

# CIPPENHAM TABLE TENNIS CLUB

## ANNUAL REPORT 1982 - 3

### MEMBERSHIP

Total membership of the club fell slightly during the season to thirty-one full members, despite the recruitment of twelve new ones. In addition another ten players were registered for the club in leagues and a further three represented the club in the Summer League. A similar number of teams was operated as in the previous season; one in the National League, eight in the Slough League and one in Maidenhead, although there were significant personnel changes.

### ADMINISTRATION

The Management Committee elected at the Annual General Meeting comprised Frank Earis (Chairman), Graham Trimming (Secretary), Peter Hillier (Treasurer), Bob Keeley, John Lewis, Ken Phillips and Dave Pountney. Only two Management Committee meetings were held although several other open meetings took place to discuss various National League topics. We thank the respective team captains who in the main responded well to the task although some were a little slow in remitting match fees to the Treasurer.

Two of our members, Graham Trimming as Chairman/Fixtures Secretary and Peter Hillier as Treasurer, also assisted in the administration of the Slough League.

Apart from National League matches, all the club's playing activities took place at St. Andrews Shared Church.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

For its second season of National League competition the club was placed in Division Three East and performed much better finishing fourth out of six with a positive record. Four of the ten matches were won and two drawn. Ray Tilling again assisted the local players and all finished with creditable records.

The club is very fortunate to have available the excellent facilities of the Elliman Hall at The Centre, Slough for home matches enabling these to be presented in a manner consistent with that required in a 'professional' competition.

Thanks are due to Slough Borough Council's Lottery Fund who again gave a financial grant to the team to enable it to even exist, and this has been followed by even more generous assistance for next season.

The club wishes to thank all those who have helped in any way: Mike Ainsworth, Frank Earis, Tony Emery, Peter Hillier, John Lewis, Viv McCarthy, Ken Phillips, Dave Pountney, Jackie Thomas, Graham Trimming, Alec Watson, Brian Webb, Steve Williams and Rita Windsor.

A fuller report appears separately.

### FINANCE

The statements attached show that the club continues to strengthen its position financially but it must be realised that the balance of £1074 includes the recent receipt of £500 from Slough Borough's Lottery Fund towards next year's expenses in the National League. Therefore realistically the working balance is £574 of which

£47 is attributable to the National League team and £527 to general funds. From this room hire for April is outstanding.

The general fund surplus for the year of £114 helps to build up an accumulated reserve towards possible expenditure in equipping a new venue and is not unreasonable when one considers that £43 of this is deposit account interest, thus underlining the value of the cash control procedures exercised by the Treasurer.

## PLAYING PERFORMANCES

### National Club Championship

As champions Calor did not wish to enter we were once again honoured to represent Slough in the Ormesby Cup. In the first round of this competition we gained sweet revenge for last season's defeat by our friends from across the river, Maidenhead Youth & Community Centre. However we met our match in Bristol in the following round against a strong Knowle & Brisington team.

### Local leagues

For the second year running we have had to settle for second best in the Slough League being runners-up to Calor but in retrospect we were never likely to be able to beat a team headed by England top twenty player Ian Kenyon. Also in the First Division Bandits would have improved upon their fourth position had they not conceded three matches (this is strictly against club policy) and Outlaws could finish only seventh as they became unable to field a regular team as the season progressed. Villains were hit hard by long spells of injury to three of their players and in these circumstances can perhaps be forgiven for falling into the relegation zone.

Congratulations to Pirates who after a disappointment last season have now won promotion to the top flight. It seemed unlikely when they went down 10-0 to Burnham I early on but the crucial result was their 9-1 thrashing of Crane 'A' on 1st March. Not content they added the Dilger Cup handicap team competition thus returning to the club a trophy it had not held for six years. Rogues were weaker than anticipated when the teams were initially selected and did well to consolidate their position in mid-table.

Vagabonds also had a tremendous run in the Dilger Cup, reaching the semi-final, but will be disappointed to finish only sixth in Division Three while Rascals contrived to slip into the relegation zone right at the end of the season, albeit by only one set.

In Division One Mark Butler played with a great deal of consistency to finish third in the averages while Frank Earis was fourth and Peter Swinn sixth. In Division Two Mark Hetherington was third while Bob Keeley came in seventh. In addition Pam Spooner was fourth in Division Three.

We ran our customary team in the Maidenhead League utilising players of varying standards and eventually finished sixth.

Graham Trimming and Brian Simmonds retained their Summer League title with the result that this club has now won the competition four times in the last six years.

When the Committee selected the teams to play in this last winter season it could have taken one of two routes. Either enter four teams in the Slough Division One with the realisation that each might be stretched on odd occasions to field a full side but enable each player to play as much as he had indicated that he wished; or to restrict ourselves to three teams in the knowledge that this would not satisfy the apparent demand from players for team places. In the event we adopted the former

policy and as things turned out with some players adopting a prima donna attitude, others refusing to honour their commitments, and the general indication that too many members' loyalty to Cippenham came a long way down their list of priorities, the Committee felt badly let down. The lesson has been learnt and we will not over stretch ourselves in the future.

### Inter-League and County

Four Cippenham men appeared in the Bucks ranking list. Initially Peter Simmonds was listed as 3 (later 2), Frank Earis 6 (8), Daryll Windsor 7 (11) and Mark Butler 10 (12). In addition Daren Butler appeared fourth in the boys' list while Alec Watson and Frank Earis were first and second in the veterans. Peter and Daren both made several appearances for the county.

Cippenham players once again formed the backbone of Slough's senior teams and in total ten of our players wore the town's colours. Viv McCarthy, Frank Earis and Mark Butler formed the Slough team in the Wilmott Cup and it is now several years since any player from another club represented the town in this competition. In addition Jackie Thomas and Daren Butler made appearances in the Rose Bowl and Carter Cup respectively.

### Tournaments

In perhaps the best ever Slough Closed championships for the club our stranglehold on the major male titles was undented. This time it was Mark Butler who won the coveted mens singles while Viv McCarthy retained his mens and mixed doubles titles with Syd Montgomery and Linda Phelps. We provided both finalists in the veterans singles where Bob Keeley scored a surprise victory over Frank Earis and as a club we repeated this success in both the Division One and Three singles events.

Frank Earis won the Bucks county veterans title at his first attempt while over in Berkshire Viv McCarthy reached the final of the mens singles and triumphed in the doubles with Syd Montgomery.

Jackie Thomas became the first ever Cippenham winner of the Wharton Vase - the Slough League's handicap event for ladies.

### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

A very disappointing entry of only ten members entered the club championships held on a Saturday in April. Notwithstanding this fact the tournament was successful and produced much good table tennis and an incredible proportion of close finishes especially in the handicapped events.

Daryll Windsor made it a day to remember in his first season with the club by taking three of the four titles.