

# CROWBOROUGH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

([www.crowboroughttc.org.uk](http://www.crowboroughttc.org.uk))

## NEWSLETTER No. 7 – NOVEMBER 2008

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This edition reports on how Will Bayley did in Beijing, continues the "From the Past ....." feature and Philip Boghurst comes under the microscope in our "Player Profile" section. I quote Philip "As a relative newcomer I was surprised and not a little ironically flattered to be profiled. I appreciate this opportunity to present a viewpoint on the game as someone who is still very much learning the ropes."

We're sorry to report that our Club Chairman, Mick Derbyshire, has been ill and unable to play so far this season. We wish him well and hope to see him "back on the table" soon.

As always, contributions are welcome and if you would prefer to receive the Newsletter by email, then please let me know.

### WEALDEN LEAGUE

After a lot of debate, we are fielding three teams again this season, which got underway on the 20<sup>th</sup> October.

Early results have included a close "A" versus "B" match, which the "A" team won by 23-18 with three wins for Michael Gaughan back at the Club after several years absence. With Mick Derbyshire unable to play and John Neal sometimes unavailable, the "A" team has so far won two and lost two of its matches, with both Michael and John winning seven out of nine played.

The "B" side have started well, including a 24-17 win over Ridgewood "A", and have 84 points from four matches. Mike Stringer has eight wins from twelve and Chris Buck seven from twelve. After the first match, Bob Fordham had seven straight wins before that was ended by Pam Winter of Herstonceux "B".

### BEIJING PARALYMPIC GAMES

As reported in Newsletter No.6, Will Bayley took part in the Beijing Games.

In the Individual Class 7 Round Robin, Will had one win from his three matches beating Shmuel Shur (Israel) 3-1. He lost to the eventual Gold Medalist, Jochen Wollmert of Germany 3-0 and to Mykhavlo Popov (Ukraine) 3-2 at 11-9 in the fifth set.

In the Team Event Class 6-8, the young British team of Dave Wetherill, Will and Paul Karabardak were unlucky to draw China, the masters of table tennis, in their first tie. Despite a valiant effort only Will could pick up a game in his singles match as China scored a 3-0 victory.

Well done Will and what an experience!

### CLUB NIGHTS

It is pleasing to report that the Friday sessions have continued to be well supported and we have seen some new faces – keep coming! These take place at the Scout & Guide HQ in Jarvis Brook between 8pm and 10pm each week.

### PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENTS

We are pleased to record that, at the AGM held earlier in the year, Mick Chewter was again elected as President of the Club – thanks Mick for your support – and the existing Vice-Presidents (Mick Denness, Beryl Peerless, Bill Abbot, John Gibbs, Robin Streatfield, Roger Bacon and Hazel MacDonald) were elected en-bloc. Congratulations to you all!

### FROM THE PAST .....

Scorecard TW League 6/1/87:

Mick Denness (Club Vice-President) lost to John Sidey by 22-20, 21-14 during a Crowborough v Grieveson Grant match.

1976/77 Season:

The late Peter MacDonald had an average of 58.33% in Division Two of the Tunbridge Wells League.

Scorecard TW League 17/1/78:

Robin Streatfield (Club Vice-President) beat John Sidey by 21-12, 21-19 also in a Crowborough v Grieveson Grant match.

1977/78 Season:

Chris Buck made it into Division One of the Tunbridge Wells League – no mean feat in the days of six Divisions – and finished with an 11.66% average.

PTO

## "50" CLUB

Winners:

SEPTEMBER	£20	No. 5
OCTOBER	£18	No. 3
NOVEMBER	£15	No. 13

Just the Christmas draw (£25) to go in the current year, so keep your fingers crossed!

## CLUB WEBSITE

Don't forget to visit the club website (see address above), which is updated on a regular basis. Thanks to Ray Potheary for doing this.

## PLAYER PROFILE

### *PHILIP BOGHURST*

#### How and when did you start playing?

During my training in the early 70s we (students) had the occasional lunchtime use of a table. We played doubles to allow everyone to get a turn before pm lectures began. Standards were low but nevertheless a fun introduction to the modern game. I even bought a flat rubber bat from Cokers Sports Shop opposite TW station. It disappeared (the bat) in a house move and was never used. There was no further participation in table tennis until joining CTTC around four years ago. (A gap of over 30 years).

#### What leagues have you played in?

Just our local Wealden League, but only after a year of practice at building up something of a feasible game. Have now played two seasons in the "C" team.

#### What has been your best individual win?

Quite possibly a recent win at the start of the season against an opposing "A" team opponent. The name and blow-by-blow account would be unnecessary. This win, over five sets, would not I think have been achievable a year ago.

#### Interests outside TT?

For over 20 years I have been flying radio controlled model aircraft but am now greatly reducing my commitment. Playing the piano at home and, sometimes, work. Listening to classical music. Also, now only a fair weather golfer. A recent interest has been painting and drawing. There are others, but I'll stop here!

#### Any TT "honours"?

Disappointingly, I will not be able to go into detail about international victories last century for obvious reasons! On a more humble note, and for what it's

worth, I have two runner-up trophies in the Handicap Doubles of the CTTC Tournament. Surely we'll win this thing next time Tim?

#### Your best moment in TT?

I'm sure there will be one some day! Meanwhile, the occasional league win is quite satisfying.

#### Your worst moment in TT?

I am reminded of Phil W's kindly words and thoughts on entering the league for the first time. "You will learn a lot and also lose a lot, so be prepared to lose". Spot on - fortunately incurring losses is my speciality and not any sort of problem!

However, consider the following:- Last season I encountered Paul Dunstall of Broad Oak away and, having previously nicked the odd set and put up a fight, thought something similar would happen. Well, he was in very special form and I lost the first 11-3. With thoughts of doing better, the next was 11-1. In desperation I hurriedly called "Buffy the Table Tennis Slayer" on my mobile whilst towelling down. Her agent asked if she could be met at Heathrow - it was all down to me then! The match continued, several times I hit an outright winner- but no - that little orange ball kept flying back onto my side of the table. He had it very well trained I'll give him that, 11-0.

Joking aside though not really a worst moment, more a reminder that one is up against skilled opponents and there is no answer.

#### Anything else of interest?

Now that I know the game, it's better than I first thought for several reasons. The early burn-out and injury factors found in many high intensity sports seems virtually non-existent here. However, people are playing at high intensity well into advanced years and playing very well indeed.

In addition the game itself seems almost unlimited in the skill levels that might be achieved and the styles of play seen. This is very good as most sports are finite within technique. The sheer speed and spin factor involved make table tennis an exciting and dynamic sport and there will be little help carried over from any other sport.

For the time being the challenge to acquire better playing skills over time and see an improvement here and there is very rewarding and an enjoyable way of keeping fit. I'm hooked!

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