined with surprise results and quite a few nervous breakdowns from the team captains.

A major candidate for relegation must be Colonsay, who have an unexpected signing in Norman Chaloner (spelt right for a change) who must be viewing his teammates with some qualms. The known unreliability of certain of them, coupled with having to be captain as well, is enough to test anyone. Some people would liken it to having three wives with you wherever you go, when at times even one can be a burden. I bet Norman is the only married man actually pleased to go home and be nagged at after a match (that's if she does, Norman). I feel Colonsay are deliberately tempting fate

by this grouping when a better permutation of strength would have been more sensible. Not that the other six teams would agree, as they will be happy to see things remain as they are.

Trinity and Palmerston look set for a good relaxed season and should finish about 5th and 6th. None of the lower teams should cause them much trouble and they in turn are not quite strong enough to make a serious and sustained challenge on the top four. Elec. "A" are also in a comfortable position, being strong enough to hold off the lower teams and capable of taking sets from most other teams. Don't be misled when playing Fred Pheysey if he gives you the old "not playing very well" routine, as it is mostly applied psychology. Remember, you have been warned; that style of his is as lethal as ever.

All things considered things have certainly been different so far what with Liverpool Y.M. at the top, their "A" team at the bottom, Wav. Labour "A" trying to replace them, Wav. Labour out of the cup at the first hurdle (after receiving 3 sets start), Rafters picking their own fixture list, players suspended by their club (another rumour) and, to cap it all, fisticuffs at an opening match. What a relief we don't get many supporters at matches because the next thing could be supporter trouble. Imagine the confusion as a group of supporters (all one of them) demonstrate vocally against an umpiring decision which has gone against their player. The mind boggles at the thought that we may even have to ask for beer to be served in paper cups.

One good thing that has emerged in the last few seasons is that it has proved possible for promoted teams to retain their footing in the 1st div. Sefton proved it last season, a feat, incidentally, which did not receive the credit it deserved, and it is highly probable they can do it again. Trinity proved it when they came up and now Trinity "A" and Rafters "A" look likely to do it also. This is a "spin-off" of the moving round of players, which I do approve of, as it is good for the game as a whole that the monopoly held by 1st div. teams is being broken.

If you think this load of drivel is good, then bombard the editor with letters of praise; he might even give me a raise. If, however, you think you could do better, then demand the job. Either way I won't mind, and being a kindly, sympathetic person, I will feel nothing but pity for anyone who cannot recognise literary talent like mine.

KEN ARMSON.

## DIVISION 2

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Bath St. 'A' .....	9	9	0	0	69
Colonsay 'B' ....	9	5	1	3	61
Electric Supply ...	9	5	3	1	52
Colonsay 'A' ....	7	7	0	0	48
Eng. Elec. 'B' ....	8	5	2	1	47
Trinity 'B' .....	9	3	4	2	46
Rafters 'B' .....	8	3	5	0	39
Bath St. 'B' .....	7	4	3	0	38
Police .....	7	3	4	0	38
Waterloo Park ..	8	2	4	2	38
Beauclair .....	7	3	3	1	32
L'pool YMCA 'B' ..	8	1	6	1	25
W'tree Lab. 'B' ..	8	0	7	1	16
L'pool YMCA 'C' ..	8	0	8	0	11

This division looks likely to be a forecaster's nightmare as at least seven teams look promising enough to be in with a chance of promotion and it could result in a very close finish. Most promising of these at present are Bath St. "A" and Colonsay "A", who both have strong-looking teams with Bath St. "A" looking the most likely bet of all.

Much is going to depend on the results when all these teams meet each other and we can expect a lot of close finishes and unexpected reversals. We have already had quite a few with Colonsay "A" only getting home 6-4 against Waterloo Park and Rafters "B". Waterloo in their turn have also lost 6-4 to Beauclair and Elec. "B", drew with Colonsay "B" and beat Trinity "B" 6-4. Beauclair have beaten Police and Bath St. "B" 6-4 and drew with Trinity. Eng. Elec. "B", with their promotion team still intact, have made a very promising start, having beaten Waterloo 6-4, Trinity "B" 7-3, drew with Colonsay "B" and losing to Colonsay "A" 7-3. Although not really in with much prospect of promotion, they are obviously going to cause a few upsets amongst those who think they are.

One thing is certain, whoever gets promotion is going to have to work hard at it. When the dust has settled I confidently expect Bath St. "A" and Colonsay "A" to emerge as winners. I wonder if there is amongst the other possibles who I rate as Beauclair, Elec. Supply, Waterloo Park, Police and Trinity "B" a team to prove me wrong. We will have to wait and see.

Colonsay 'B' have made a really good start to the season with a changed team due to some peculiar ideas on ranking within their club and although they will be on the fringe of things, they cannot really be considered. Unlike the last couple of seasons they will be in no danger of relegation and I won't be surprised if they finish the season above some of the teams I have already mentioned. Their only fault, in my opinion anyway, is their continued playing of Tony O'Connor at No. 4. He is obviously a very promising player — ask George Smith—who would surely benefit from playing higher up the order: I sometimes wonder what some clubs expect of a player before he is given a chance to get on.

Down at the bottom things look grim for Wav. Labour "B" and Liverpool Y.M. "C" who are already certain to be relegated. For Wavertree only Alan Cameron is getting amongst the sets and has had some good wins to date including wins over Tom Killip and Ron Evans. If you won points for talking whilst playing, their captain, Tony Moon would still be unbeaten. Even the eventual arrival (we hope) of Fraser Farquharson cannot save them from relegation. Liverpool Y.M. "C" are suffering, as are Wav. Labour, from loss of players, resulting in their having to field weakened teams. This also applies to their "B" team, who will also face relegation unless the team is strengthened.

If we take these three as certainties it leaves one to find. I wonder who this will be? Past seasons have shown that to avoid relegation from this div. you have to aim for an average of five sets a match. This takes some doing as last season's teams found to their cost.

Who are we left with? They may not agree with me but Rafter's "B" and Bath St. "B" must come into the reckoning for relegation in spite of their results to date and I am tempted to include the Police also.

A new 'old' face has appeared in the shape (I use that word loosely) of Ron McEvoy, who has returned to civilisation from the wilds of Hindley Green. Wav. Labour have put him in Fraser Farquharson's place as a temporary measure. Having taken his shirt out of mothballs and equipped himself with a couple of bats, Ron assures me that the table tennis world could soon be trembling as it is all coming back. What, you may ask, is coming back? I can only suggest you ask Ronny. Other changes include Dave Piper, now with Colonsay, Ian Blore with Bath St. and Mike Allen with Beauclair. Rumour has it that Mike's ambition is to have played for every club; at this rate it won't take him long, as this is his third, fourth if you include two spells with Norris Green B.C.

With Keith Fitzsimmons having given up regular play in Liverpool, a new writer (did I hear somebody say thank goodness) is required as I am only writing them as a temporary measure. Please get in touch with the editor if you fancy having a go. Obviously he doesn't expect to find someone in my class, but I can assure you he is very easily pleased; you only have to look at this division's notes for last season to realise that!!

KEN ARMSON.

#### DIVISION 3A

	P	W	L	D	Pts
L'pool Jewish	8	7	1	0	58
Police 'A'	8	7	1	0	52
Vagabonds 'A'	9	5	4	0	49
Beauclair 'A'	8	4	3	1	47
Old Swan	6	5	1	0	46
Bath St. 'C'	7	5	2	0	43
Cadwa 'A'	8	3	4	1	39
Maghull	7	4	3	0	37
Fng Elec. 'D'	8	2	5	1	31
Trinity 'D'	6	3	2	1	30
Crawfords	7	1	5	1	25
Bedford House	8	2	6	0	24
Knotty Ash	7	0	6	1	18
Wav. Lab. 'C'	5	0	5	0	11

I suppose the best way to start these notes is to assure Liverpool

Jewish that there seems little likelihood of any unexpected reversals as happened last season when Rafters came from behind to pip them for promotion. At present Jewish appear to be the strongest side and look set to take the title which can be called a consolation for missing out last season. Judging by their having conceded a 10-0 w.o. in a home fixture with Bath St. "C" it looks as if they have decided promotion will be so easy they can even afford to miss the odd match. They have considerably strengthened their team with the surprise signing of John Hodges. I say surprise as I am sure most people, including Eng. Elec., expected him to go back to Elec. when he started playing again. They have also brought on John Henshaw (ex-Cadwa). These two, coupled with Dave Monev and Dave Cohen, look set to lift the title.

There have been other changes, some not so beneficial, and Knotty Ash have felt the draught in this direction having lost two 1st team players to other clubs. This has effectively destroyed any chance they might have had of trying for promotion again. It could even result in their finding themselves fighting to avoid relegation and giving away a 10-0 w.o. has not helped them.

Old Swan and Police "A" have joined us from Div. 2 and probably fancy their chances of going straight back and although these are early days, the chance is there. More so I would think for Old Swan than for Police "A". For although Police have already beaten three of our strongest teams, Maghull 6-4, Vags. "A" 7-3 and Beauclair 6-4, all being possible promotion contenders, they were themselves soundly beaten 9-1 by Old Swan. This victory confirms, for me anyway, that it is likely to be a straight fight between Jewish and Old Swan.

If you play Les Linforth and he looks like beating you, you can always do a "Muhammad Ali" and start muttering about illegal bats. It worked at the "Closed"; might even put Les off if you subject his bat to a close scrutiny. Come to that, it might put them all off if you insist on examining everything. Nothing like a bit of games-

manship to work the "oracle". Ask Les, he knows it works.

Bath St. "C" have a complete change of team, so we cannot look forward to any more of Brian Cunningham's forecasts. It is too early to say whether this is a stronger team but I doubt they will do much better than last season's placing although they have beaten Beauclair 7-3 but lost to Maghull 8-2. Mind you, they can always claim the champions-elect were frightened of playing them.

Beauclair have the same line-up, probably the only team with the same order and doubles pairings, and again do not look likely to improve on last season, but as always, they will cause a few upsets. Maghull have made a slight change and are obviously hoping for a chance of promotion, but again, as strong as they might be, I do not consider them as possible contenders. If I go on at this rate I will have eliminated everyone (No. Jewish are not paying me commission).

I think it will probably finish with Jewish and Old Swan going up with Police, Beauclair and Maghull missing out again. May as well stick my neck out now as later.

The bottom lot are involved in the usual relegation struggle and one team that is struggling at the moment is Wav. Labour "C". They are going to have to improve their results if they are to escape the drop. Strangely enough they played Maghull in the cup and although the most sets they had managed in a match was three, they succeeded in beating Maghull 6-4. Quite a turn-up this, made doubly so by a great fighting finish by Cyril Hoare in the last set v Arthur Edwards to clinch the victory. Cyril was with United Bisc. last season but as a member of the Labour Club opted to join us. This victory was a blessing in more ways than one for us as without it we would have had no team in any 2nd Round for the first time in many years. Thanks lads for a brilliant piece of face-saving. I must also mention that John (borrowed bat) Hoban also recorded a double in this match, an event as rare as John having his own bat (now will you buy one?).

Apart from Wav. 'C' I cannot see another definite choice, for Trinity, Elec. and Crawfords all look good enough to hold their own. Trinity showed this when beating Bath St. 'C' 8-2 in the cup. Crawfords are having their first spell in the 3rd for some seasons and want to stay up. In fact, Eddie Cameron assures me they will stay up even if he has to relegate someone else in their place. A little perk here for all of us as when Eddie is playing you, save on the postage and if he leaves it in his bag he guarantees you won't be fined. Also, you won't go into someone else's bad books, (like happens to me (just a joke, Wynne, honest!)).

KEN ARMSON.

### DIVISION 3B

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Linacre .....	9	7	1	1	66
Vagabonds .....	8	6	1	1	51
Palmerston 'A' ..	6	6	0	0	49
L'pool Jewish 'A'	7	4	1	2	44
Eng. Elec. 'C' ..	7	4	2	1	44
Trinity 'C' .....	8	3	2	3	43
Colonsay 'C' .....	8	3	4	1	40
Old Swan 'A' .....	8	2	4	2	33
Rafters 'C' .....	7	3	3	1	32
Eng. Elec. 'F' .....	8	2	5	1	28
Police 'B' .....	8	1	5	2	27
Waterloo Park 'A'	6	2	4	0	25
Cadwa .....	6	0	5	1	20
Orrell .....	8	1	7	0	19

Welcome to another season and welcome to the newcomers, Linacre and Vagabonds, from Division 2, and Palmerston "A" and Jewish "A" from the fourth division.

Already it is apparent after the first few games that Palmerston "A" will take some stopping and that Linacre are determined to get back to the second division at their first attempt.

Vagabonds are a very difficult team to beat and earned a good draw with Linacre.

English Electric "C" and Jewish "C" should also have a good season. English Electric "C" came out on top in the "Derby" game with their "E" team by 8 sets to 2. Nice to see Brian Cullen enjoying his game, he had a good win over Wally Sill, winning 18 in the third.

The early results so far seem to indicate a middle of the table group, comprising Colonsay "C", Trinity "C", Rafters "C" and Old Swan. Candidates for relegation, I think, will come from between Waterloo Park "A", Police "B" and Cadwa.

Back to that Vagabonds versus Linacre match—it was a case of an irresistible force meeting an immovable object, with two good wins by B. Townsend.

Vagabonds, and my own team, Liverpool Jewish "A", seem to have the same predicament, i.e., able to win games but not with enough points to challenge for the title. (Oh for a return of the two points for a win system).

An impression I get so far at this stage of the season, is that most results are in doubt till very late in the evening, which must be for the good of the game.

Some successes:—M. Clark (Trinity "C") 19 in the third v A. Davidson (Linacre); D. Rimmer (Police "B") v K. Owen (Palmerston "A") 21-15, 21-15; R. Stevenson (Orrell) 15 in the third v S. Williams (Waterloo Park "A"), and finally, R. Deverall (Cadwa) 23-21, 23-21 v A. Nisted (Rafters "C").

I noticed Cadwa turned up at Old Swan with only two players. It is a pity, because they are finding points hard to come by. They haven't won a match yet, but had a couple of close ones versus Rafters losing 4-6 (W. Kelly 2) and versus Vagabonds losing 4-6 (E. Barres 2). A very interesting game was that between Rafters "C" and English Electric "E". There was not one deuce the whole night. Only two sets went to three games and the match finished a 5-5 draw. Easy individual wins, but a very close result. One team I must mention is my own Liverpool Jewish "A". We know our limitations and we want to win cups and medals, but we like to think we are as hospitable as anyone in the league at our pad in Dunbab'n Road. Finally, a get better soon message to Tony Cohen. Our team needs you, Tony, you make a lovely cup of tea.

WARREN DAVIES.

## DIVISION 4A

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Maghull 'A' . . . . .	7	5	1	1	47
Palmerston 'B' . . . . .	5	5	0	0	45
Eng. Elec. 'F' . . . . .	8	4	3	1	38
Rafters 'D' . . . . .	6	4	1	1	36
Bath St. 'D' . . . . .	4	4	0	0	35
APH Linnets . . . . .	7	3	4	0	31
Stanley House . . . . .	7	2	5	0	31
Police 'C' . . . . .	6	1	3	2	25
Polytechnic . . . . .	4	3	1	0	23
Cadwa 'B' . . . . .	6	1	4	1	22
Woolton 'A' . . . . .	7	0	7	0	16
Barker & Dobson . . . . .	5	1	4	0	11

With the season only five matches old it is obvious we are going to have a two-horse race for the title between Bath St. and Palmerston, with my money going on the latter. Rafters look a sound bet for third place. I can imagine a private "league" for the middle of the table places with not a lot to choose between English Electric, Police, Maghull, Stanley House, Cadwa and Linnets, although Linnets have been, at least temporarily, depleted by the loss of Ray Gavin and Joe Bird to the Fire Brigade — I could comment on that, but I'd best keep my trap shut. Pride of place for this issue must go to Keiron(?) Ali, of Stanley House, for a terrific 21-10, 21-11 win over Mabel Francis (Palmerston) to save the white-wash. I have been asked to mention that he bought a new pair of pumps for the match at APH Linnets, but I think he should have stuck to his old pair as he lost all his three games!!!

Walkovers have already been conceded by Police (1 short at Cadwa) and APH Linnets (2 short at Polytechnic)! 'Nuff said.

Ray Gavin had a superb night for Linnets at Bath St., having a hand in all three wins for his team.

English Electric had a great match at home to Maghull, with honours even and six sets going to three, Betty Black being involved in three of them. How about this one for a close one in Bath St. 10-0 win over Eng. Elec. Ken Foulkes beat Jack Lambert 20-22, 21-13, 30-28—phew! Jack had better luck at Cadwa when he beat Carol Flood 24-22 in the third, a good show this as Carol had previously shown her fighting capabilities by pulling back from 14-19

down to beat Ray Gavin 23-21 in the third. G. Tunstall (in particular) and S. Jones have proved the mainstays of the Woolton Team; have had a hand in seven of the eight sets won to date.

Peter Greaves (B. & D.) appears to need more time for knocking up before his games judging by some of his scores; e.g., 7-21, 20-22—8-21, 25-27—6-21, 19-21. At this rate of improvement he would be unbeatable if we played five-game sets. Now for the congrats and commiserations.

First the congratulations for the solo winners:—Jean Reynolds (Rafters) 21-17, 21-17 over K. G. Davies (Palmerston); S. Jones (Woolton) 23-21, 21-18 against Peter Jenkins (Stanley House) and C. Tunstall (Woolton) 21-18, 21-15 versus Pete Barker (Maghull).

Now the commiserations to the losers of the following games:—D. Roberts (Police) v P. Luxton (Palmerston) 23-21, 14-21, 20-22; N. Morrissey (Police) v Marie Lupton (Palmerston) 18-21, 21-19, 21-19; A. Thaber (Stanley House) v Jean Reynolds (Rafters) 21-18, 19-21, 19-21; Peter Greaves against J. Price (Woolton) 14-21, 21-18, 23-21; John Foster (Poly) against ME 21-9, 18-21, 24-26, and finally, Me again versus Fred O'Sullivan (B. & D.) 19-21 23-21, 22-20—sorry Fred, but it WAS my turn—and I promise to give you a mention when you beat me deuce in third in the return match!!

BARRY MEYER.

P.S.—How about some first names on your cards?

## DIVISION 4B

	P	W	L	D	Pts
APH Linnets . . . . .	7	7	0	0	61
Bath St. 'E' . . . . .	7	6	0	1	54
St. Hugh's . . . . .	8	5	3	0	51
Woolton . . . . .	7	5	1	1	48
Eng. Elec. 'G' . . . . .	7	4	3	0	41
Rafters 'E' . . . . .	7	4	2	1	35
Trinity 'E' . . . . .	7	3	3	1	33
Colonsay 'D' . . . . .	7	4	3	0	32
Knotty Ash 'A' . . . . .	8	1	7	0	29
Police 'D' . . . . .	7	2	4	1	28
Orrell 'A' . . . . .	9	1	7	1	28
Maghull 'B' . . . . .	6	2	4	0	21
Vagabonds 'B' . . . . .	8	0	8	0	11
Cadwa 'C' . . . . .	1	1	0	0	8

Having spent a week of my holidays at the National Sports Centre, Lilleshall, this summer, I can only say that at £23.00 it was the bargain of the year. The accommodation and food is well up to good hotel standards, and the T.T. coaching and facilities are the best you could find in this country. Anyone keen enough on the game to spend a solid week at it should write to the Sports Council for details.

A.P.H. Linnets, Bath Street, Woolton and St. Hugh's are the early pacemakers in the race for the third division with Linnets having beaten Woolton 7-3, St. Hugh's losing 7-3 to Bath Street, and Bath Street and Woolton making a draw. The favourites for the championship must be the boys from Aigburth with anybody's guess for second place.

Outstanding player of these clashes was Bill Hargreaves, the Woolton No. 1 who to date, still has 100% record and doesn't look like losing it. Bill is far too good a player to languish in this division, and for his sake I almost hope Woolton make it this season.

The battle at the top looks like being a business house affair with all four of Linnets (Gaskarth, Higham, Wakefield and Addie) and two of Bath Street (Kevin Dyer and Colin Flanagan) playing in both leagues.

St. Hugh's have made a good start with the McAlle Bros. spear-heading the attack once more, but Messrs. Callaghan Bagles and Hughes will have to give them more support if they want to keep in the chase.

It's a pleasant surprise to see young Electric "C" team so high up the table. What Hewert, Money, Connor and Thomson may lack in experience they make up for in enthusiasm. Young Phil Thomson made his mark recently with a good win over Ken Dyer, the Bath Street No. 1. Ratters, Knotty Ash, Trinity and Colonsay have all made a fair start. Mal Clark, the Trinity No. 1, has had a few shocks and is struggling to find the form he showed in a third division promotion side last season. With only Vincent Kilty remaining as captain and transport manager, Colonsay "D" have to start all over again.

The new boys, Rooney, Smith and Coyle show promise, but they are short of the experience of their predecessors, but the second half of the season could be a different story. Memo to Coyle—I know its a long way to reach, but if you move the table you should lose the point.

Orrell "A" are not expected to do so well this time. The loss of several first team players has forced promotion on to most of last season's regulars. With only Stevenson remaining, new boys B. Huxley and B. Forshaw are finding it tough in the fourth division. Their 6-4 win over Knotty Ash will give them some confidence. Maghull "B" appear to be making more of a fight to stay out of trouble this time. New faces Whitaker, Banks, Barnes and Farr, along with old hand F. Pattinson, have picked up a 6-4 v Orrell, and other points here and there, with just a 10-0 whitewash from Linnets to remind us of last season.

Vags. "B" already have a relegation look about them. S. Holden and T. Gough are picking up the odd game, but after losing 8-2 to the Police, it promises to be a bleak winter for the visitors—watch out for the Police moving to new premises at Fairfield some time after Christmas.

Already this season I have heard of two cases of fisticuffs taking place in table tennis clubs. May I remind everyone that we are playing to E.T.T.A. Rules and not A.B.A. Let's save our aggression for that little white ball shall we?

TED JANE.

#### DIVISION 5A

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Fire Service	7	7	0	0	66
L'pool Jewish 'B'	7	6	1	0	58
Post Office	7	5	2	0	51
Police 'F'	6	4	2	0	39
L'pool Jewish 'C'	6	3	3	0	27
L'pool Jewish 'E'	7	4	3	0	27
Maghull 'C'	5	2	3	0	21
Trinity 'H'	6	2	4	0	21
Crawfords 'A'	6	2	4	0	20
Barker & Dob. 'A'	6	1	5	0	16
Trinity I	6	0	6	0	4

A warm (no pun) welcome to our Fire Brigade boys, and the Post Office gang from Panto, have started at the bottom—again!

Quite a few overwhelming results in the first batch which does not augur too well for competition in our division, and 10-0's don't make news.

Two well-known names really fought for the odd one game which Thatcher of Crawfords, beat Davies W. (Bill), Liverpool Jewish "B" 21-17, 18-21, 21-17, all the rest were won by Jewish—it's all go at the Jewish this season—which must be good. Thatcher followed this with a double over Police "F". But 3 wins by Spedding gave Police a 7-3 win. What happened to your two pals when you visited the girls at Jewish "E"—not a very satisfactory first match for Anna's Harcm, even though they won, of course.

Despite a Heyes double for Panto they were counteracted by three wins from Overend Jewish "B" and a 6-4 win. Trinity "T" (is this a record for John Hankin's club?) Jones and Dickinson beat Newton and Buchanan, Jewish "E", 21-19, 21-17 for their side's lone win. Tasker (Barker & Dobson "A") beat Adams (Maghull "C") 21-19, 21-18—another lone win.

Millon and Walker (Trinity "G") scored doubles in their 8-2 win over Barker & Dobson "A" for whom Woodburn beat Sanders 18-21 21-19, 21-19—pretty close. Sorry, but 10-0's and 9-1's predominate.

If anyone fancies themselves as a scribe, here is your chance. It is really preferable for one of your own gang to put you in the picture on all the wrinkles that I can't get to know about.

JACK LAMBERT.

#### DIVISION 5B

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Police 'E' .....	7	5	1	1	48
Stanley House ..	7	6	1	0	47
Palmerston 'C' ..	6	4	2	0	43
L'pool Jewish 'D'	6	5	1	0	43
Trinity 'F' .....	7	4	3	0	43
Fazakerley House	6	5	0	1	39
Eng. Elec 'H' ..	7	3	4	0	36
Trinity 'G' .....	6	1	4	1	23
Fazakerley 'A' ..	7	2	4	1	23
St. Katherine's ..	6	1	5	0	17
Colonsay 'E' ....	6	0	5	1	15
Rafters 'F' .....	7	0	6	1	13

With Rafters "F" returning to the fold and Palmerston "D" dropping out, we are a little better off than last season.

A local derby at Fazakerley Hospital catches the eye first with doubles from Dawson and Mole proving too much for the "A" despite a singles and doubles from Sumner. Next an 'orrible sight—a walk-over by Police "E" to Stanley House—oh dear and so early.

Not a draw in the division but a couple of exciting 6-4's by Fazakerley Hospital (Williams 3) despite doubles from J. Hunter (Elec. "H") and Marie Lupton (Palmerston "C"). A Julie Turner (Liverpool Jewish "D") double gave her side a 6-4 against Trinity "F", although J. Clark did well, beating Stephanie Lawes 15-21, 21-17, 22-20 (pretty close) and Anne Carline 15 and 19. Reynolds and Lawson scored doubles in a Police "E" win over Trinity "G". Griffiths and Owens beating Reynolds and Dean for one of Trinity's 3 points, 21-15, 15-21, 21-17.

Swan, of Colonsay "E" won his six valuable points against Fazakerley "A" and Jewish "D". After losing the first 15 to Forrest, Lever came back in an exciting game winning 24-22, 23-21, but a double from Chijor gave St. Katherine's a 7-3 win over Rafters "F".

Nerve-tingling stuff from Donna Hunter (Electric) beating Ross (Trinity "G") 21-12 in the first, losing the second 21-23 and winning the third 22-20 from 15-20 down. The Stanley House "A" team pair of Williams and Brew won five of their side's 6 points against Electric "H" for whom new boy Carron scored a double.

To me it looks like a good season for our divisions. To our young players I say, ENJOY your table tennis as well as competing; this way we will all enjoy our game for a long time.

JACK LAMBERT.



# Annual General Meeting

John McKim (Beauclair) in his secretary's report, stated that they were having difficulty with a venue for the Merseyside Open, also filling Alex Davidson's (Linacre) place as Match Fixture Secretary, as no nominations had been received for the job.

Eddie Cameron (Crawfords) with his usual touch of humour tried to assure us that everyone headed by Wynne Cameron and Ken Armson (Wav. Labour) did his job and that we hadn't been quite as naughty as usual with the match cards.

Don Cameron (Liverpool Jewish) produced a balance sheet showing our main source of income coming from £637 in Affiliation and Registration fees with a further £133 coming from Coca Cola—the E.T.T.A. Draws and profits on the Liverpool Closed and Merseyside Open. Our expenditure included Administration expenses £203. Handbook £103. English & Lancs. T.T.A. fees £114. City Matches £101. Digest £215. The Balance Sheet showed an excess of income of £10. When you consider that thanks to the assistance of Barker & Dobson and Dunlops, we made a profit on our Open and Closed competitions of £88, things don't look too healthy financially.

A very healthy discussion took place on the lack of games in Division 5. Anna Cohen (Liverpool Jewish) opened the discussion and relevant points were made by Doug Ridgway, John Hankin, John Hoban and Jack Lambert amongst other folk.

Arthur Upton (Orrell) informed the meeting with regret of Rene Sturgeon's serious illness.

With six elected members required and only six nominated, this was one of the very few occasions there was no ballot.

There were a couple of quite unexciting amendments to Rules. Since the meeting Don Davies (Sefton) has bravely come to the rescue as Match Fixture Secretary, and Dunlop, of Speke, have kindly come to our assistance again by putting their magnificent canteen at our disposal.

J.A.L.

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# Thou Shalt Not Stamp!

**Event**—Recent League Match in Liverpool & District Table Tennis League. The names have been changed to save the guilty from further punishment.

## Introduction to Players

**WYN SELDOM** has been around our local scene for some years. You know the type, week after week he takes defeat after defeat in his stride and he is man enough to accept that at this twilight stage of his career, he is unlikely to find a dimension to his game that will rattle new bloodstock. Nevertheless, Wyn enjoys his table tennis and has every intention of plodding on for years. Our league needs players like Wyn if it is to survive in this world of multi-sports.

**IVOR TOPSPIN** is Wyn's opponent. A very promising graduate from the academy of loop and currently leading the averages in his division, with a string of impressive wins against more seasoned campaigners. Ivor is undoubtedly a tremendous prospect with a temperament to offset his youthful exuberance. Our league could not survive without youngsters like Ivor. You know the type!

**IZZY KEEN** is the Umpire. A real fanatic and a team colleague of Ivor's. He is club coach and in fact, runs the academy of loop. Ivor is his latest hottest property. Izzi has to be admired for his knowledge of the game—delving into tactics and technicalities. A vital man to have around in moments of disturbance, he knows every rule set out by the E.T.T.A. You know the type!

**THE MATCH.** Wyn Seldom had struck a purple patch. It happens once, maybe twice a season. He had young Ivor on the rack and was asking all the questions. The foregoing of those dinner parties, football matches and wedding anniversaries for table tennis now seemed worthwhile. He took the first—an incredible 21-9 and the last time he produced the goods in this fashion was 7 years ago against Pirates!, then disaster. At the start of the second game Izzi warned Wyn not to stamp his foot while serving. Wyn was struck dumb. He had more of a "Jack Douglas" twitch than a venomous stamp. He lifted his leg with the rise of the ball, and, with this disgraceful act, he had suddenly been intimidating his opponents for 15 years.

Izzi insisted that the noise of "The stamp" was carrying both to himself and Ivor Topspin. "Your opponent is waiting for the next stamp" was the adjudication. Well, I could sympathise if it was "Gotchas" he was waiting for but "stamps"—never. Young Ivor surely had enough problems trying to produce his loop.

In true tradition Wyn did not argue and the game continued, but alas, the game changed. Wyn served continually off the table as he changed legs like a selling plater unsuited by underfoot conditions. He was no longer stamping his authority on the game and rejected his captain's advice to resort to stocking feet. Wyn accepted his defeat and understood that his stamp contravenes the laws of the game.

**OUTCOME.** Wyn is working hard to correct his problem. Mind you, in the process he has developed several oral expressions including a sarcastic "Thank you" every time his opponent serves off the table—but it is all legal! He has switched to a wooden bat and is going to make as much noise with it as possible—it's legal!

When things are not going well Wyn will switch between his wooden bat and his "stiga" until his opponent is utterly confused—it's legal!

Anybody for darts . . .

FRANK MURPHY,  
Beauclair T.T.C.

# TABLE EDGES

The Cadwa club deserve full marks for surviving the loss of their first team and many other players to other clubs. Eric Pemberton and Roy Peverall are missing from the line-up through no fault of their own, both having had spells in hospital, Roy having two lengthy spells. The message to Eric and Roy from their club and many friends is—get well soon and back on the table.

Balls officially sanctioned by the E.T.T.A. for use this season are:—Earna 3-Star and 2-Star, which are made by Dunlops, who support our magazine and loan their premises for the Merseyside Open Tournament; Halex 3-Star and 2-Star, and T.S.P. Astoll 3 and 2-Star.

At the Annual English Electric presentation function a pleasant surprise came Jack Lambert's way when Arthur Upton presented him with a "noggin" of whisky from Don Davies, Pete, Wally and the Liverpool team for services rendered to City teams over the years.

In the good old days you could count on one hand the number of times two balls have had to be used in a match during a season. Recently, I have seen 3 or 4 balls used in one game—mainly they just disintegrate. Why, Mr. Dunlop and Mr. Halex, the annoying deterioration? and Mr. T.S.P., of course!

Arthur Upton, our Chairman, was again elected to E.T.T.A. Management Committee representing Lancs. This is, of course, the table tennis House of Lords and Commons combined—congrats., Arthur!

Now is your big chance to take Gordon Birch's (Eng. Elec.) 100% record, as Lyn has just presented him with a lovely baby girl. Catch him just after the four o'clock bottle—if you can! a.m., of course. Congrats. Mr. and Mrs. B.

New tables are always a boon, some obtain them easily, others work hard, as did the players of Old Swan B.C., who, under the guidance of Les Lindforth, ran raffles, draws, etc., to acquire the near £100 cash.

Memories of fish and chip suppers at the old Fennismore Club (yes! very old) were revived when at Sefton, John Dancaster supervised the chip butties plus the usual refreshments—mmmm mouth watered weeks afterwards—liverly.

J.A.L.

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