



CIPPENHAM NEWS

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Louis is the new Maidenhead champ

A high quality array of competitors produced some wonderful and exciting table tennis as the Maidenhead & District Association held its annual championships at Cippenham.

Twenty players, including all of the top players from Division 1, contested the Championship Singles. They were drawn into five groups of four players each with the group winners being the Prasanna Kumar brothers, Sai and Bharath, plus two other Cippenham stars in Maciej Dlugozima and Louis Alexander together with Gary Crick from the Cookham Social club. The only surprise from the group stage was the double defeat for Michal Garski by Gary Crick (not so much a surprise!) and Peter Chipperton. In Michal's defence, he was obviously still very much handicapped by the serious hand injury he suffered a few months ago.

The second-placed players also qualified for the knock-out phase and these were Elroy Hull, Akeel Mir, Hari Prasad, Peter Chipperton and Chris Collins. The first round saw the elimination of Akeel, by Hari, and Peter, by Collins.

The quarter-finals saw the defending champion Sai beat Hari over four games, as did Bharath against Crick, Louis eliminating Elroy 3-0, as did three-times champion Maciej against Collins. Maciej did not contest the championship in 2024, had won in both 2023 and 2022, but was now up against the new breed of youngsters emerging from Ken Phillips' coaching regime at Cippenham.

Amongst those youngsters is Sai Prasanna Kumar, champion in 2024, when still only ten years old, and unbeaten in singles encounters across his two years of competing in the Maidenhead League. The semi-final draw pitched him against his older brother Bharath, the current Cippenham club champion. This turned out to be a match of epic proportions that swung one way and then the other with fast attacking play from both players. Eventually it was Sai who prevailed 11-7 in the fifth game. The other semi was just as close with Maciej opening up a two-game lead only for Louis to edge the



third 14-12. That spurred Louis on and the Cippenham Junior Player of the Year saw out the fourth and fifth games of the match 11-6, 11-7.

The final did not quite match the spectacle of the semi-finals as Louis, after a first game romp, won the next two in much closer fashion to inflict upon Sai his first ever singles defeat in a Maidenhead League competition.

Running alongside the main Championship Singles was the Division 2 Singles for players from the lower division. A five-player round-robin group proved successful for the Cippenham duo with Rohit Varshney, unbeaten in the League this season, winning comfortably while Randall Rodrigues secured second place.

Louis was denied a clean sweep of the championship events when in the doubles, partnered by Bharath, they were defeated by another Cippenham partnership in Sai and Hari.

Despite being the most heavily handicapped player in the draw, Sai was more than equal to the task and won the Handicap Singles, while the Handicap Doubles, for which the partners were drawn randomly, was won by Louis, partnered by Chris Collins.

Above: Singles champion Louis Alexander



Below: Doubles champions Sai Prasanna Kumar and Hari Prasad Vennapusa



Maidenhead Closed Results

Event	Winner	Runner-up
CS	Louis Alexander	Sai Prasanna Kumar
CD	Hari Prasad Vennapusa	Louis Alexander
D2S	Rohit Varshney	Randall Rodrigues
HS	Sai Prasanna Kumar	Gurneck Bains
HD	Louis Alexander Chris Collins	Maciej Dlugozima Louise Forster

Successful weekend for vets



Cippenham's three teams in the Veterans British Clubs League all had reasonably successful weekends, culminating in top four finishes as the season concluded at Derby Arena.

The men's first team of Martin Adams, Dave Barr, Andy Trott and Rob Hansell were sitting in second place in Division 1A after the first weekend and so the single promotion place on offer was always going to be difficult to achieve. So it proved as the Cippenham squad effectively mirrored the first half results, ending up in third place, just missing out on second place by sets aggregate to The Musketeers, the team's first opponents. Andy got the better of both Jason Thompson and Sujay Jagannathan in that first match and Rob overturned Jason Thompson, but neither Rob nor Martin could beat over-60s national champion Tim Dyson in a repeat of the previous 3-3 draw.

The next few matches saw Cippenham flourish as expected, pushing aside both St Georges and Foresters B with 6-0 scorelines. Foresters C put up more resistance, but a 4-2 win ensued, with a brace of wins each from Andy and Player of the Match Martin. The final match was against C. Jenkins Windows, the already-crowned table toppers and a team comprising of Scottish and Irish international players. A draw was needed to ensure second place but despite an epic effort from Rob, who beat both Gerry Campbell and Philip Wallace in a Player of the Match performance, Dave and Martin were unable to add to the tally and a 2-4 defeat resulted in a third-place finish.

The Cippenham men's second team were a little unlucky to ultimately finish fourth in Division 3A as, in a competitive division, only one point separated them from the runners-up position. Steve Joel was the team's most successful player, winning seven of his ten matches across the weekend, picking up two Player of the Match awards in the process. Altogether the team won three matches, all by 5-1 scorelines, and lost two, the first and last matches of the weekend.

CVS Rams were the first to inflict defeat on Cippenham. Steve and Samson Bekele won one apiece while Steve and Hari Gehlot were unlucky to both lose out 11-6 in the fifth game against

Howard Whewell. Paul Baker replaced Samson for the Saturday afternoon match against Graham Spicer Club and managed to beat Paul Elliott while Hari and Steve added four more between them. Saturday concluded with a similar scoreline against Draycott 3. This time it was Steve and Samson who won two each with Hari just missing out against Alan Cherry.

The winning ways continued on Sunday morning against Admiral Paws, the eventual winners of the division and a result that ended their opponents' one-hundred-percent record. Steve tore apart both David Tiplady and Pawel Meryn, conceding only twenty-five points in six games, Samson added two more and Hari also beat Tiplady. Having beaten top-placed opposition, Cippenham faced fifth-placed opposition in St Georges 2 for the final match and were surprisingly defeated 1-5 with only Hari managing a win.

The Cippenham team playing in Women's Division 3 qualified for a top-half finish in third place from the eight-team division and then retained that position during the second phase. With team captain Denise Weller unfit to play but cheering on from the sidelines, it was left to Mary Hefferman, Julie Dean and Sue Hayes to carry the flag.

Saturday saw the two matches left over from the first weekend to complete the first phase. Mary picked up the first of her three Player of the Match awards as Cippenham beat Foresters sixth team 5-1. Julie added two and Sue one. Third place was assured as Fulham Brunswick were defeated 4-2. Julie and Sue picked up one win apiece to supplement another brace from Mary.

At the point the division was split into two halves for the final three sessions. Saturday evening saw Cippenham score a useful 3-3 draw with Northern Belles after an all-round team performance in which all three players contributed a win each. With Sue resting a shoulder injury, and a third-place finish already assured, Cippenham could field only two players for the remaining matches on Sunday. The first of these resulted in a 1-5 defeat to Butterfly Lilleshall Lightning before a great performance, which saw both Cippenham players unbeaten, resulted in a 4-2 win over Fulham Brunswick.

Veterans British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Men's Division 1A							
C Jenkins Windows	10	9	1	0	46	14	19
The Musketeers	10	5	4	1	41	19	14
Cippenham 1	10	6	2	2	39	21	14
Foresters C	10	2	3	5	22	38	7
St Georges 1	10	1	3	6	17	43	5
Foresters B	10	0	1	9	15	45	1
Men's Division 3A							
Admiral Paws	10	8	0	2	39	21	16
CVS Rams	10	4	4	2	31	29	12
Draycott 3	10	4	3	3	34	26	11
Cippenham 2	10	4	3	3	32	28	11
St Georges 2	10	4	0	6	31	29	8
Graham Spicer 1	10	0	2	8	13	47	2
Women's Division 3 Stage 2							
Butterfly Lilleshall L'ng	10	9	1	0	46	14	19
Northern Belles	10	7	2	1	43	17	16
Cippenham	10	5	2	3	31	29	12
Fulham Brunswick	10	2	2	6	24	36	6
Women's Division 3 Stage 1							
Northern Belles	7	6	1	0	34	8	13
Butterfly Lilleshall L'ng	7	6	1	0	31	11	13
Cippenham	7	4	1	2	23	19	9
Fulham Brunswick	7	2	2	3	20	22	6
Sutton at Hone	7	1	3	3	18	24	5
Foresters 5	7	1	3	3	18	24	5
Halton TTC	7	0	3	4	11	31	3
Foresters 6	7	0	2	5	13	29	2

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Men 1				
Andy Trott	5	10	8	80
Robert Hansell	8	16	11	69
Martin Adams	9	18	12	67
David Barr	8	16	8	50
Men 2				
Samson Bekele	7	14	9	64
Hari Gehlot	10	20	12	60
Steve Joel	9	18	10	56
Paul Baker	4	8	1	13
Women				
Mary Hefferman	10	20	15	75
Julie Dean	10	20	10	50
Sue Hayes	8	16	6	38

Results:

Men 1	Men 2
3-3 The Musketeers	2-4 CVS Rams
6-0 St Georges 1	5-1 Graham Spicer 1
6-0 Foresters C	5-1 Draycott 3
4-2 Foresters B	5-1 Admiral Paws
2-4 C Jenkins Windows	1-5 St Georges 2
Women	
5-1 Foresters 6	
4-2 Fulham Brunswick	
3-3 Northern Belles	
1-5 Butterfly Lilleshall Lightning	
4-2 Fulham Brunswick	



Great weekend for five players

Five Cippenham players gained player of the match awards as the Club's three teams completed their Youth British Clubs League season at Derby over the weekend.

In the Girls Premier Division, the trio of Rachael Iles, Mia Lakhani and Anna Piercey won only one of their five matches but this was good enough to hold on to fourth position. The only victory came in the final match on Sunday afternoon against Belfast-based Ormeau. Mia was adjudged player of the match on this occasion as she and Rachael won all their matches. Earlier in the day it had been Rachael who won her two individual encounters to pick up the award but Cippenham lost 4-2 to the powerful Greenhouse team.

Saturday's matches had brought no joy at all as, faced with the top three teams in the country, they lost 1-5 to Draycott and 0-6 to both Grantham College and London Academy.

The boys' first team could not quite pick themselves up from bottom place in Division 4. William Saint picked up two player of the match awards. The first of

these was in the late Saturday match against Wood Green, won 4-2 by Cippenham and in which George Driscoll and Matt Ley both beat Austin Hibbit to complement William's brace. The other point picked up over the weekend was in the final match against eBaTT 4. William again won both his matches and George beat Samvit Balaji but was unlucky to lose 11-9 in the fifth and deciding game to Noah Bartram. Cippenham's other three matches ended in defeat.

The most successful Cippenham team during the weekend was the young boys' second team who managed to retain their second place in a highly competitive Division 7. Bharath Prasanna Kumar scooped two player of the match awards while his younger brother Sai, in the week of his eleventh birthday, was also rewarded once. The brothers won one encounter each in the opening 2-4 loss to SGS College Bristol 2 but the team then suffered a 0-6 loss to Fusion 3. Results then changed for the good as three successive victories secured the runners-up position with ultimately only sets aggregate separat-

ing the top three teams. Halton were the first to feel the force, beaten 5-1 with the Prasanna Kumar brothers winning two each aided by one from Louis Alexander. Onto Sunday and Bharath led the way with his team-mates chipping in with one each as south London-based Graham Spicer were beaten 4-2. The brothers again won their matches as the weekend concluded with a 5-1 win over BrumFord 2.



Rohan unbeaten on Day 3

The third day (out of four) of this season's Junior British Clubs League proved to be very successful for one player in particular. Rohan Bhide powered his way to a flawless aggregate of nine wins from nine matches and won the player of the match award on each of the three matches as a consequence. Rohan could not, however, win Division 3 for his Cippenham A side on his own. Edward Meacock assisted with six wins out of nine but Siri Egborge won one only although that did contribute to a handy 7-2 victory over Guildford A. His team also beat divisional winners Crusaders A 5-4 but lost out 4-5 against Ashford A.

Meanwhile, the Cippenham B team failed to win any of their three matches in Division 6, losing 4-5 to Warren Spring C, 3-6 to Warren Spring B and 1-8 to Crusaders D. Christopher Farrall returned to best personal aggregate with five wins from his nine matches while Daniel Brazil scored three times but Ahona Majumdar, on debut, was unable to add.

Junior British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 3 (Round 3)							
Crusaders A	3	2	0	1	18	9	18
Cippenham A	3	2	0	1	16	11	16
Ashford A	3	2	0	1	14	13	14
Guildford A	3	0	0	3	6	21	6
Division 6 (Round 3)							
Crusaders D	3	3	0	0	22	5	22
Warren Spring B	3	2	0	1	16	11	16
Cippenham B	3	0	0	3	8	19	8
Warren Spring C	3	1	0	2	8	19	8
Players' Averages (cumulative):							
	M	P	W	Av			
Cippenham A							
Rohan Bhide	6	17	16	94			
Edward Meacock	9	27	21	78			
Henry Wojcik	3	9	5	56			
Akpesiri Egborge	6	18	4	22			
Christopher Farrel	3	9	0	0			
Cippenham B							
Nayan Bhardwaj	3	9	9	100			
Christopher Farral	6	18	11	61			
Yaseen Abdelbary	3	9	5	56			
Daniel Brazil	6	18	9	50			
Jude Marshall	3	9	3	33			
Shaurya Bapna	3	9	2	22			
Ahona Majumdar	3	9	0	0			
Results:							
Cippenham A	Cippenham B						
4-5 Ashford A	1-8 Crusaders D						
7-2 Guildford A	4-5 Warren Spring C						
5-4 Crusaders A	3-6 Warren Spring B						

Youth British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boys' Division 4							
Drumchapel Glasgow	10	7	3	0	46	14	17
Ormeau 1	10	6	2	2	41	19	14
SGS College Bristol 1	10	6	2	2	39	21	14
eBaTT 4	10	1	4	5	16	44	6
Wood Green	10	2	1	7	22	38	5
Cippenham 1	10	1	2	7	16	44	4
Boys' Division 7							
Fusion 3	10	4	4	2	36	24	12
Cippenham 2	10	5	2	3	33	27	12
SGS College Bristol 2	10	5	2	3	31	29	12
BrumFord 2	10	3	3	4	29	31	9
Halton TTC	10	4	1	5	28	32	9
Graham Spicer	10	2	2	6	25	35	6
Girls' Premier Division							
London Academy 1	10	10	0	0	52	8	20
Grantham College 1	10	8	0	2	47	13	16
Draycott 1	10	6	0	4	38	22	12
Cippenham	10	3	0	7	18	42	6
Greenhouse 1	10	3	0	7	15	45	6
Ormeau 1	10	0	0	10	10	50	0
Players' Averages:							
	M	P	W	Av			
Boys 1							
William Saint	5	10	6	60			
Jamie Woodford	5	9	4	44			
George Driscoll	9	18	4	22			
Matt Ley	7	14	1	7			
Nick Carter	4	8	0	0			
Boys							
Bharath Prasanna Kumar	9	18	12	67			
Sai Prasanna Kumar	9	18	10	56			
Louis Alexander	10	20	10	50			
Matt Ley	2	4	1	25			
Girls							
Rachael Iles	10	20	9	45			
Mia Lakhani	10	20	7	35			
Anna Piercey	10	20	2	10			
Results:							
Boys 1	Boys 2						
1-5 Drumchapel Glasgow	2-4 SGS College Bristol 2						
0-6 SGS College Bristol 1	0-6 Fusion 3						
4-2 Wood Green	5-1 Halton TTC						
2-4 Ormeau 1	4-2 Graham Spicer						
3-3 eBaTT 4	5-1 BrumFord 2						
Girls							
1-5 Draycott 1							
0-6 Grantham College 1							
0-6 London Academy 1							
2-4 Greenhouse 1							
5-1 Ormeau 1							

CIPPENHAM NEWS

Key Club Contacts

Chairman, Head Coach & Coaching Officer
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Graham Trimming : 07903 335367

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Elena Tant: 07946 227098

Events Officer & Welfare Officer
Sue Hayes: 07716 821171

Volunteer Champion
Randall Rodrigues: 07311 137669

Weekend Diary

Sun 9 Mar: Cippenham Team 1* Open
Sat 15 Mar: Junior British Clubs League (day 4)
Sun 16 Mar: Cippenham Women & Girls' 1* Open
Sun 23 Mar: Berkshire Inter-Town
Sat 29 Mar: County Championships Veterans Div 3A
Sun 30 Mar: Cadet British Clubs League (day 4)
Sun 6 Apr: County Championships
Sat/Sun 12/13 Apr: Senior British Clubs League (w/e 4)

Weekday Timetable

Mon	18:00	Beginners' Coaching Group (<i>term time</i>)
	19:45	Advanced Coaching Group (<i>term time</i>)
Tues	19:15	Maidenhead League matches (<i>seasonal</i>)
	19:15	Practice tables
Weds	19:30	Elite Coaching Group (<i>term time</i>)
Thurs	19:15	Maidenhead League matches (<i>seasonal</i>)
	19:15	Practice tables

Fees Season 2024-25

	Full	Conc'n
Annual Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£20.00	£10.00
Family Membership (1/9 to 31/8)	£30.00	n/a
National Junior League registration	n/a	£13.00
National Cadet League registration	n/a	£13.00
Practice Fees	£4.50	£2.50
British League match fees	£5.00	
Maidenhead League Match Fees	£4.50	£2.50
Coaching Fees (Monday) (per term)		£30.00
Coaching Fees (Wednesday) (per term)		£40.00



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Bassam Mocharrarie 1957-2025



It is with huge shock and great sadness that we have to report that Bassam Mocharrarie, a valued member of our Club, collapsed during a Maidenhead League match at Cippenham on 4th March and died at the scene. Bas had completed his first match of the evening and then col-

lapsed a few moments afterwards, the cause being a suspected heart attack. Despite the best efforts from Club staff, including the use of the Club's own defibrillator, and the emergency services, Bas could not be revived.

Shortly before the match, Bas had a long and jovial conversation with Club Chairman Ken Phillips and seemed to be in very good spirits. He was a popular member of the Club since 2012, coming all the way from his home in Chesham many evenings for training and also some weekends just to watch. Bas was a competent player and featured in the Buckinghamshire county over-60s second team a couple of years ago. He was 68 years old.

RIP.



Congratulations to the quartet of successful Club members at the inaugural TTE Series finals: Rachael Iles, Mia Lakhani and Anna Piercey (1st, 3rd, 6th in U19 Girls), plus Sai Prasanna Kumar (winner Division 2 U13 Boys). Photo: TTE

Cippenham Table Tennis Club

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