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JULY 2003

The first item this time is 'from the AGM'. Eight people turned up as well as the committee (about 6 more than last year). The committee was returned for another year, so it's business as usual.

Chairman's report - Ken Winchester

On behalf of your Association, I am again delighted to be able to report a most highly successful season. Such superlative levels of achievement are made possible because of the skills and dedication of those who give so generously of their time.

I tender no apology for again expressing my admiration and gratitude to each individual member of the Committee who make their free time available in an age when it has become a scarce commodity. The individual skill and dedication of our team coaches is universally accepted. On your behalf, I wish to congratulate Tony Clarke for his recent national award which recognises the great contribution he has made to junior badminton over many years.

We do not forget the co-operation and assistance of parents and other helpers who enable our much respected players to maintain Hertfordshire's national reputation.

Always underpinning our efforts, I know you will also join me in paying tribute to Megan Lumb. Not only does she produce such a brilliantly interesting Newsletter, she beavers quietly away to support us in many other diverse ways. I would add particular thanks to those who have selflessly contributed to the Newsletter with their articles. These reports provide an ideal opportunity to record and share your badminton experiences and make for fascinating reading.

The somewhat unpredictable nature of our commitments calls for careful budgetary control. Once more, Malcolm Lumb is to be congratulated for nurturing our finances so efficiently.

With the opening of the new comprehensive badminton facility at the University of Hertfordshire, we look forward to the new season with great anticipation. We hope that we may continue to rely on your valuable support.

U13 Squad Report - Duncan Conway

The U13 Squad has had a very successful season. We won the regional round of the ESBA/BAofE Team Challenge to reach the final. In the Shires League, we won the regional round and in the final play-offs we came 3rd. The rest of the squad players have backed up the team very well and have played well in friendly and 'B' matches. In the U13 ESBA tournaments our players have taken the top place and gold medals in seven different events at Premier level. This has been backed up winning two events at standard level. Two girls from the squad were able to take both the singles and doubles gold medals at the first ever ESBA U11 tournament in Harrow. Thanks to all the players who have made this superb set of results possible and to their parents for all the support and back-up which they have provided.

U11 Squad and Development Training - Hazel Levins

Although the number of players has fallen this season, the attendance of those registered has been good and they all show great potential and maturity, considering that the majority of them are still in primary school. Development Training and U11 Squad is a good stepping stone where we aim to build a solid foundation for their future as badminton players. We are always happy to give young players a trial at any time during the season. In the U11 Singles Challenge all 4 girls and 1 boy won through to the National Final, where Emily Westwood gained the highest ranking position of 5th. Herts were part of the Slough Regional Team who came second overall. Thanks to Pat Walker and Dick Large, who help regularly with the coaching and who give their time voluntarily.

U15 Squad Report - John Smith

This year we had a squad of 28 players. Six players were chosen for World Class start training by the BAofE and three of them were selected to play for England. Several of our top players did extremely well throughout the season in open tournaments, winning a hatful of gold, silver and bronze medals. In the Shires League, the U15 team did very well, but the down side was a reduction in the number of matches in which less experienced players could cut their teeth. The season's highlight were: Winners of the regional round of the National Team Challenge - Bronze Medal in the National Finals - Winners of the Shires League Division - Silver Medal in the National Finals - Third place in the non-premier U15 girls Eastern Region Team Tournament. Congratulations to all the players who took part in these events and represented HSBA so well. Thanks to everyone who has supported the squad with transport, refreshments, setting up nets, looking after teams on match days, etc. and especially to Ken for his invaluable assistance on squad nights.

U17 Squad Report - Tony Clarke

The U17 Squad has enjoyed another very successful year. The squad sessions at Stevenage have been well attended. The U17 team played well at York in the RIO team tournament to finish 3rd. At the ICT the young team finished a brilliant 5th, just missing a medal position. Both boys and girls have had some excellent tournament results and congratulations to Laura Cousins and Katie Comras on their selection for England. The only disappointment was not reaching the final of the Shires League because we were unable to field our strongest team against Leicestershire and Warwickshire. Thanks to all the parents who have helped throughout the year, to Pat Walker for her help on Thursday evenings at Stevenage and for her support at ICT and RIO. Also a special mention to Roy Cousins and Christine Comras at RIO and to Christine and Joan Cousins at ICT.

Treasurer's Report - Malcolm Lumb

The financial statement shows that we have a satisfactory balance in hand in spite of increased court costs. Use of the free court facilities at Haberdashers' Aske's School, for which we are very grateful, has permitted the continuation of additional training. A surplus of approximately £1,000 was received from ESBA for our hosting of the East U17 and U13 tournaments.

Concerns

A number of concerns were expressed at the AGM regarding the World Class Start programme. As you probably know, quite a few of our top county players have already been involved with the scheme. They and their parents/guardians will undoubtedly have experienced the additional pressures and obligations which the programme has placed upon them.

There are also considerable repercussions in regard to the non-availability of top players for our various regular county activities. The situation is not helped by the current timing for the WCS coaching cells. The regular opportunity for Squad Managers to be able to monitor the performance of their players has always been of vital importance to our success. Regrettably, this is now under threat along with our flexibility to offer county badminton to new aspiring players.

It has been suggested that some of you may feel it inappropriate to express your views directly. Should this prove to be the case, I would be pleased to take your collective concerns forward on your behalf.

Please feel free to drop me a line, briefly outlining your views together with any suggestions that you feel would be helpful.

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Young Volunteer Awards

David Bartlett

Young Coach of the Year - Helen Walker

Helen (a player at Swifts and Gosling) gained the Leaders Award at 16 and progressed to level two Coach Part 1 award. She has helped coach juniors within the County, at Gosling Junior Badminton Club and other regular junior club sessions, as well as one-off taster sessions in schools. With her brother last year she started an Adult Turn Up and Play session at Hatfield Sports Centre, which they have continued to run. Unfortunately Helen is leaving the area this summer, moving near Southampton with the family and starting University. Both Helen and her brother, Barney, will be missed by juniors and coaches alike. All best wishes to them both. Helen was presented with her award at Gosling Junior Badminton Club.

Young Volunteer of the Year - Ceri Lumb

Ceri has been a keen badminton player since the age of seven. She became a member of the County squad at the age of 9 and was a member of the team which won the U12 National Challenge in 1993. She regularly and successfully played in all the Herts junior county badminton tournaments, and gradually became interested in running them. In 1996 Ceri was awarded the Carlton (sponsors at that time) Supreme Award for playing badminton and organising a tournament. For a number of years now she has been a key member of the organising team. She is fast, efficient and unflappable. She has also been a willing and valued helper at Swifts Junior Badminton Club and we are grateful for her contribution to junior badminton in the county. Ceri was presented with her award at Swifts Junior Badminton Club Presentation evening.

SCOB E

Badminton Coaching Club on Sunday evenings during term time

Place: John Henry Newman Sports Hall, Stevenage (near Lister Hospital)

1st Session 4 - 11 years approx

Time: 5.30 - 6.30 pm

2nd Session 10 - 19 years approx

Time: 6.30 - 8.30 pm

Specialist coaching for the real beginner up to national level - either group or individual coaching

New members very welcome

**Contact: 01438 721915 or
01438 725252**

U15 Shires League Finals

John Smith (U15 Team Manager)

On Sunday May 18, the Herts U15 team set off for Babington College for the National Finals of the Shires League. We had qualified as league champions in our division and so we were guaranteed to play a runner-up in the first round. At full strength I really felt we had a great chance of winning the whole thing, because, whereas other finalists had either top boys or top girls, we had strong boys and girls.

Of course, things don't always go to plan! The first problem was that Kamran Haq, fresh out of plaster from a chipped bone, couldn't make a full recovery in time to play and the double whammy was that two days before the finals Nigel Tao, my number one boy, injured his back doing athletics. This was devastating news because Nigel was playing his best badminton of the season - 3 golds in a row in the last three open tournaments. From thinking about how to win the tournament, now I was urgently trying to get hold of players at short notice just to put a team out. In the end I was one boy short, but the rules allow each player to compete in two events so it is just possible to manage. There are 10 games per match, two of each discipline.

Having re-adjusted and submitted my third set of rankings, I was hoping that nothing else would go wrong. I could still pick a team which I thought would win 5 games against Surrey, our first round opponents. The problem was I could not guarantee to win a boys singles with two top players out, so I gambled on sacrificing the two boys singles in the hope of winning the second mixed. (We had no chance of beating Gardner and Ward who I correctly guessed would play first mixed).

Ten minutes before the start of the first match I explained my strategy to the team, but there was one flaw in my plan - Arjun was stuck on the motorway with a sick car! (Somebody was trying to tell us this was not our year!!)

The match started and the plan worked perfectly. Surrey were extremely helpful in leaving Arjun's games until last. As the competition continued the mobiles were very busy trying to check Arjun's progress. He arrived just in time - ten minutes later and I would have had to concede the match. The poor lad then had to play two games back to back, which understandably he lost, but we won the match 5-5 with 130 points to 126. In the next two matches against Yorkshire and Sussex I followed the same basic plan with slight variations, again trying to get 5 games and hoping to pick up as many points as possible in the games we couldn't win. In the Yorkshire match Kate and Arjun played brilliantly to take the first mixed, but later we lost a game we should have won and the match ended in Yorkshire's favour 6-4.

The final match against Sussex was another close contest, which shows how little separates the top counties. Yes, you guessed, it was another 5-5 draw with Herts winning by 158 points to 143. Yorks obliged by also beating Sussex and we finished the day as runners-up with the silver medal.

The boys had a hard day, but played with great team spirit. I am very grateful to Jonathan and Stephen for taking on the singles knowing they couldn't win, but by doing so they gave Arjun and Victor the opportunity to play in the mixed, thus making the best use of our girls' strength. And what about our girls! Yet again we have another team event in which our girls have been magnificent. We have become so used to them winning for us that there is a danger of taking them for granted. Thank you girls. You are the best girls' team in the country without a doubt. What a see-saw of emotions! Before the day we were looking at a possible gold, then because of the injuries maybe we could still bet a bronze. Next it looked as if we might come back empty handed and then we end up with the silver. It was a great way to end the season.

The team was: Katie Comras, Laura Cousins, Francesca Edelmann, Kate Lester, Victoria Stokes, Stephen Barnard, Victor Liew, Arjun Mehta and Jonathan Miller.

Warwickshire U14 Tournament

Phil Westwood

After a long season, the short series of 'rising stars' tournaments are a chance for the true U14s, freed at last from the presence of the U15s, to stake their claims for next season, and to look over their shoulders for younger challengers. But for the U13s, however good or tough a year it has been, they are a sobering precursor to the U15 competitions lying ahead. With the top U13s suddenly augmented by a whole raft of the, generally much larger, U14s, for them there really are no easy boxes.

Boys Singles - just following the order of boxes Nigel Tao, number one seed, breezed through his, but Oliver Crabb lost to U13 Daniel Shiels (Yo) and U14 Darren Chesworth (St). Victor Liew beat Ross Little (GM) and Adam Price but was so unlucky to go out, losing 20-21 to the seeded Richard Collier. Arjun Mehta, too, lost a game 20-21 to U13 Andrew Brunning (Ex) but having beaten his other challenger, William Simpson (Nm) 21-19, he scraped through from a three-way-tie. Close! And James Reynolds, too, scraped through with a 21-20 win over Alex Dodds (Nm). Luke Donnelly beat Luke Hutchinson (Yo) but lost to two U14s, George Ward (Nm) and eventual finalist Richard Woolgar (Db), while Matthew Westwood lost to Mark Middleton (Yo) and U14 John-Paul Cosgrove (Du), but had a pleasing win over Chris Tustian (Ox).

In pre-quarterfinal play offs, Arjun lost 16-21 to Arthur Cheung (Bu) but James Reynolds beat Philip Godfrey (WG) 21-15. In the quarters Nigel beat Daniel Shiels 21-4 and James lost to Richard Woolgar 5-21. The semis saw Nigel playing Arthur and the latter getting off to a flying start 5-0, which he extended to 14-5. But Nigel dug in and somehow hauled the score back to level at 14 all. From this point there was nothing between them, and the few remaining spectators enjoyed an exhibition match. But the impetus was now with Nigel and he eventually ran out 21-18 winner. Richard Woolgar came through the other, somewhat tetchily contested, semi with Matthew Johnson (Nm). The final itself was no contest, Nigel winning 21-7.

Boys Doubles - Nigel Tao/Matthew Westwood had a good win over Ross Little (GM)/Michael Mellor (My), semi-finalists at the U13 Nationals, and did well to take 16 off Darren Chesworth/John Paul Cosgrove (Du), but lost heavily to eventual semi-finalists Adam Smith/George Ward (Nm). Oliver Crabb/Luke Donnelly lost to Ben Fearn/Ben Stawski (Wk) 16-21, but beat Xavier Bramley (Dv)/Ryan Koslicki (Nm) 21-6. So when Xavier/Ryan beat Ben/Ben 21-13, it was Luke/Oliver who went through from the three-way tie. However, their reward was a pre-quarter final against Middleton/Shiels (Yo), which possible due to an earlier concession after a dispute over the score, they lost by 2 points. James Reynolds/Chris Tustian (Ox) were second in their box, losing to eventual finalists Matthew Johnson/Adam Price (Nm). But Arthur Cheung (Bu)/Victor Liew made their way to the semis where they comfortably beat Adam Smith/George Ward (Nm) 21-7, and to the final for an equally emphatic 21-8 win over Johnson/Price.

Euro Chinese Badminton Tournament

Phil Westwood

The Euro Chinese Badminton tournament was open only to players of Chinese origin living in this country. One of a small number of such events, bringing this community together, it was hastily arranged following cancellation of earlier events due to the SARS virus.

A number of Herts youngsters took part, together with some other familiar names: Victor Liew and the three Westwood boys; Xavier Bramley (Devon); Arthur Cheung and Michelle Cheung (Bucks) and Bethany Wong and her brother (Warwicks). Nigel Tao withdrew injured.

There were men's and ladies singles, doubles and mixed, plus parallel veterans events (in which Simon Tao made an appearance), but no separate categories for juniors. A wide range of ages and abilities turned out to enjoy the day, and clearly taking part was more important than results. That is not to say that games were not competitive. The latter stages, particularly of the doubles, were of an extremely high standard, fiercely fought in the fiercest of rivalry.

Doubles success, then, was the preserve of the more senior generation of players, some having opted out of the singles. However, the singles was dominated by the older young players (if you see what I mean). Michelle Cheung won the ladies singles with Bethany Wong runner-up. David Westwood won the men's singles, with brother William a close runner-up.

A fun day, and good food, was had by all.

Home Countries U15 Quadrangular

Christine Comras

Team: Laura Cousins, Katie Comras, Gabrielle White, Samantha Ward, Karen Hird, Chris Hotchen, Marcus Ellis, Jamie Bonsels, Robert Hird, Paul Schuller

The weekend began at 2 pm at the Quality Hotel, Milton Keynes, where England T-shirts were handed out. There was lots of excitement as we set off for the National Badminton Centre for a warm-up before the first match against Ireland.

The opening ceremony involved a parade of the four countries - England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The team looked really smart in red, white and blue tracksuits. The match of 10 rubbers began with doubles. Laura/Sam, playing as the No 1 pair, comfortably beat the opposition. Katie/Karen also won. Laura played No 1 singles and overall the team had an easy win 10-0.

The Comras/Cousins (parents) currently writing this in the car heading back to Milton Keynes for a 9.30 start against Wales. The team played well, another convincing 10-0 win. The play off for 1st/2nd place against Scotland took place immediately afterwards. As anticipated the games were much tougher now. Laura played Scotland No 1, Linda Sloan, and was narrowly beaten. However Laura/Sam took revenge in the doubles winning in 2 ends.

Overall a fantastic performance by England's U14 team who eventually won 7-3 to take the Emslie Trophy.

Individual Event

The mixed event saw Katie, playing with Paul Schuller (Nm), reach the quarter finals; Laura, partnering Marcus Ellis (Yo) reached the semis.

The singles and doubles took place on Sunday. It was back to Milton Keynes for the parents again - first thing in the morning for a 9.30 start.

Katie and Laura were at opposite ends of the draw. Everything went to plan according to England's seeding of the girls team. This meant that both girls reached the final (an all Herts final) which was scheduled for later.

In the doubles Laura played with Sam Ward, while Katie had a scratch pairing with Irish girl Joanne Flanagan. These pairs met in the quarter finals which Laura/Sam won. They then progressed easily to the final where they met the other English pairing Karen Hird/Gabrielle White. Gold medals for Laura/Sam after an exciting game - a quite stressful start for the parents as Laura/Sam went 9-1 down in the first end to go on to win in 2 ends.

The girls singles final then took place - Laura continued to show the excellent form she has shown throughout the season and won her second gold medal of the competition. Katie was delighted with silver.

England also won gold in the boys doubles (Chris Hotchen (GI)/Marcus Ellis (Yo)).

To all Schools and Clubs

Now is the time to re-affiliate for next season. Forms are enclosed with this letter (with a reply envelope). Cost for affiliation before August 1 is £7/00, going up to £9/00 after that date. For any individual affiliations, cost before August 1 is £5.00 going up to £6.00 after that date.

Final League Table 2002-2003

U12 Boys

1	Swifts
2	Gazelles
3	Harpenden
4	Much Hadham
5	Hemel Hempstead

U12 Girls

1	Swifts
2	Gazelles
3	Hitchin
4	Much Hadham

U15 Boys

1	Swifts
2	Stanstead Abbotts
3	Hitchin
4	All Saints

U15 Girls

1	Queenswood
2	Swifts
3	Harpenden
4	All Saints

U15 Medley

1	Swifts
2	Hemel Hempstead
3	Much Hadham

U18 Medley

1	Swifts
2	All Saints

U11 Singles Challenge 2003

Amanda Bursack

The U11 Singles Challenge is a relatively new addition to the badminton calendar and falls at the end of the season. The format is slightly different from most other tournaments: four regional rounds are played between six counties in each region, with the top six players from each region progressing as a team to play in the National Finals. The girls team in the regional round was Helena Lewczynska, Emily Westwood, Abigail Bursack and Laura Bygrave. The boys team was Richard Wilson, Scott Williams, Harry Sandford and Daniel Regan. They were competing against players from Berkshire, Essex, Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex.

The regional round was played Montem Leisure Centre in Slough on Saturday May 10, and it proved to be a day full of extremely exciting badminton. It was good to see all the members of the Herts team supporting each other so well.

The Herts team came first out of all the six counties, which was due to everybody trying their hardest, and even if the game was lost, recognising that each point really did count. Every player played a part in the success of the team.

The girls had a very successful day and all of them qualified for the Regional Team, finishing 1st, 2nd, 4th and 6th. This is something of a feat and has never happened before. The boys were not quite so successful, although all played a big part in the success of the team on the day. Richard Wilson was the only one from the boys team to qualify.

The National Finals were held at the National Badminton Centre at Milton Keynes on Saturday June 7. For some of the children this was their first 'serious' tournament but none of them seemed overawed by the situation - in fact there was an air of excitement.

Again, the format for these finals is quite unusual: there is no knockout round, but three rounds of boxes. This meant that all the children played 10 to 11 matches, a lot for children of that age.

The girls all played extremely well, with Helena and Emily going through in 2nd place in each of their boxes. Laura went through the box in 3rd place and Abigail went through in 4th. Richard won all his games 11-0 and went through his box in 1st place.

After the first round, there was a break for lunch and a well needed rest by all the players and supporters. Fortunately, the weather was kind to us and many people managed to have lunch outside in the fresh air.

After lunch the competition hotted up and so did the temperature in the hall. The second round was played in 4 boxes of 6 with the winners and runners-up from the previous round making up the top 2 boxes. Helena and Emily found themselves in the same box with some extremely tough opposition. There were some very close games and the girls went through the box with Emily at No 3 and Helena at No 5. Abigail and Laura also fought hard in their respective boxes and went through to the final round with Laura at No 5 and Abigail at No 6. Richard went through his box at No 5 after some very hard and close-run games.

The final round was played in 6 boxes of 4 again - the winners and runners-up of the top two boxes playing off for places 1-4, the 3rd and 4th placed players of the top two boxes playing off for places 5-8, and so on. By this point the children were getting very tired and very hot!

The final round again was very close - Emily again in a very tough box pulled out all the stops and won all her games 11-0 leaving her in 1st position. Helena finished in her box at No 2, having lost only one game. Abigail and Laura found themselves in the same box and played a very close game together, Laura finally beating Abigail 11-10. This put Laura at No 2 in the box and Abigail at No 3. Richard was also fighting hard and was 4th in his box.

Emily and Helena both finished the tournament in the top 10 - Emily in 5th place and Helena in 10th place. Richard finished 12th. Laura and Abigail were 22nd and 23rd. An extremely good performance by all the players during a very long and hot day.

The children took away from the day some invaluable experience, some happy memories and T-shirts given to them by the organisers with the New England Team BAD'MINK logo on them.

Swifts Presentation Evening

Presentation Evening was the last club night of the season. First there was a club photograph taken, then Marion Conway explained a little of the club's history to players and parents. She also thanked all those who had helped during the season, including some of the older girls who had given up their time to help with the beginners.

Before the Swifts presentations began, Ceri Lumb was presented with the 'Young Volunteer of the Year' award by David Bartlett.

Ken Winchester then presented the Swifts awards.

First were certificates to those who played in the Junior League matches, Swifts winning the U12 Boys, U12 Girls, U15 Boys and U15 Medley leagues and coming runner-up in the U15 Girls league.

Next came certificates of Endeavour and Improvement - Jack Calvert, Peter Chapman, Alex Cummings, Jo Edge, Joe Hague, Dominic Herring, Stephen Lau, Robert Marshall, Kathryn Mulloy, Ivan Player, Adam Proctor, Nick Saul, Nishil Shah and Lee Shepherd.

Swifts is run in 4 sessions by age and ability and some players, having been at the top of a session for some time, were moved up and missed out on a chance of a trophy or medal, so they were given a special award - Rahul Mehta, Rebecca Cousins, Oliver Hammond, Dhruvang Patel and James Absolon.

The present session leaders were:

Session 1:	Trophy Winner - Richard Stilwell	Gold medal - Steven George
	Silver medal - Michael Peak	Bronze medal - Hemali Patel

Session 2:	Trophy Winner - Andrew Clark	Gold medal - Gareth Lumb
	Silver medal - James Absolon	Bronze medals - Elinor Perks

Freddie Kenison

Session 3: Trophy Winner - Jack Sandford Gold medal - Adam Harcourt
Silver medal - Emily Westwood Bronze medal - Chris Clark

The youngest player at Swifts in Amy George (Year 1) and she and Luc Cook (Year 2) were awarded special 'Beginners' medals as they have only been playing for a few weeks and making very good progress.

The Year trophy and medal winners are as follows:

Year 3	Trophy Winner Gold medal	Gareth Lumb Michael Peak
Year 4	Trophy Winners Gold medal Silver medal Bronze medals	Hemali Patel / Freddie Kenison Ben Lau Chris Aley Steven George / Jim Tilby-Jones
Year 5	Trophy Winners Gold medals Silver medals Bronze medal	Emily Westwood / Harry Sandford Jo En Choi / Sam Adamson Sarah Franklin / Alex Lee Andrei Donko
Year 6	Trophy Winners Gold medals Silver medals Bronze medals	Helena Lewczynska / Richard Wilson Kate Herring / Jack Fernandez Hannah Cameron / Joe Gaynor Lauren Austin / Louisa Murch / Robert McKay / Richard Stilwell

Junior Championship Runners-up Emily Westwood / Harry Sandford

Junior Champions

Helena Lewczynska / Richard Wilson

Year 7	Trophy Winners Gold medals Silver medals Bronze medals	Rebecca Cousins / Simon Tranter Nicole Black / Ben Goodson Alice Bloomfield / Jonathan Morris Eleanor Golland / Lauren Gregory / Michael Ashworth / Chris Dennell / Rory Harcourt / Oscar Lam / James Murch
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(The boys had all beaten each other and it was difficult to decide between them)

Year 8	Trophy Winners Gold medals Silver medals Bronze medals	Rhian Blowers / Brian Roantree Melanie Harcourt / Matthew Adamson Angela Law / Dhruvang Patel Yvette Cook / Elinor Perks / James Athawes
Year 9	Trophy Winners Gold medal Silver medal Bronze medal	Claire Kerry / Hao Choi Nick Marney Sam Williams Jack Sandford
Year 10	Trophy Winners Gold medals Silver medal Bronze medals	Emily Crabb / Adam Harcourt Lucy Tape / Chris Clark Laura Roantree Sita Shah / Joanna Smith
Year 11	Trophy Winner Gold medal Silver medal	Chris Tranter Paul Kerry Graham Conway
Year 12	Trophy Winner	Naomi Brook

Year 13 Trophy Winner

Peter Hunt

Senior Championship Runners-up

Lucy Tape / Ben Bream

Senior Champions

Emily Crabb / Peter Hunt

The evening closed with Duncan Conway thanking everyone for coming and hoping to see all the players again in September.

From the editor: First I must apologise for anything that is wrong or left out of this Newsletter. My computer has completely collapsed and is not showing much sign of recovery, so I have had to 'borrow' my old computer from my daughter in order to produce any sort of Newsletter at all. As it does not have all the 'mod cons' of the newer machine and the screen gets very blurred after about 40 minutes, this has been typed over a number of days and a great deal of bad temper!! Thanks to Amanda Bursack, John Smith, Christine Comras and John Smith for their articles - please keep them coming next season - and a few new budding authors would also be welcome. Have a very happy summer holiday, and players - come back refreshed in September ready for another brilliant season.

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