

## **Week Commencing 12th May 2008**

The final of the Southwell trophy was played on Tuesday 6th May at the Leamington & District Table Tennis Association headquarters in Radford Semele. The final was contested between Snitterfield A and Eathorpe C, both from Division 4.

At the semi-final stage of the competition, Snitterfield had beaten Eathorpe A and Eathorpe C had put out WCC D. On the night, it was Snitterfield who made the most of a 25/18 head start in their games and ran out comfortable winners. Stuart Ayers set Snitterfield off to a great start when he managed to maintain his seven point advantage and won the game 61/50. Charles Wragg came to the table having to gain a win for Eathorpe to prevent Snitterfield going 2-0 up in the first to three match. Vince Ford had other ideas though and matched Charles point for point, before pulling away to record an excellent 61/43 win. Michael Rossington joined Charles to try and get Eathorpe back into the match in the doubles, but Stuart and Vince were simply too strong for their opponents and a 61/41 score gave them the victory that saw them lift the trophy.

In the Veterans Midland League Division 1, Leamington A are likely to finish third after finishing their campaign with two 6-4 victories against sides from Nottingham. Mike Bishop was in terrific form against Nottingham A with a superb hat trick in which all his games went to five sets. Simon Griew won twice and Phil Paine once to complete a good win for Leamington. Against Nottingham B, Pat McCabe's defensive guile gave Spa the edge with a vintage treble. Pat was well supported by the fleet footed Phil Paine who won twice and Earl Sweeney who added a crucial single.

The Leamington Mens side were also in action in the Midland League, going down 4-6 in their away match against champions Gloucester. Mark Jackson won twice for Leamington, and Mike Bishop and Earl Sweeney both scored singles successes. Leamington lost several very close games in this match and were unlucky not to have finished with a draw.

The Leamington Junior side completed their season with two matches, against Rugby and Coventry.

Against Rugby, they drew 5-5 with a good all round team performance from Phil Blowey, Alastair Nicholson and Charlotte Spencer. Alastair and Charlotte both picked up singles, while Phil Blowey won twice and took the doubles with Charlotte. Highlight of the match for Leamington was Phil's 3-1 win over Rugby number one, Jack Randle, which earned Leamington the draw from 3-5 down in the match. It was a routine win for Leamington against Coventry, as Laurence Sweeney and Charlotte Spencer both stormed to convincing trebles and the doubles, with Phil Blowey winning twice.