**League Report**

**Courier, 20th January**

Division 1 leaders Colebridge A maintained their 3 point advantage with a 9-1 victory over St Georges A. Anthony Ellis and Kate Hughes recorded hat-tricks and Mike Rinnhofer a brace, falling to Damon Fenton 11-8 in the 5th. Second placed Rugby A also won 9-1 against County Council B, Ryan Lines, Adrian Pilgrim and Ryan Stockham won all the singles leaving Nilton Green and Simon Griew to snatch the doubles from the two Ryans, 11-9 in the 5th. Wellesbourne sit in 5th after taking all 10 points from bottom side Nomads A, Alan Cotton, John Price and Gary Stewart the victorious trio. However, they came unstuck at lowly Phoenix who beat them 7-3. Paul Calloway (3), Richard Jardim (2) and Callum Martin (2) set up the win with Cotton and Stewart winning a singles each and the doubles. Two of the sides immediately above the bottom, County Council A and Free Church B, fought out a draw. Church’s Martyn Todd took a maximum and Harry Purewal and Charlotte Spencer won singles. Pat McCabe (2), Phil Paine (2) and a 5 game doubles win from Clive Irwin and Paine ensured stalemate.

Millennium A were the Division 2 form team over the Christmas period recording two wins. Third placed Free Church E fell 6-4 despite a Dave Ramsey treble and a single from Anthony Smith. Jack Garner (2), Christian Ward (2), Peter Harris (1) set the scene for a Harris/Ward doubles win 11-7 in the 5th. Millennium also swept aside St Georges C 8-2, Harris (3), Ward (3) and Cameron Aris (1) plus the doubles. Len Coonan and Kevin Finn won consolation points. Free Church C sit handily in third after crushing Nomads Enigmas 9-1. Jeff Harris and Michael Ho were unbeaten in singles and doubles and young Tom Harris added two, losing to Charlie Somerton. Second placed Free Church F sneaked a 6-4 win over Rugby C. Phil Blowey and Adam Pulman each won twice and James Robertson won once as well as pairing with Blowey for the decisive doubles. Hugh Crosfield and Ben Holvey bagged twosomes for Rugby. Free Church D went to the top with an 8-2 success over bottom side St Georges D. Livvy Fletcher won her three and was supported by Chris Blowey and Lewis Singleton who both won two. Singleton joined Fletcher for the doubles with Richard Grover recording two for Georges.

Division 3’s County Council D clinched two more victories in their quest for promotion. They thumped Free Church H 9-1 when Tony Ford and Cliff Jackson won maximums and Mark Freeman won two as well as aiding Jackson to the doubles. Jenny Singleton had an excellent win in reply. They then beat Rugby D 7-3, Jackson(3), Freeman (2) and Ford (1) and an 11-9 doubles win in the 5th for Freeman/Jackson. Oliver Fowler won two for Rugby and Steve Fowler one. County Council C could join their club-mates for promotion and eased past Rugby E 7-3. Ian Stevens won his three, Steve Poole two and Derek Harwood 1 with Poole and Stevens winning the doubles. Dave Cox and Joe and Stuart Mills all won once in reply. However, they stuttered when facing Millennium B who edged them 6-4. Colin Astbury (2), Lewis Cox (2), Bob Clarke (1), Astbury/Cox the doubles, accounted for the Banbury points. Poole and Stevens with two apiece responded. In a hectic holiday schedule, WCC C then forced a draw with improving Nomads C. Doug Lowe posted two wins and joined Stevens, who won once, for the crucial doubles. Harwood added the other point. Les Hoggins led the way for Nomads with an excellent triple and Kim Wong supported with two. Nomads bettered that scoreline when entertaining Flavels A, getting home 6-4. Richard Miles was a hat-trick star, Hoggins won twice and took the doubles with Wong. Mick Bennett (2), Sam Bradley (1) and Roger Potts (1) kept the visitors in it. Whitnash B, with matches in hand, could easily contest promotion and got home 6-4 against Free Church H. Greg Swan and Dennis Woodhead won braces and the doubles with Roger Palmer notching one. Jerry Simmons (2), Emily Beasley (1) and Jenny Singleton (1) guaranteed a close encounter.

Free Church L sprung the surprise of Division 4 when they defeated Free Church I, the leaders, 6-4 due to maximums from Eduardo Bolanos and Ben Hall. I stay joint top thanks to single wins from Nick Darwen, Chris Jones and Kate Singleton and a Jones/Singleton doubles triumph. L also defeated County Council E 8-2 with Bolanos and Hall undefeated in singles and doubles and reserve Jake Simmons posting an impressive single. Free Church J grasped the opportunity to go joint top in this division as they eclipsed County Council E 9-1. Janice Rowan and Mike Weaving won trebles, Jill Weaving grabbed two and the doubles with Rowan. It was left to William Hung to take a consolation. Eathorpe D squeezed past Free Church K 6-4 with Sophie Cooper unbeaten in singles. Shaun Martin (2) and Paul Deavall (1) added to the tally. Church bounced back with two from Darren Laffey and one from Ian Beasley, the duo combining for the doubles.

**Warwickshire County Closed**

**Courier, 20th January, 2017**

The Senior events in the Warwickshire Closed table-tennis championships were held at St Nicholas Leisure Centre in Warwick on Sunday and provided plenty of shocks. The Men’s Singles attracted a large entry and there was an array of talent which fought their way to the quarter-finals. Ryan Stockham, of Phoenix, the number one seed, defeated Pat Glynn of Smithswood, Free Church cadet, Ricardo Bolanos fell to club-mate Lee Dorning, Xiaoyang Ma of Phoenix accounted for Rugby’s Ryan Lines and St Georges’ Mark Jackson proved too strong for Jamie Fellows of Colebridge. Stockham took the first two games against Dorning in the semi only to be pegged back to 2-2. However, Dorning injured his calf muscle in the process and had to concede the 5th. Ma overcame Jackson in straight games in the other semi. The unseeded Ma took the title 6,4,-7,6.

The Ladies Singles was slightly more predictable. Number one seed Kate Hughes of Colebridge defeated Phoenix’s Quixian Wang in 4 in her semi but Dawn Sagoo of Curdworth sprung a surprise by beating number 2 seed Helen Adams of Smithswood in straight games. Reigning champion Hughes did not have the Final all her own way, being taken to 4.

In the Men’s Doubles, top seeds Ryan Lines and Ryan Stockham just got home in their semi, 11-8 in the 5th against Sam Weaving and Sam Wiggins of Free Church. In the Final they had to face County Council’s Simon Griew and Jackson who had had a walk-over in the semi due to Dorning’s injury. The number two pairing saw off the challenge of the two Ryans -5,6,7,-6, 5.

Hughes and Neetha Ramesh, also of Colebridge, accounted for the Free Church junior pair of Milly Bradshaw and Livvy Fletcher in the first semi of the Ladies doubles and Adams and Sagoo beat the cadet pair of Emily Beasley and Ciara Hancox (Free Church) in the other semi. In the Final Adams and Sagoo triumphed 11-5 in the 5th against the top seeds.

Sagoo also figured in the semi of the Mixed doubles partnering Griew and beating Fletcher and Wiggins in 3. Hughes and Ryan Stockham beat Rugby pair Jo Outhwaite and Ryan Lines in the other semi. However, an upset was in store as title holders Hughes and Stockham were pipped 13-11 in the 5th by Sagoo and Griew.

The Men’s restricted Singles was won by Anthony Ellis of Colebridge who beat Weaving 11-7 in the 5th and the Ladies restricted singles provided a third title for Sagoo as she beat Wang.