



CIPPENHAM NEWS

Official Newsletter of Cippenham Table Tennis Club : January 2026 : No. 258

Happy New Year to all Members and Guests

Awards for Jan, Mary, Sai and Rachael

Christmas was celebrated at Cippenham on the Thursday prior to the big day with a "Festive Evening" for members and their families. The evening included the presentation of the annual awards and a friendly hard-bat competition for those who simply can't stop playing just because it's Christmas.

Despite the wet weather, the event was extremely well supported and the organisers were very pleased with the attendance of over fifty people. It was delightful to see so many families attend with their children. There was mulled wine, mince pies and plenty of other tasty stuff to eat and drink. The whole evening was set-up and organised by Martin Adams, to whom we extend our grateful thanks,

The first event of the evening was the presentation of our annual awards, presided over by Graham Trimming. For very many years this has been a highlight of the year with our junior and senior players of the year honoured and the prestigious award for outstanding contribution made to our most valued volunteer of the year.

The first presentation was for the Alan Farral and Terry Boxall Junior Players of the Year. This year there were two players nominated, one boy and one girl. Unfortunately, Rachael Iles, who has risen during the year to number four on the England junior girls' ranking list, was not able to attend. However, Sai Prasanna Kumar, who has swept all aside on the national and international stage and retained his number one position in his age group on the national ranking list, was there to accept his honour. The Senior Player of the Year award went to Mary Heffernan for her performances in both the Maidenhead League and the British league last season.

The highlight is always the presentation of the Karen Mitchell Outstanding Contribution Award. This year the award went to Jan Chapman for her devoted



**Top: Jamie Woodford and Martin Adams.
Below (l-r): Mary Heffernan; Jan Chapman; Sai Prasanna Kumar**

service in assisting Ken Phillips at the weekly Monday and Wednesday coaching sessions. This is the third time that Jan has won this prestigious honour during a spell with the Club over more than a quarter of a century.

Of course, we could not let the evening go by without a little table tennis. Twenty-seven players took to the tables for a friendly hard-bat competition. The players were organised into nine groups with the group winners progressing into the knock-out stages. The quarter-final winners were Jamie Woodford over Wikas Hussaib, Maciej Dlugozima over Pallavi Mistry, Priyanka Sabharwal in a spectacular five games, including four deuce games, over Chloe Ireland, and Sai Prasanna Kumar over Mustafa. Last year's winner Jamie was victorious over Maciej in his semi-final as was Sai over Priyanka. A five-game final saw Jamie retain his title over Sai.

Rachael's senior international debut



Cippenham's Rachael Iles made her senior international debut for England during the Home Nations Championships in Dublin in November. Rachael was originally selected for the junior girls' team but a withdrawal saw her promoted to the senior women's team instead where she partnered Ella Pashley and together they took the silver medal by being runners-up in their section.

This season Rachael's ranking positions have elevated to four in the national girl's list and nine in the seniors.

Good start for our girls in WBCL

Cippenham made an unbeaten start to the new Women's British Clubs League campaign at Wolverhampton in early November. Last year's runaway champions of Division 2 duly took their place in Division 1 and currently sit in the middle of three teams all tied at the top of the table with seven points, separated only by sets ratio.

The unbeaten record included two victories, both by 5-1, against the bottom two teams in the division while the other three matches all resulted in 3-3 draws. Rachael Iles and Mia Lakhani both won eight of their ten individual matches, and shared four Player of the Match awards between them, while Anna Piercey provided valuable support with three wins.

The weekend started off with a 5-1 win over Byng Hall although the Kent-based side did provide sterner opposition than the scoreline might suggest. Only one set was won 3-0, that between Rachael and Jurate Brazaityte while Mia was extended to a fifth and deciding game by both Letitia McMullan and Annabelle Baker. Anna beat Baker over four games.

The Saturday afternoon match provided opposition from across the Irish Sea in the form of Ormeau. The 3-3 result ulti-



(l-r): Mia Lakhani; Anna Piercey; Rachael Iles

mately hinged upon the results against the Irish team's number one player Sabina Devereux. While Mia won her contest 11-4 in the fifth game, Rachael was not so fortunate and was defeated 11-9 in the fifth after having won the first two games.

Saturday concluded with another drawn match, this time against Worthing for whom Holly Holder won both her matches. Rachael also won both of hers against Sally Hughes and Darcie Proud while Mia was also successful against Hughes.

It was deja-vu on Sunday morning as a 3-3 draw was the result for the third consecutive match. Widnes-based Halton provided the opposition. The scorers for Cippenham were Rachael, with two, and Mia with one.

Women's British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 1							
Halton TTC 1	5	3	1	1	20	10	7
Cippenham	5	2	3	0	19	11	7
Worthing A	5	3	1	1	17	13	7
Ormeau	5	2	1	2	13	17	5
Ellenborough TTC 1	5	2	0	3	12	18	4
Byng Hall TTC	5	0	0	5	9	21	0

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Rachael Iles	5	10	8	80
Mia Lakhani	5	10	8	80
Anna Piercey	5	10	3	30

Results:

5-1 Byng Hall TTC	3-3 Halton TTC 1
3-3 Ormeau	5-1 Ellenborough TTC 1
3-3 Worthing A	

It took three fifth-game wins for Cippenham to overcome Ellenborough 5-1 in the final match. The Enfield-based team went ahead when Rachael fell to Ewa Foskett but after that it was all Cippenham. Mia beat Gabriela Tankel at deuce in the fifth and Maisha Patel three-straight while Anna survived two close matches to defeat both Patel and Foskett. In between those, Rachael made slightly easier work of Tankel.

Tough step up for the women's over-60 team

After winning Division 2 last season, the Cippenham team found the going much tougher this year in the top women's division of the VETTS Super 60 Team Competition, eventually finishing fifth out of six teams.

Celia Hooker and Sue Hayes both got the better of Marilyn Bawden as Cippenham lost out 4-2 to The Golden Girls in the opening match on Saturday morning. Bribar Crewe Central, featuring three former England number one ranked veterans in their team, provided even sterner opposition in the second match despite Celia and Mary Heffernan extending Helen Shields and Karen Smith respectively to 11-9 in the fifth and deciding game.

Saturday concluded on a much brighter note with bottom team Iron Belles defeated 4-2. Mary was the star of this match, winning her matches against Linda Ruff and Julie Johnson, while supported by Celia and Dawn Pearce



(l-r) Mary Heffernan; Sue Hayes; Celia Hooker; Dawn Pearce

who both beat Doreen Tierney.

Champions CJJS were just too strong for Cippenham, on Sunday morning, running out easy 6-0 winners. The weekend then concluded with defeat against fourth-placed Foresters 5-1. Celia enjoyed Cippenham's solitary success against Elaine Sayer while Mary went 2-0 up against Joy Daniels but could not quite turn that lead into victory.

VETTS Super 60 Team Comp

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Women's Division 1							
CJJS	5	4	1	0	22	8	9
The Golden Girls	5	2	3	0	19	11	7
Bribar Crewe Central	5	2	2	1	20	10	6
Foresters	5	2	2	1	18	12	6
Cippenham	5	1	0	4	7	23	2
Iron Belles	5	0	0	5	4	26	0

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Celia Hooker	4	8	3	38
Mary Heffernan	4	8	2	25
Sue Hayes	3	6	1	17
Dawn Pearce	4	8	1	13

Results:

2-4 The Golden Girls	0-6 CJJS
0-6 Bribar Crewe Central	1-5 Foresters
4-2 Iron Belles	

First team keep up the pressure

Cippenham's first team in the Senior British Clubs League kept up the pressure at the top of National Division B-2 at the weekend. Hosting the second weekend of competition, Cippenham won all four of their matches but still could only finish third in the division after eight of the total of fourteen matches. Like Fusion 3 and Waterside, they sit with fourteen points from a maximum of sixteen but an inferior sets aggregate denies them a spot in the top two. The upside is that Cippenham sit six points ahead of the fourth-placed team and, barring a total decline when the league resumes in the new year, seem assured of a position in the top three come March.

The successful weekend started with a 6-3 win over Joola Plymouth 2 on Saturday morning. It looked ominous for Cippenham as Dave Barr, who missed the first weekend, was beaten 3-0 by Harry Cutler but after that only Steve Munson's first game and, unusually for Cippenham, the doubles set went against the hosts. Team captain Martin Adams was designated Player of the Match for his 3-0 victories over Bailey Page and Cutler. Rob Hansell also scored a brace but was made to work hard by Toby Maticott after defeating Herbie Sage 3-0 who was also beaten by Barr.

Another 6-3 success was recorded in the afternoon. The opponents were Foresters whose only successes on the table were against Steve Munson. Rob Hansell, after beating Peter Stahlman, suffered an injury in the doubles and was not able to play his other singles match and this also prevented him from participating the following day. This time the Player of the Match award went to Dave Barr following his routing of both Mark Collins and Stahlman. Martin Adams maintained his unbeaten record for the day, defeating Collins easily but needed a fourth game to get the better of Dan Young.

Shae Thakker replaced Steve Munson for Sunday's matches and Hari Gehlot was promoted into the first team in place of the injured Rob. The first match was a real tester against previously unbeaten Waterside. Despite Martin having a rare off day, Cippenham rose to the occasion with Shae playing a leading part. He defeated both James Mason and Sam Ricks while Dave also beat Ricks and added the scalp of Adam Klos. Hari played an

important part with a win in the doubles with Martin and administering the final act of the match when he easily beat Mason.

Cippenham's perfect weekend concluded with their closest match, 5-4 against mid-table Gwent. Martin was Player of the Match for the second time as he defeated both Toby Harwood and Patrick Thomas. The other successes for Cippenham were shared one each between the three other players but it was left to Hari to play the pressure game at 4-4 but he managed it with aplomb against Scott Johnston, 3-0.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the hall, the Cippenham second team were enjoying mixed fortunes with two wins and two losses in Division C-5. England under-11 champion Sai Prasanna Kumar was the star in the opening match. His wins against Chris Peters and Anthony Vingoe were instrumental in his team securing a 6-3 win over bottom-of-the-table Falmouth Docks. Sai's bother Bharath also won both his matches against Vingoe and Aiden Rollason while Hari Gehlot and Louis Alexander won one each, both losing to the Cornwall side's number one, Tobit Dehren.

The first reverse of the weekend was suffered on Saturday afternoon when Horsham, who had a record of 4-0 across the weekend, prospered 6-3. Cippenham found themselves 6-0 down before rallying to win the last three sets.

George Driscoll replaced Hari Gehlot for the matches on Sunday, coming into the team at number four and pushing his three team-mates up one place. However, the young Cippenham team, all members of the club's successful junior squad, rose magnificently to the cause to beat Newton Abbot 6-3. George emerged as Player of the Match after beating both Wim Faassen and Paul Davey while Louis, elevated to the number one position, also excelled with great victories over the Devon side's top two, Kevin Nicholls and Michael Hugh. The Prasanna Kumar brothers both won their first singles matches as Cippenham romped into a 4-0 lead.

Maybe it was a case of "after the Lord Mayor's show" as the weekend concluded with a disappointing 6-3 defeat against Isle of Wight. Sai won both his matches against Andy Prince and, sensationally, Chris Hannides, while George also got the better of Prince.



Senior British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
National Division B-2							
Fusion 3	8	7	0	1	60	12	14
Waterside	8	7	0	1	50	22	14
Cippenham 1	8	7	0	1	44	28	14
Foresters 1	8	4	0	4	37	35	8
Gwent TTC	8	4	0	4	33	39	8
Crusaders	8	2	0	6	26	46	4
Joola Plymouth 2	8	1	0	7	15	57	2
Bristol Associates	8	0	0	8	23	49	0
National Division C-5							
Ellenborough 1	8	8	0	0	57	15	16
Horsham A	8	5	0	3	43	29	10
Godalming Simply Let	8	5	0	3	42	30	10
Isle of Wight 1	8	5	0	3	38	34	10
Cippenham 2	8	4	0	4	37	35	8
Newton Abbot TTC	8	3	0	5	36	36	6
Generation 2	8	2	0	6	20	52	4
Falmouth Docks	8	0	0	8	15	57	0

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham 1				
Martin Adams	8	16	12	75
Shae Thakker	4	8	6	75
Dave Barr	4	8	6	75
Martin Gray	2	4	3	75
Robert Hansell	6	11	7	64
Hari Gehlot	2	4	2	50
Andy Norwood	2	4	2	50
Steve Munson	4	8	1	13
Cippenham 2				
Sai Prasanna Kumar	4	8	6	75
Louis Alexander	8	16	9	56
Bharath Prasanna Kumar	8	16	9	56
Steve Joel	2	4	2	50
George Driscoll	6	12	5	42
Hari Gehlot	4	8	3	38

Results:

Cippenham 1	Cippenham 2
6-3 Joola Plymouth 2	6-3 Falmouth Docks
6-3 Foresters 1	3-6 Horsham A
6-3 Waterside	6-3 Newton Abbot TTC
5-4 Gwent TTC	3-6 Isle of Wight 1

Calling all women and girls—have you entered yet?



Junior and cadet leagues get underway

Junior League Round 1

Cippenham Table Tennis Centre is once again hosting all four days of the Junior British Clubs League, formerly known as the National Junior League. Four of the twelve players representing Cippenham on the opening day were making their debuts for the Club, maintaining the long tradition that the Club has of introducing new youngsters into the sport.

The most successful of the Cippenham teams was the "A" team. They finished second in Division One largely due to the exploits of George Driscoll who won all nine of his matches and, as a consequence, was named Player of the Match for all three matches.

The B team were less successful and finished bottom of Division 5 despite enjoying a superb 6-3 victory over second-placed Chiltern B in their second match. This was a fine team performance as all three players, Armaan Koteswar, Jude Marshall and Nayan Yelkur each won two of their individual encounters

The Cippenham C team were placed in the basement Division 6 and finished third. Their solitary victory came in the opening match, 7-2 against Twickenham Brunswick C. Ayush Kulkarni, by virtue of winning all three matches, picked up the Player of the Match award and he was well supported by Saavan Hunjan and Shreyas Wagle who won two each. Saavan again won twice as Cippenham lost 7-2 to Stanmore C and then the day finished with another defeat, this time 6-3 to Ashford D.

Junior League Round 2

It was a disappointing second day for Cippenham A in the Junior British Clubs League. George Driscoll could not quite repeat his unbeaten form from day one but still won six of his nine matches, including a Player of the Match three in his team's 5-4 victory over Crusaders A. Rohan Bhide also won three of his six matches but neither Aaron Mendonca nor Anish Adapa could add to the scoreline.

Following relegation last time around, the Cippenham B team found themselves in Division 6 alongside the club's C team. The match between the two host teams resulted in a 6-3 victory for the B team with Jude Marshall's three wins earning him the Player of the March accolade. Ayush Kulkarni also gained this award when his C team beat Twick-

enham Brunswick C 6-3.

The B team duly also won their other two matches, 9-0 against Twickenham and 5-4 against Ashford D with Armaan Koteswar and Nayan Yelkar providing

Junior British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 1—Round 1							
Stanmore A	3	3	0	0	21	6	21
Cippenham A	3	2	0	1	15	12	15
Twickenham Brunsw'k A	3	1	0	2	13	14	13
Cumberland	3	0	0	3	5	22	5

Division 5—Round 1							
Ashford C	3	2	0	1	17	10	17
Chiltern B	3	2	0	1	14	13	14
Crusaders D	3	1	0	2	13	14	13
Cippenham B	3	1	0	2	10	17	10

Division 6—Round 1							
Stanmore C	3	3	0	0	22	5	22
Ashford D	3	2	0	1	16	11	16
Cippenham C	3	1	0	2	12	15	12
Twickenham Brunsw'k C	3	0	0	3	4	23	4

Division 1—Round 2							
Stanmore A	3	3	0	0	20	7	20
Twickenham Brunsw'k A	3	2	0	1	14	13	14
Crusaders A	3	0	0	3	11	16	11
Cippenham A	3	1	0	2	9	18	9

Division 6—Round 2							
Cippenham B	3	3	0	0	20	7	20
Ashford D	3	2	0	1	18	9	18
Cippenham C	3	1	0	2	12	15	12
Twickenham Brunsw'k C	3	0	0	3	4	23	4

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham A				
George Driscoll	6	18	15	83
Rohan Bhide	4	11	5	45
Anish Adapa	4	11	1	9
Aaron Mendonca	4	12	1	8
Cippenham B				
Jude Marshall	5	15	11	73
Armaan Koteswar	6	18	11	61
Nayan Yelkur	5	15	8	53
Ignacy Jaraszek	2	6	0	0
Cippenham C				
Saavan Hunjan	2	6	4	67
Ayush Kulkarni	5	15	8	53
Shaurya Bapna	2	6	3	50
Simon Powell	5	15	6	40
Shreyas Wagle	4	12	3	25

Results:	
Round 1	Round 2
Cippenham A	
5-4 Cumberland	1-8 Stanmore A
7-2 Twickenham Bruns A	5-4 Crusaders A
3-6 Stanmore A	3-6 Twickenham Bruns A
Cippenham B	
2-7 Crusaders D	6-3 Cippenham C
6-3 Chiltern B	5-4 Ashford D
2-7 Ashford C	9-0 Twickenham Bruns C
Cippenham C	
7-2 Twickenham Bruns C	3-6 Cippenham B
2-7 Stanmore C	6-3 Twickenham Bruns C
3-6 Ashford D	3-6 Ashford D

Cadet League Round 1

Cippenham A were placed in a highly competitive Division 3 and finished second, sandwiched between two other teams on the same number of points. Cippenham started with a 6-3 win over bottom-placed Chiltern B and followed this up with the same scoreline against divisional leaders Crusaders B.

Cippenham B topped Division 5 and secured promotion next time around. After losing their first match 5-4 against Graham Spicer 8, they won both their next two matches, 8-1 against Warren Spring C and 5-4 against Ashford C.

Likewise, the Cippenham C team won Division 6 and they won all of their matches. Both Saavan Hunjan, who was nominated player of the match all three times, and Simon Powell, remained unbeaten throughout the day.

Cadet British Clubs League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Division 3—Round 1							
Crusaders B	3	2	0	1	17	10	17
Cippenham A	3	2	0	1	15	12	15
Kingfisher C	3	2	0	1	14	15	14
Chiltern B	3	0	0	3	8	19	8

Division 5—Round 1							
Cippenham B	3	3	0	0	17	10	17
Graham Spicer B	3	2	0	1	14	13	14
Ashford C	3	1	0	2	14	13	14
Warren Spring C	3	1	0	2	9	18	9

Division 6—Round 1							
Cippenham C	3	3	0	0	24	3	24
Graham Spicer B	3	2	0	1	18	9	18
Crusaders D	3	1	0	2	11	16	11
Ashford D	3	0	0	3	1	26	1

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Cippenham A				
Armaan Koteswar	3	9	7	78
Anish Adapa	3	0	5	56
Nayan Yelkur	3	9	3	33
Cippenham B				
Yuvan Varshney	3	9	8	89
Ayush Kulkarni	3	9	7	78
Ignacy Jaraszek	3	9	2	22
Cippenham C				
Simon Powell	3	9	9	100
Saavan Hunjan	3	9	9	100
Shreyas Wagle	3	9	6	67

Results:	
Cippenham A	Cippenham B
6-3 Chiltern B	4-5 Graham Spicer B
6-3 Crusaders B	8-1 Warren Spring C
3-6 Kingfisher C	5-4 Ashford C
Cippenham C	
7-2 Graham Spicer 9	
9-0 Crusaders D	
8-1 Ashford D	

CIPPENHAM NEWS

Key Club Contacts

Chairman, Events Officer & Welfare Officer

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Martin Adams: martin.adams@cippenhamttc.co.uk

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Randall Rodrigues: randall.rodrigues@cippenhamttc.co.uk

Weekend Diary

Jan 10:	Reading Individual Handicap
Jan 11:	Cadet British Clubs League (2)
Jan 17:	Senior British Clubs League (3)
Jan 18:	Cippenham Team 2-Star Open
Jan 24:	Junior British Clubs League (3)
Jan 25:	County Championships Over-60s (Surrey)
Feb 1:	Cadet British Clubs League (3)
Feb 8:	Heathrow League (4)
Feb 15:	Berkshire Inter-Town
Feb 28:	Junior British Clubs League (4)
Mar 1:	Cippenham Women & Girls' 1-Star Open
Mar 7:	County Championships Veterans Division
Mar 8:	County Championships Veterans (Surrey)
Mar 15:	Cadet British Clubs League (4)
Mar 21:	Reading Closed Championships
Mar 22:	Heathrow League (4)
Mar 28/29:	Senior British Clubs League (4)
Apr 12:	Heathrow League (6)

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

Maidenhead League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NWCA Bluejays	12	12	0	0	95	25	95
Cippenham Trojans	11	8	2	1	74	36	74
Cookham Social Pumas	12	6	2	4	65	55	65
OLOP Bears	11	4	2	5	53	57	53
Old Gords Harriers	10	4	2	4	50	50	50
Cippenham Saxons	12	3	1	8	49	71	49
Cippenham Spartans	10	2	0	8	35	65	35
NWCA Sharks	12	1	1	10	29	91	29

Players' Averages:

	M	P	W	Av
Trojans				
Sai Prasanna Kumar	6	18	18	100
Jake Neilson	9	26	20	77
Hari Prasad Vennapusa	5	14	9	64
Graham Trimming	9	26	14	54
Sue Hayes	3	9	1	11
Saxons				
Chloe Ireland	6	18	16	89
Bharath Prasanna Kumar	3	9	8	89
Mary Heffernan	2	6	4	67
Peter Chipperton	10	30	12	40
Qasim Hussain	4	12	3	25
Margaret Thornton	9	27	3	11
Spartans				
Amit Kumar	9	27	17	63
Rohit Varshney	6	18	10	56
Armando Borges	5	15	3	20
Randall Rodrigues	7	21	2	10
Steve Piercy	3	9	0	0

Fees Season 2025-26

	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
Junior British Clubs League registration	n/a	£13.00
Cadet British Clubs League registration	n/a	£13.00
Practice Fees	£4.50	£2.50
British Clubs Leagues 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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Cippenham Table Tennis Club

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