

## **New Milton Table Tennis Club – Secretary’s Report 2009/2010 Season**

### **Introduction**

Following the superb results achieved by the New Milton Table Tennis Club during 2008/2009 only one team won promotion this year. New Milton “E” ended the season as Division 3 Champions under the excellent captaincy of James Lewis. New Milton D, F & H finished the season in strong mid-field positions. New Milton B finished the year comfortably above the relegation zone in Division 1. Unfortunately, two teams finished the year in the relegation area. The report on our three playing venues over the past year is as follows:

### **Sway Village Hall**

The cost of hiring Sway Village Hall rose to £29 at the beginning of this year and by a further £3 to £32 effective from the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010. The Sunday Club Nights have continued to be well attended although not as busy as the previous year. Following negotiations between the Sway Table Tennis Club and NMTTC I am pleased to report that there will be a reduction in the equipment hire charge.

### **The Arnewood School**

Thanks to the commitment and enthusiasm of Brian Vibert the main hall in the Arnewood School was hired for a period of ten weeks on Thursday evenings from the end of February to the middle of May. The first period from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm was for a junior coaching session for New Milton junior members and also included children from the Arnewood School. The second session from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm was an adult practice session. We had the use of 7 tables and the school made no charge for the junior coaching session but charged £21 per hour for the adult practice session. We hope to restart both sessions in September. Thanks are due to all those people who assisted with the junior coaching session.

### **Mudford Wood Community Centre**

Life at Mudford Wood Community Centre has been dominated in the last 9 months by the campaign to save the Centre from closure. Last October a story appeared in the Bournemouth Echo of Christchurch Borough Council’s desire to close the Centre. A protest group was formed under the leadership of Dawn Brookes to oppose its closure. Following the issue by Christchurch Borough Council (CBC) of a questionnaire to some residents and Mudford Wood user groups a demonstration was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at which 200-300 people attended (Reported on BBC South Today and in the local media). A MWCC RUG website was created which had the effect of marketing Mudford Wood. A petition was launched to save the Centre and approximately 1700 signatures were collected from local residents and users. This petition was presented by Dawn to the Mayor at a full meeting of CBC on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2009. In January 2010 a protest march took place from Saxon Square to the Civic Centre and on the same day Malcolm, Robert and myself attended the Community Services Committee at which the results of the council’s consultation process were discussed. At that time the councillors seemed fairly conciliatory. Representatives of the MWCC RUG met some of the councillors at the Civic Centre in February. It was clear that the councillors wanted us to take responsibility for running the Centre. It was stated that funding was in place for this year but in 2011/2012 there would be a shortfall of £654,000 and they were looking at all staff employed and services provided by CBC. The aim was to achieve cost neutrality. More recently the protest group has changed its name to Friends of Mudford Wood (FOMW) and is actively seeking new members, the annual subscription being £5. A formal committee has been formed with Dawn Brookes (Chair), Debbie Stephens (Secretary) and myself as treasurer. There have been several committee and general meetings. A formal constitution will be adopted at a meeting in the near future. The committee is actively considering the possibility of becoming an unincorporated charity which means we could potentially recover gift aid and more importantly apply for grants which are not available to local authorities. Members of the Committee recently visited the Christchurch Sports Club in order to find out more about the process of running such an organisation.

The area of land is located near Hurn Village and was previously run by Christchurch Borough Council. The sports club sublets the building and pitches to 2 football clubs and Dorset County Cricket Club. The choice for FOMW is between a fund-raising committee which raises monies for specific projects such as the tennis court with CBC retaining overall control, or a management committee which would run the day to day activities and be responsible for marketing the centre and raising revenue. Our club's future at the Centre depends on the degree of commitment and flexibility of volunteers to be involved in the running of the Centre. During May there was a table sale and coffee morning which raised funds of over £300 for Friends of Mudeford Wood.

All of our season's matches were completed on time except for those games disrupted by the snow in January. During the current season the cost of hiring the main hall at Mudeford Wood increased by £1.30 to £37.55 with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. Because of the registration of two additional teams this year NMTTC hired the room next to the main hall on Wednesday evenings at a cost of £13.40 per session. One thing that is certain is that if Mudeford Wood remains open hire charges will increase whether the local authority or the FOMW Committee runs it.

### **Overview of 2009/2010 Season**

**Team Registration:** In July 2009 we registered eight teams in the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association League, one side in each of the following divisions: Premier, 1, 2 & 4, and two teams in each of the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Divisions. We also entered 6 teams in the Times & Directory competition. I am pleased to report that 13 out of the 49 New Milton registered players were juniors.

**Bournemouth League:** Four members of New Milton Table Tennis Club served on the committee of the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association this season. They were: Malcolm Floyd (Results Secretary), James Lewis (Coaching Officer) together with Brian Theaker and myself who served as Committee members. The League decided to retain the three-way system for a further season.

**Premier ClubMark Application:** At last year's AGM it was reported that as a club we were seeking Premier Club status. Our club is at an advanced stage of completion of the ETTA's Premier ClubMark accreditation and we have to tick many boxes to achieve this. This includes Roles & Responsibilities, Codes of Conduct, Guidelines, Health & Safety Guidelines, A Club Action Plan, etc. We hope that all these matters will be agreed at our annual general meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

**Club Dinner:** In March over 20 members and guests attended the second Club Dinner at the Amberwood in Walkford. This was an enjoyable evening complimented by a club raffle. Our thanks go to John Parkhouse for organising this event.

**Bashley Rydal Development:** We learnt last summer that the Bashley Rydal Cricket Club were considering rebuilding the cricket pavilion and were seeking a partner to share the new building. The two sports would complement each other, table tennis being mainly a winter-based sport while cricket was a summer activity. In October Bob, Malcolm, Brian, Alan and myself visited the clubhouse and met members of the cricket club. The chairman gave an outline of the proposed new structure and the various stages to be gone through. However, the cricket club subsequently took the decision to just refurbish their existing pavilion. There is still the possibility of developing the land at the rear of the club pavilion. This is why our Premier ClubMark application is so important to our club's future development.

**Obituaries, etc:** I am very sorry to report the death of Henry Carmen in November 2009. Henry was a regular and popular figure at our club nights at Ashley and Sway over the past ten years. He was always cheerful. I am also sorry to report the death of Mike Burzon who played for the Bournemouth Sports Table Tennis Club. Mike was a very enthusiastic player and will be missed by all who knew him. I am also sorry to report that Peter Davey of Merton suffered a severe stroke in April which has left him paralysed down one side.

**Child Welfare:** Adults who coach, transport or manage children under the age of eighteen years must be CRB checked. It is in the interest of club captains who have juniors within their teams to be CRB checked. This is carried out through the English Table Tennis Association (ETTA). Further

information may be obtained from the B&DTTA website ([www.btta.info](http://www.btta.info)). Application forms for a CRB check can be downloaded from the ETTA website ([www.englishtabletennis.org.uk](http://www.englishtabletennis.org.uk)).

**Team Reports:** New Milton “E” finished the season as Division 3 champions and a further three of our teams ended the year in strong mid-table positions, the details of which are given below:

**Team A, Premier Division:** After winning promotion to the Premier Division last year New Milton “A” fought very hard to avoid the relegation zone but finished the season in 8<sup>th</sup> place with 27 points. The highest individual average was scored by Steve Hemmings who secured an average of 52.5%. The average of Brian Vibert was 44.2%.

**Team B, Division 1:** As a consequence of 5 new teams being entered by the League in the lower divisions New Milton B found themselves unexpectedly promoted to the 1<sup>st</sup> Division. However, the team under the captaincy of Malcolm Floyd had a satisfactory year and finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place 24 points above the relegation area. The averages of Paul Bolter, Shaun Newcomb and Malcolm Floyd were 48.0%, 45.5% & 40.7% respectively.

**Team C, Division 2:** Following their promotion in 2008/09 this year proved more difficult for New Milton C. Things didn’t get off to a great start when Kevin Harris was relocated to Switzerland last summer and the team finished the season in 8<sup>th</sup> place with 34 points. The highest average was achieved by Terry Jenvey with a tally of 54.7%. The averages of Roy Hobbs and Mick Barry were 35.9% & 29.3% respectively.

**Team D, Division 3:** I feel that New Milton D had a good season bearing in mind that two players were hardly able to play at all due to injury. The team finished the year in 6<sup>th</sup> place with 51 points. The highest average was scored by Alex Everett-Bolter with 62.3%. The averages of Bill Page, Malcolm Elliott and myself were 31.4%, 33.3% & 49.2%. Clive Pitts did score 100% but he was only able to play in 4 matches.

**Team E, Division 3:** New Milton E had an excellent year and finished the season as Division 3 champions with 87 points having won 21 out of 27 matches. This is the second year in succession that a New Milton side has won the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. The highest individual average was achieved by the Bournemouth League’s Coaching Officer James Lewis who finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place with 89.4%. Division 3 Individual Champion Gerard Redman finished on 87%. The averages of the other team members: Peter Eke, Dave Sutton and Lewis Reading were 55.6%, 52.4% & 40.0%. Congratulations on a superb team effort.

**Team F, Division 4:** New Milton F had another good year under the captaincy of Les Smith finishing the season in 5<sup>th</sup> place with 50 points. The highest individual average was achieved by Ian Linney with 66.7%. Unfortunately Ian was injured in December and was unable to take part in any further matches. The average of Max Doohan was 63.3% having won 19 out of 30 matches. The averages of John Parkhouse, Luke Dewey, Les Smith and Angela were 46.2%, 41.7%, 36.2% & 33.3% respectively. I am sorry to report that Angela was injured in the spring and this prevented her from playing any further league matches.

**Team G, Division 5:** This was a new 8-man team (including 5 junior players) created under the captaincy of Malcolm Douglas,. The side finished the season in 10<sup>th</sup> place with 26 points. The highest average was achieved by Keith Kensley with 50%. The averages of Malcolm Douglas, Paul Douglas and Josh Harris were 46.2%, 36.7% & 34.6% respectively.

**Team H, Division 5:** This was the second of two new teams fielded by New Milton and consisted of 11 players, (including 6 junior players). The intention was to give everybody a sufficient number of games so I was very pleased when the side finished the year in 5<sup>th</sup> place with 51 points. I was delighted that Sandra Fagan and Fern Daish were able to play again after a prolonged absence from our club’s activities and their averages were 63% & 40% respectively. The highest averages were scored by Teddy Linsley and Danny Williams with 78.3% & 62.0%. The averages of Robert Saunders, Richard Barrett and Simon Daish were 61.1%, 42.9% & 41.7% respectively.

## Individual Performances

**Shaun Newcomb:** Shaun has continued to play in all four National Disability Grand Prix events over the last year medalling at all tournaments and maintaining his GB No 1 ranking position in the men's wheelchair classes. There are some good young players coming through which Shaun says is really encouraging and at the most recent event in Grantham last month, Jack Hunter-Spivey from Liverpool beat Shaun in the class 4/5 final, only to lose an hour later to Shaun in the final of the open competition.

As well as being Vice Chairman of the British Table Tennis Association for People with Disabilities (BTTAD) Shaun is now also Chairman of the Selection Panel, the body who selects the GB squad for all international tournaments including the Paralympics in 2012.

Shaun currently gives additional specialist coaching to three of the full GB squad players and one of the Development squad and has been selected to be the coach for the women's wheelchair athletes at the Commonwealth Games at Delhi in October.

Shaun continues to work with the therapists at the Duke of Cornwall Spinal Injuries unit at Salisbury District Hospital where table tennis is used in the early stages of rehabilitation. Earlier this year, he was presented to Prince Edward who came to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Spinal Injuries unit.

Shaun is the New Milton Table Tennis Club's Development Officer and has been spending a great deal of time on the completion of the Premier ClubMark folder the successful conclusion of which would give our club access to new sources of funding. In addition, Shaun recently completed his UKCC Level 2 coaching qualification.

In the local able-bodied leagues Shaun's team New Milton "B" finished in eighth place in Bournemouth Division 1, and in the Southampton League his team Waterside "B" came second in the First Division. Waterside "B" also included three more New Milton players, Brian Vibert, Alan Gordon and Steve Hemmings.

**Malcolm Floyd:** I was delighted when Malcolm Floyd won the highly prestigious ETTA Press Officer of the Year award in October 2009. Malcolm travelled with Shaun to the ETTA's English Open held in Sheffield to receive the award. His citation refers to "his tireless work in raising the profile of table tennis across Bournemouth & District and the New Forest. In addition Malcolm is Club Treasurer and Results Secretary for the Bournemouth League, providing league tables every week on the internet and regular reports on our club's activities to the local paper. Reports on the activities of the New Milton Table Tennis Club can also be found in the club section of the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association website ([www.btta.info](http://www.btta.info)).

**James Lewis:** Following the training of 11 new coaches BDTTA coaching sessions began in January as a result of the hard work and enthusiasm of James Lewis. The first ten sessions attracted as many as 35 juniors at Porchester School on Saturday mornings. The BDTTA has agreed that these sessions can continue for the foreseeable future. If you would like further information on coaching or coaching courses please telephone James on 07975 976637 or contact him at [jameschlewis@yahoo.com](mailto:jameschlewis@yahoo.com).

I would like to thank all officers and committee members of the New Milton Table Tennis Club for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm throughout the past year which was a period of significant change for our club.

## Club Tournament

The results of the final of the Handicap Singles event held on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2010 was as follows:

Internal Championships	Results of Finals held on the 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	
Handicap Singles	Winner	Shaun Newcomb
	Runner-up	Les Smith

The finals of the singles, over 40's and doubles will be played on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010 as follows:

<b>Internal Championships</b>	<b>Finals to be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010</b>	
Singles	Final	Brian Vibert Steve Hemmings
Over 40's	Final	Malcolm Floyd Shaun Newcomb
Doubles	Final	Ian Linney / Matthew Daish Robert Fagan / Malcolm Floyd

The remaining semi-finals and finals of the under 40's and junior event will be played on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010 (this is also the night of our annual general meeting) details of which are set out below. It would help the business of the AGM if those taking part in these events on that night can be ready to start their matches at 7.00 pm.

<b>Internal Championships</b>	<b>Finals to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010</b>	
Under 40's	Semi-Final	Andrew Daish Max Doohan
Under 40's	Semi-Final	Simon Daish James Lewis
Junior Tournament	Final	Max Doohan Simon Daish
Under 40's	Final	TBA TBA

There was a high level of entries in the first round of the Singles, Handicap Singles and Doubles events. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those who took part in and helped me with the administration of the tournaments, umpiring, etc., especially Rob and Malcolm.

### **Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association**

1. **Annual Tournament:** the Bournemouth & District Table Tennis Association annual individual tournaments were held at the beginning of February, New Milton was represented in the Division 2, 3, 5, the veterans and men's doubles events. I am very pleased to report that Gerard Redman was the winner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division individual competition and Shaun Newcomb and Brian Vibert won the Men's Doubles tournament.
2. **Presentation Evening:** Seventeen people from our club attended the Annual Presentation Evening of the Bournemouth Table Tennis Association on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010 at the Carrington Hotel in Bournemouth. New Milton E received the Champions Cup for taking the title in Division 3. Gerard Redman was awarded the trophy for winning the Division 3 individuals and Shaun Newcomb and Brian Vibert were presented with the trophy for winning the men's doubles. Shaun was also presented with the UKCC Level 2 Coaching certificate. UKCC Level 1 Coaching Certificates were also presented to Brian Vibert, Dave Sutton, Gerard Redman and Alan Gordon. The Michael Wettstein Cup for outstanding service in administration was jointly presented to James Lewis and Alan Elcock. As secretary, I felt very proud of these achievements by our club members.
3. **Annual General Meeting:** The AGM of the Bournemouth Table Tennis Association was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010. I am very pleased to announce that at that meeting Alan Gordon was elected to the office of Town Match Secretary. This formalises the excellent work that he did throughout the last year. This appointment increases the representation of New Milton to five on the new committee. From this August the ETTA will require that all registered members of the Bournemouth Association complete an Individual Registration Form and pay fees direct to the

governing body. Club secretaries will be required to ensure that members are duly registered and in receipt of a player registration number before being able to compete in the league.

### **Next Season**

The Committee are hoping to enter the existing eight New Milton teams in the League next season. There is a strong possibility that two of our teams will play their match fixtures at the Arnewood School on Tuesday evenings. The junior coaching session and the adult practice session would also switch to Tuesday evening. Further details will be made available nearer the time.

The club nights at Mudeford Wood may be suspended on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> August because the because of annual holidays. The dates of the re-opening are as follows:

Sway Village Hall	First Club Night:	22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2010
Mudeford Wood CC	Second Club Night:	23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2010

The 30<sup>th</sup> August 2010 is a Bank Holiday and consequently there will be no club practice session that night. I have booked Mudeford Wood for league matches next season and Sway Village Hall for the Sunday Club Night.