

Week Commencing 5th May 2003

Whitnash A are the Leamington League champions. They won their last two matches to put them on 174 points with 19 wins, 2 draws and one loss to take Division 1. In the end Whitnash were a clear 9 points ahead of their rivals and defending champions County Council A. First Whitnash squashed Phoenix A 9-1 with Jon Williams and Mark Woolerton taking singles and doubles and Ian Perry a brace. Martin Tallis clung onto one for Phoenix. Then 'Nash squeezed past Colebridge B 6-4 with three, two, one from Mark Woolerton, Jon Williams and Ian Perry. Vikas Bakhshi held two for Colebridge, Neil Wheatley one.

County Council A finished their season as runners-up by knocking down St. Georges A 7-3 led by Mark Jackson with his three singles and the doubles partnering Phil Paine who took two singles as well and Clive Irwin one. Mike Bishop kept two for the Saints, Martyn Todd one.

Wellesbourne just gained on Nuneaton led by Andy Cockerill's treble plus a brace from Pete Dunnett and crucially the doubles together for the 6-4 victory. Matt Hobday kept two for Nuneaton, Pete Morris and Arun Jogi one each.

Blessed George Napier A overcame Phoenix A 7-3 with three, two, one from Simon Nolan, Sam Clarke and Paul Rowan respectively and the win cemented with the doubles from Rowan and Clarke. Alan Jones gave two to Phoenix, Martin Tallis one. Colebridge A however edged past BGN A 6-4. Waseem Shahzad took his three, Graham Hoskin and John Chandler one each plus Colebridge picked up the doubles. Paul Rowan and Zhou Chang held onto two each for BGN.

AP Sports A were on the receiving end of two 7-3 results. First they went down to Flavels though Ron Vose kept two, Terry Smith one. Trevor Bradley took his three for Flavels and the doubles with Len Coonan who took two and Roger Potts chipped in with one single. Against Colebridge B Ron Vose took his three for AP whilst Colebridge's Mike Rinnhofer, Neil Wheatley and John Taylor all made braces and Rinnhofer and Wheatley added the doubles.

In Division 2 Free Church A ensured their second place (behind St. Georges B) by defeating RNA B 8-2 and so are set to return to div 1 next season - and the two points mean that the naval crew just missed the relegation zone to fall down to div 3 ! Hugh Matthews and Les Booth gave singles and doubles to Church A and John Taylor contributed a single whilst Richard Smith and Tony Bennett kept one each for the navy.

Whitnash B were able to pull themselves into third place with their last two results. First the trio of Dennis Woodhead, Liz Haynes and Paul Riman rolled over Eathorpe A 10-0. Then 'Nash drew 5-5 with Free Church B. Jane Dickens took two singles, Paul Riman and Peter Elliott one each plus crucially the doubles went to Jane Dickens and Paul Riman. Tom Brocklehurst spearheaded Church's points with an excellent treble and Cherry Matthews and Ian Rourke added one each. Free Church B edged past AP Sports B 6-4 with another superb hat-trick from Tom Brocklehurst, a brace from Cherry Matthews and critically the doubles went to Tom Brocklehurst pairing Kay Nason. Tony Williams clung onto two for AP, Eddie Stafford and Gerald Taylor one each. AP Sports B will join RNA D in relegation to Division 3 for the next season.

Marconi B won their last three matches in Division 3 to complete their first season in Leamington undefeated with 19 wins and 1 draw and so emphatically pick up the division trophy with an excellent 153 points. First they conquered AP Sports C 9-1 with Steve Smith and Stan Render taking singles and the doubles and Geoff Taylor adding a brace. Richard Grover kept one point for AP. Then it was County Council C who fell to Marconi with a score of 7-3. Steve Smith again took his singles and the

doubles in the fifth with partner Stan Render, who added one single and Geoff Taylor this time took a brace. Council's Tony Ford took one, Doug Lowe two. Finally Marconi squashed Blessed George Napier B 9-1 with hat-tricks from Steve Smith and Geoff Taylor, a brace for Stan Render and the doubles again went to Smith and Render. Janice Rowan kept one for BGN.

BGN had previously whitewashed Standard Photographic A 10-0, all three Rowans in action. BGN B therefore take the runner-up place with 128 points.

Ashorne completed their fixtures by overcoming Myton A 7-3 with braces from Steve Bolton, Roger Kelley and Simon Chalker plus the doubles from Kelley and Chalker. Jimmy Quinn kept his three for Myton.

The last match played in Division A of the two-aside league saw 4-1 honours going to St. Georges C with Richard Grover keeping up his almost 100% average record with a brace, his dad Derek a single and the doubles together. Robin Hirons held onto one for Church.

In Division B the final match saw Eathorpe D edging out Free Church K 3-2 when the Eathorpe duo of Jim French and Sophie Cooper took the doubles 13/11 in the fifth to add to the single each they had also picked up. Sam Smith held onto his two for Free Church.

With most surprise parties the 'victim' gets a feeling that something unusual is going on, even if he doesn't know quite what. But the surprise 50th birthday party for Phil Paine was so efficiently organised that he was well and truly astounded. As well as Phil's friends from table tennis there were friends from tennis and work and a good time was had by all last Friday at the Warwickshire County Council Staff club!

Phil has looked after the League's representative matches for 30 years and it was a nice idea to have a party for someone who has done so much for Leamington table tennis over the years. Phil has won the Leamington Championships in the youth, men and veteran categories so we suspect that he will be going all out next year to add an Over 50 trophy to his collection.

In Midland League Junior Division 1 Leamington played Oxford. Richard Grover and Matthew Cooper both won one but the team lost 8-2 but 3 further games were lost narrowly in 5 so Spa were unlucky not to have achieved a draw.