

# CROWBOROUGH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

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

## NEWSLETTER No.39 – FEBRUARY 2015

### EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the New Year. Hope you're all keeping warm during this cold spell and you could always combat this on Friday evenings with a game of table tennis!

I'm reintroducing the feature 'From the Past .....' this time. This gives scores from matches of Crowborough Teams in times gone by and some of you may remember some of the names.

Now on a sad note, it is with deep regret that I have to report that Maureen Denness, the wife of Mick one of our Vice-President, passed away on 15 January.

### MAUREEN DENNESS

As mentioned Maureen died peacefully earlier this year. She, along with husband Mick, was a long-serving and loyal member of the Crowborough Club.

On moving to Crowborough, I well remember Maureen working at Boots in the High Street. My first table tennis memory of Maureen came in the early part of the 70's when I played one of my first matches in the Tunbridge Wells League for Grievson Grant against a Crowborough side that included both Mick and Maureen. I remember being very nervous and, I think, I was beaten by both.

I'm sure Mick will have many more happy memories of Maureen, which will give him strength at this time.

The Club sends its condolences.

### FROM THE PAST .....

Scorecard 13/10/1987:  
The Editor had a hard fought 23-21, 18-21, 21-10 success against Tim Hanford in an all-Crowborough match in the Tunbridge Wells League.

2001 Club Tournament:  
Mike Gorman (now living in Devon) beat Mick Derbyshire in the Veteran's Final by 21-18, 21-19.

Scorecard 4/2/1988:  
Crowborough 'E' played Southborough Working Men's Club, again in the TW League. Clive Chatfield, then in the Southborough Team, beat our present Club Chairman Mick Derbyshire 16-21, 21-17, 21-18.

1993/94 Season:  
Playing in Division One of the Tunbridge Wells League, Michael Gaughan had a 45.09% average.

Scorecard 22/11/2010:  
In a 'C' v 'A' clash in the Wealden League, current players John Neal and Nick Dawson had an epic battle which John won by 9-11, 9-11, 11-5, 11-3, 11-9.

1991/92 Season:  
Club Auditor Manny Godfrey achieved a 43.13% average in Division Three of the TW League.

Scorecard 15/10/1996:  
Mike Gorman beat John Wilson 21-12, 21-14 when Crowbough 'A' met Crowborough 'B' in the TW League.

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## **2015 WEALDEN TOURNAMENT (with thanks to Mick Derbyshire)**

The annual Wealden Tournament took place during the last 3 weeks of January. The format was slightly different this year, with just 3 events, the Doubles, Veterans Singles, and Open Singles, although a separate Plate trophy was held in each event, contested by the first round losers. Crowborough was well represented, with Steve Hickey, Nick Dawson, Greg Savva, Michael Gaughan, John Neal and Mick Derbyshire all participating.

The first event to be held was the Doubles, where partners are selected by the organisers, with the highest ranked players partnered by those ranked lowest, which leads to some interesting pairings. The first round saw Michael Gaughan and his partner John Porter (Broad Oak) and Steve Hickey and Brenda Holcombe (Broad Oak) eliminated into the Plate Trophy, and Michael and John went on to contest the final against Kevin Bignell (Herstmonceux) and Nick Rayment (Broad Oak) where they emerged as victors in straight sets. In the main event Mick and Greg were drawn together, and progressed through to the final where they came up against Kim Shearer (Herstmonceux) and Harry French (Broad Oak). The result was a straight sets victory for Mick and Greg.

In the Veterans event, Michael Gaughan was defending the first of the two singles titles he won last year (the other being the open singles). All of the Crowborough veterans were successful in their first round matches, and were therefore not involved in the Plate competition which was eventually won by Michael White (Ridgewood) who beat Brian Leggett (Broad Oak) in the final. Nick beat Greg in the second round, but then lost to Mick in the quarter final, whilst in the other half of the draw John Neal lost in the quarter final to Pam Winter (Herstmonceux). In the semi finals, Mick saw off Michael Williams (Ridgewood) 3-1, and Michael beat Pam by the same score, leaving the 2 Crowborough players contesting the final. A tight match was anticipated, but somewhat surprisingly Mick

scored a fairly straightforward 3-0 victory to take the title.

The first round of the Open Singles saw Nick and Greg move into the Plate event, whilst the remainder of the Crowborough contingent went into the main event. Greg beat Brian Leggett and Nick beat Michael White in their respective semi-finals to set up another all Crowborough final with Nick coming out on top to secure the Plate trophy. In the second round of the main event Steve lost out to Kim Shearer whilst John was beaten by Herstmonceux's Ryan Warner, who then went on to beat Michael Gaughan with a very impressive display in the quarter finals. The semi finals pitched Ryan against David Rayment (Broad Oak) where, in the match of the Tournament, David narrowly won through to the final, and Mick repeated his success against Michael Williams by the same 3-1 scoreline as in the Veterans. In the final David proved too strong for Mick, running out a 3-0 winner.

Overall the performance of Crowborough players was excellent, with the Club represented in 5 of the 6 event finals, finishing as winners in 4 of them and runners up in 3, and providing both finalists on 2 occasions. Well done to all concerned!

## **CLUB NIGHTS**

Don't forget that Club Nights are held every Friday evening from 8pm at the Jarvis Brook Guide HQ. Just turn up and play. Everyone is welcome.

## **WEALDEN LEAGUE**

The second half of the Wealden League season began this week, 2 February, with our 'A' team currently in Top place and our 'B' side 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Let's hope their form continues into 2015.

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