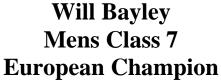
BTTAD NEWSLETTER February 2012



EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS 2011







Sara Head and Jane Campbell Ladies Team Class 3 European Champions

EUROPEAN PARA TT CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European championships were a great success with 2 gold medals and 4 Silver medals. Will Bayley became European Champion – what a way to get your first major championships medal- in the Mens Class 7 Singles. Jane Campbell and Sara Head were crowned as European Para TT Champions in the Womens Class 3 Team event in Croatia. They beat France 3-1 in the final after a highly successful season in which they were unbeaten by European teams. Last time in Genoa in 2009 they took European bronze and since then have won World bronze in Korea in 2010

Ross Wilson reached the final of the Class 8 Singles. This was an incredible achievement for the 16 year old who only started playing international disability table tennis in March 2011. In the new ratings system, Ross is now ranked 6th in the world.

Rob Davies continued to demonstrate his improvement at world level by reaching the final of the Mens Class 1 final. Silvers were won by Paul Davies and Rob Davies in the Mens Class 1 Team event losing to France 1-3 as well as by Will Bayley and Paul Karabardak in the Mens Class 7 Team event losing to the Ukraine 1-3 having beaten Spain 3-2 in the semi- finals- a victory never before achieved leading to a remarkable celebration.

Fourth places in the singles went to Kim Daybell, Sue Gilroy, Aaron McKibbin and David Wetherill. Kim Daybell and Ashley Facey – Thompson lost out in the bronze play-off in the Mens Class 10 Team event to Hungary who won 3-2 with the final doubles match ending in a deuce loss for GB. Also fourth were the Womens Class1/2 Team of Cathy Mitton and Dzaier Neil playing in a round robin.

The only team to finish out of the top 4 was the Mens Class 8 Team of Aaron McKibbin and Ross Wilson who lost closely in their group to both the eventual silver and bronze medallists.

So overall, with these team results following similar medal success in the singles, the British squad can look back with considerable pride to an amazing week in Split. In 2009 in Genoa, there were 5 medals (1 silver and 4 bronze); in 2011, 6 medals (2 gold, 4 silver) plus 6 fourths making 12 in the top 4. Gorazd Vecko – BTTAD Performance Manager – was delighted by the success and sees it as another step forward to the 2012 Paralympics and beyond. Mike Smith – Secretary BTTAD

Ten strong squad Table Tennis Squad announced for ParalympicsGB

The British Paralympic Association confirmed that the first ten Disability Table Tennis players have been selected for ParalympicsGB at London 2012.

The ten players have all qualified by right through regional championships and world ranking lists. They include Will Bayley who recently became world no1 in his class. They could still be joined by up to 4 athletes as a result of bipartite commission places when these are decided later in the year. The athletes, all members of the BTTAD squad, have been under the guidance of Performance Manager Gorazd Vecko. Gorazd commented "I am very proud that this squad have earned their place at the Paralympic Games. Paralympic Table Tennis is very competitive and so to have this many players well placed as we go into a home Games is a great situation to be in"

The full list of players is

Men Class 1 Rob Davies Paul Davies

Men Class 6 David Wetherill

Men Class 7 Will Bayley Paul Karabardak

Men Class 8 Ross Wilson

Men Class 10 Kim Daybell

Women Class 3 Sara Head Jane Campbell

Women Class 4 Sue Gilroy MBE

Neil Robinson MBE



Neil Robinson



Neil, Coach to Rob Davies and Paul Davies Silver Medalists Mens Class 1 team event European Championships2011

Neil Robinson, the multiple Paralympic medallist who has coached Team GB's table tennis players since retiring in 2009, has been awarded the MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list for his

services to the sport. Present at every Paralympic Games since 1984 in Stoke Mandeville, Great Britain's Neil Robinson has been awarded the M.B.E. (Member of the British Empire) in recognition for his outstanding achievements in disability table tennis, In the world of sport, Neil Robinson lines up alongside such notables as the Northern Irish golfers Rory McIlroy and Darren Clarke, the respective winners of the United States Open and Open Golf Championships in 2011.

The Bridgend player's Paralympic career has spanned nearly 25 years – he made his debut at the Stoke Mandeville 1984 Paralympics and has competed at every Games since with his last appearance at the Beijing Paralympics in 2008 at the age of 50. His career produced four Paralympic medals, including team gold with James Rawson and individual silver at Barcelona 1992.

After announcing his retirement, Neil's intention after retiring from playing was to channel his skills, knowledge and passion into coaching and help those who are prepared to listen. Neil was confirmed as a BTTAD national coach in August 2009, six months after he had retired.

The Bridgend athlete's new role means that he operates from Wales and concentrates on the south of the UK while the other Coaching staff work from the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield.

"It would be great to be part of the London 2012 team and hopefully help others achieve what I have and more."

British Open English Institute of Sport, Sheffield 14 – 17 September 2011

The British Open Factor 40 Para Table Tennis Championships held at the English Institute of Sport, Sheffield was a resounding success for the Great Britain Para Table Tennis team with nine medals and many good performances in a highly competitive field of 312 players from 44 countries playing on 25 tables.

The squad gained nine medals - results later in this report. This medal haul brings the season's tally to over 40 for GB players in international events this year and it is hoped that more will be won in the European Championships in Croatia in October

The event was refereed by Steve Welch and was organised by the BTTAD working with its partners UK Sport , Sheffield City Council , ITTF Para TT and ETTA as well as its contracted event management company – MLS Contracts Ltd- and its trade partners

notably Butterfly, Sheffield International Venues and HR Media

There was considerable media interest with Channel 4 coming for the day on Saturday to record for That Paralympic Show. Presenters Ade Adepitan, Rick Edwards and Iwan Thomas all had a go under the benevolent eye of GB Performance Manager Gorazd Vecko. Many GB matches were recorded for the show on Saturday October 29th at 1.25pm Farrel Anthony was interviewed for regional TV and there were articles and photographs in the local press

Many ETTA members were involved as players, referees, umpires and staff. The BTTAD were very grateful for the support given to it by the ETTA in staging this event. More information and photographs available on the **website address**

www.britishopenparatabletennis.com

Sam Bell

As winner of the standing disabled event at UK School Games, Sam has been selected to represent GB in the World Schools Champs for the demo disability event in Sardinia.

Chairman's Corner

On behalf of the BTTAD, I would like to wish all our members a very successful year. This has been such an eventful and busy year for the players and the Officers of the BTTAD

Congratulations to Neil Robinson, the multiple Paralympic medallist who has been awarded the MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list issued on Sunday 1st January 2012. His MBE was in recognition for his outstanding achievements in disability table tennis. Neil has competed at every Paralympic Games since 1984 in Stoke Mandeville. Congratulations also to our two European Champions. Will Bayley in his singles and Sara Head and Jane Campbell in the team. Our GB squad obtained tremendous success at these championships so well done to both the players and the coaching team.

It is important to recognise those who pay such a vital part behind the scenes. Steve Ward, our previous Performance Manager, did an outstanding job in preparing the way for the move to EIS and his work and foresight made the task of the present coaching team far easier. The ETTA staff provide valuable assistance with Louise Larcombe on the admin side at EIS and Brian Skinner and Amanda Barber on the finance side at ETTA.

Much of the extra support given by BTTAD has fallen mainly on our Secretary, Mike Smith and myself. It involves many hours in meetings, preparing plans, budgets and generally overseeing the programme. The parents, family and friends have also played a major role in the athlete's journey to London 2012, often providing much needed support with travel and finance as well as emotional support.

The members of our elite squad have had to get used to TV coverage over the past few months. The Paralympic coverage on Channel 4 involving the lead-up to London 2012 and the British Open was good publicity for the BTTAD. The latest was the Yorkshire BBC Calendar News coverage of the announcement of the Squad selected for the London Paralympics 2012.

The British Open was one of the biggest events in disability table tennis in 2011. The event was very successful and attracted lots of positive comments. Obviously, with a event this size there were problems but overall, it was a big plus for us. An event this size takes a tremendous amount of effort and time before the event and during it. Literally months of planning and work went into making the event successful. It is important to recognise that this is not something that could be repeated year after year – the commitment needed is too high with all our other duties.

We have a new logo, seen on the front page. It has been well received and brings a fresh and exciting feel to the BTTAD brand. The BTTAD bat logo had served us well for many years but the feeling was that something new was needed.

Robert Geary, our new Treasurer, has done an excellent job in completing the end of year accounts for 2010-11 and has been a welcome addition to the Officers of the BTTAD. Robert's modern business ideas are already contributing to make BTTAD more effective.

The government has been pushing for National Governing Bodies to be better governed, given the vast amount of money they have been putting into sport. As a result, all NGB's have had to look at their Governance and are subject to regular audits to check on their progress and fitness to receive Government money. Since our World Class Performance Programme is entirely funded by our UK Sport grant, this compliance with the governance requirements is essential. As a consequence, this has been a priority for myself and Mike Smith..

Check out our new website which is under construction. www.bttad.org.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Michael Hawkseworth Championships (BTTAD Nationals) in March and at the AGM on that Saturday..

Peter Taylor, Chairman BTTAD

Apologies from Louise Stotesbury

Louise was unable to do the editing of this newsletter. Her new job is very demanding and time consuming and with two new grand-children and other personal commitments, she has been unable to find the time or energy to fit in the newsletter. Hopefully, I have kept it to the standard that she raised it to when she took over. P Taylor

Coaching Newsletter and DVD

The BTTAD have produced their first coaching dvd and newsletter. This will be circulated to interested parties. Please contact Peter Taylor for more information.

Dennis Beech

I am sure that I echo the sentiments of all of us in wishing Dennis Beech a speedy and full recovery from his recent heart attack and operation to put a stint in his heart to open the valve.

Membership – time to renew your membership. Please encourage people to become a member of the BTTAD.

Join the BTTAD now if you are not already a member.

Full membership £10 (Any person who has a physical, sensory or learning disability). **Junior Membership £5** (Any person under 18 on 31st January 2011 who has a physical, sensory or learning disability).

Associate Membership £7 (Any person who is supportive of the aims of the association). **Organisational Membership (£25)** (Any organisation supportive of the aims of the association).

Contact Mike Smith for an application form.

Secretary Mike Smith 207 Glenfield Road, Leicester, LE3 6DL
Tel 01162 858475 Email mike.gr.smith@btinternet.com

Ray Jones

Sadly, Ray Jones, Yorkshire, died just before Xmas. He had been diagnosed with cancer some years before and had just returned to playing. He was due to play in the British Open but had to be taken into hospital before the event started. Ray was one of the better wheelchair players on the circuit, - a class 3 - and was always willing to give advice, encouragement and support to those new to disability table tennis – both young and old. He will be missed and our sympathies go to his family.

Diary Dates

Check out the BTTAD website www.bttad.org

The Michael Hawkesworth Championships (BTTAD Nationals) Crewe 17-18 March 2012

the contact persons for either entry forms or more information are

Dennis Beech dennis@russellb.f2s.com or

Peter Taylor PanMTaylor@aol.com 01472 852083

RESULTS

The Mencap Open Crewe 15 – 16 October 2011

Results

Mens Class 1 – 5 Open Singles Final

Shaun Newcomb b Roger Hales 10, 7, 8 **Third Place**

Mike Prendergast Shaun Newcomb b Lee Hamill -6, 7, 9, 5

Mens Class 1 – 5 Open Band B and C Singles Final

Ashley Davis b Nico Anderson 8, -10, -3, 10, 6 **Semi-Finals**

Ashley Davis b Joe Land 8, 5, 9

Nico Anderson b Daniel Bullen 4, 6, 9

Quarter-Finals

Ashley Davis b Ryan Hubbard 8, 6, 6 Daniel Bullen b Noel Thomas 4, 2, 3

Mens Class 6 – 11 Open Singles Final

Farrel Anthony b Paul Waumsley 8, 6, 8 **Semi-Finals**

Farrel Anthony b Adam Thompson 8, 2, 6 Paul Waumsley b Peter Cameron 9, 9, 8

Quarter-Finals

Peter Cameron b Shaun Alvey 4, 10, -9, 13 Farrel Anthony b Simon Green 3, 6, 8

Mens Class 6 – 11 Band B Open Singles Final

Gareth Joes b Conor Gordon 8, 11, 5 **Semi-Finals**

Gareth Joes b Josh Morgan -7, 8, -7, 4, 5 Conor Gordon b Kevin McCormack 9, 8, 8

Mens Class 6 – 11 Band C Open Singles Final

Ewan McLaughlin b Martin Perry 4, 5, -12, 8 **Semi-Finals**

Ewan McLaughlin b Peter Millar -8, 9, 12, 10 Martin Perry b Conor McAdam 8, 7, -18, -10, 11 Quarter-Finals

Martin Perry b Howard Tomlinson 9, 5, -8, 4 Peter Millar b Jason Reynolds -8, 3, 10, 4

Ladies Class 1 – 5 Open Singles Final

Hannah Coulthurst b Rebekah Evans 5, 4, 4 **Third Place**

Lucie Bouron lost to Hannah Coulthurst 5, 9, 5 Lost to Rebekah Evans 10, 5, 6

Ladies Class 6 - 11 Open Singles Final

Ella Booker b Jacqui Smith 6, 5, 5 ,Victoria Bromley b Jessica Bromley 10, 7, 9 **Semi-Finals**

Ella Booker b Felicity Pickard 6, 7, 8 Jacqui Smith b Jessica Bromley 5, 3, -8, -7, 4

Mixed Class 1 – 5 Doubles

Final

Shaun Newcomb / Lee Hamill b Cathy Mitton / Hannah Coulthurst 9, 8, 8

Semi-Finals

Shaun Newcomb / Lee Hamill b Ashley Davis / Vaughan Gwilliam 6, 8, -7, 3

Cathy Mitton / Hannah Coulthurst b Roger Hales / Mike Prendergast 9, 6, -8, -6, 10

Quarter-finals

Cathy Mitton / Hannah Coulthurst b Ryan Hubbard / Richard Barton 5, -6, 10, 6 Ashley Davis / Vaughan Gwilliam b Joe Land / Nicko Anderson 6, 8, 4

Class 6 – 11 Doubles

Final

Sam Bell / Farrel Anthony b Paul Waumsley / Shaun Alvey 10, -4, -7, 10, 4

Semi -Finals

Paul Waumsley / Shaun Alvey b Peter Cameron / Ewan McLaughlin 6, 10, 7 Sam Bell / Farrel Anthony b J Hunter-Spivey/ Simon Green 5, 4, 6

Quarter-Finals

Paul Waumsley / Shaun Alvey b Conor Gordon / K McCormack 5, 6, 1

Peter Cameron / Ewan McLaughlin b Alistair Feltham / Dunccan Feltham 8, 3, 5

J Hunter-Spivey/ Simon Green b Jeffrey Jarvis / Jessica Bromley 8, 8, 8

Sam Bell / Farrel Anthony b Ella Booker / Emily Turner 3, 5, 5

Junior Mixed Class 1-5 Singles Final

Nicko Anderson b Daniel Bullen 2, 5, 4

Semi -Finals

Nicko Anderson b Lucie Bouron 4, 6, 8 Daniel Bullen b Joe Land -8, 5, -5, 8, 6

Junior Mixed Class 6-11 Singles Final

Conor Gordon b Alex Bland 5, 7, 8 **Semi -Finals**

Conor Gordon b Charley Sketchley 4, 6, 8 Alex Bland b Martin Perry -8, 15, -5, 14, 9

Quarter-Finals
Conor Gordon b Felicity Pickard 10, 9, 7
Alex Bland b Jason Reynolds 7, -8, 15, -5, 10

Mixed Class 1 – 3 Singles Final

Cathy Mitton b Roger Hales 6, -9, 9, 13 **Semi -Finals**

Cathy Mitton b Ashley Davis 7, -4, 9, 12 Roger Hales b Richard Barton 9, 8, 1

Mixed Class 4-5 Singles Final

Shaun Newcomb b Mike Prendergast 6, 9, 10 **Semi-Finals**

Shaun Newcomb b Joe Land 6, 3, 3 Mike Prendergast b Lee Hamill 9, 9, 6 Quarter-Finals

Lee Hamill b Hannah Coulthurst 12, 9, -8, -6, 6 Joe Land b Nicko Anderson 6, -8, 10, 9

Mens Class 6-7 Singles Final

Farrel Anthony b Peter Cameron 9, 9, 9 **Semi-Finals**

Farrel Anthony b Conor Gordon 4, 7, 2

Peter Cameron b Ian Thomas 3, 1, 4

Quarter-Finals

Conor Gordon b Gareth Jones 9, 8, -4, 7 Ian Thomas b Kevin McCormack 7, 11, -9, 7

Mens Class 8 Singles

Final

Shaun Alvey b Paul Waumsley 9, 6, -11, 12 **Third Place**

Sam Bell b Josh Morgan 4, 4, 2

Mens Class 11 Singles

Adam Thompson b Peter Millar 3, 1, 2 **Semi-Finals**

Adam Thompson b Jeffrey Jarvis 4, 8, 3 Peter Millar b Duncan Feltham 5, 10, 7 Quarter-Finals

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Adam Thompson b Kenny Dale 5, 4, 3 Jeffrey Jarvis b Simon Green -10, 6, 8, 8 Peter Millar b Alistair Feltham 5, 6, 4 Duncan Feltham b Warren Tipling 6, 2, 9

Ladies Class 6-10 Singles Final

Ella Booker b Felicity Pickard 4, -9, -9, 10, 8 **Third Place**

Emily Turner lost to Ella Booker 9, 5, 7 lost to Felicity Pickard 5, -9, 9, 5

Ladies Class 11 Singles

Final

Jacqueline Smith b Jessica Bromley 5, 8, 7 **Third Place**

Kaley Heath b Jenny Turner -8, -9, 9, 9, 5