



# Brandon & Byshottles Table Tennis Club

**Chair**  
Tony Taylor

**Secretary**  
Martin Knopf

**Welfare Officer**  
Chris Leishman

**Deputy Chair**  
Vacant

**Treasurer**  
Paul Lupton

**Coaching Officer**  
Paul Henderson

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Website : 'tabletennis365.com/brandonandbyshottles'

## Annual Report for 2016/17

### **Introduction**

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, our Club was announced as Sunderland and District TT Association's Club of the Year for 2015/16 at a Presentation Evening held in the King Suite, Queen Victoria Hotel, Roker, and we ended the financial year by winning the Table Tennis England (TTE) 'Pride of Table Tennis Club of the Year' award for 2016 at the PG Mutual National Championships held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at the University of Nottingham. In between these successes, we hosted a Disability Awareness Training Course, and a UKCC Level 1 coaching course on behalf of TTE, and had representatives John Spencer and Tony Taylor attend a TTE Club and Volunteer conference held at Durham County Cricket Club, Chester-le-Street, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016, to deliver a presentation on the Club's grant funding successes. In addition, Chairman Tony was honoured by winning County Durham Sport's 'Contribution to Sport' award for 2015/16 which was presented at the Sport & Physical Activity Awards for County Durham held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at the Ramside Hall Hotel, and we narrowly missed out to Stoke on bringing an England v Netherlands European Championship Qualifying match to Meadowfield Leisure Centre, Durham.

### **Club Management Committee**

At the Club's AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Paul Lupton was elected as Treasurer to take over from Lynn Reilly who had left to become a children's foster carer whilst John Leeman resigned from the Committee and was replaced by Caroline Lee, Alan Perry and Peter Whitfield. Early in 2017 Vice Chairman Tom Sharples resigned due to health issues and the position remains vacant.

### **Grant Funding**

Thanks to the efforts of John Spencer, grant funding of £5,338 was received from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust which has helped fund the Saturday morning coaching sessions since 19<sup>th</sup> November 2016 which costs the Club £90 per week in coaching fees and hall hire costs. This funding is due to cease in November 2017. A similar funding agreement operates under the NHS Change4Life programme where grant funding of £2,974 has subsidised our Wednesday morning sessions which are aimed at encouraging social and recreational players to participate in healthy exercise and which cost £40 per week in coaching fee and hall hire costs. This programme commenced on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and runs for one year.

### **Competitive play in the Northumbria and Sunderland Leagues**

Our Club has made tremendous progress since it first competed in the local Sunderland and Northumbria Leagues in 2014. We started with one team in Division 4 of the Northumbria Summer League and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> of 8. Two teams were entered in Division 3 of the Sunderland (Winter) League and one team in Division 4 of the Northumbria League for season 2014/15, and two of the teams won promotion as champions from both of those Divisions. This initial success encouraged other club members to compete in league play. Consequently, five teams represented the Club in the Northumbria Summer League 2016 and in the 2016/17 season 6 teams played in the Sunderland League and another 2 competed in the Northumbria League.

So great was the demand for space at our club in Brandon Community Hall to accommodate match play that a decision was taken to accept an offer from neighbouring Sacriston TT Club to share the use of their Freeman's Quay Leisure Centre premises for the playing of all our 'Home' fixtures in the Sunderland League for the 2016/17 season. This eased the pressure on our Club's facilities somewhat but was not popular with the majority of Club members.

However, this did not prevent our Club from enjoying its most successful season to date with our teams and individuals receiving the following awards:-

**Sunderland Closed Tournament:-**

Under 13 Singles Winner	Patrick Nicholson
Cadet Boys Singles Runner Up	Troy Maddison
Consolation Singles Winner	Lee Tinkler
Consolation Singles Runner Up	Troy Maddison
Singles Handicap Winner	Lee Tinkler
Team Handicap Cup Winners	Brandon Air
League Division 3 Winners	Brandon Crusaders
League Division 2 Winners	Brandon Air
League Division 2 Runners Up	Brandon Bullets
Savoy Taxis Trophy-Young Player of the Year	Lee Tinkler

**Northumbria League:-**

**Summer 2016:-**

League Division 3 Runners Up	Brandon Anacondas
League Division 4 Winners	Brandon Bees
League Division 5 Runners Up	Brandon Devils

**Winter 2016/17:-**

League Division 3 Winners	Brandon Anacondas
Band 3 Singles Competition	Jamie Lupton
Fun Doubles Competition	Paul Lupton (with Lee Eadington)

**School links**

Club Coach Paul Henderson continues to provide weekly coaching sessions at Browney Academy and is available upon request to other local primary and secondary schools. It is hoped that these coaching activities at local schools, together with festivals and tournaments held at our club premises will encourage more junior players to take up the sport and join our Club

**Satellite Club**

Despite the disappointment of being unsuccessful in establishing a Community Club at Belmont Community School following a year of 'satellite club' activity there funded by County Durham Sport, we have been notified that our application to have one at St. Leonard's School in Durham has been accepted and Club Coach Paul Henderson will be commencing coaching sessions there on a Wednesday afternoon after the Easter Holidays as part of a programme which will run until March 2018.

**Future Development of the Club**

In view of the fact that we have almost reached capacity at Brandon Community Hall in terms of available space and further hall hire opportunities, the Club's Management Committee continues to explore all other available options which offers suitable alternative or additional facilities such as school sports halls and leisure centres for expansion of our activities to meet the objectives in Club Development Plan.

Tony Taylor,  
Chairman,  
Brandon & Byshottles TT Club  
31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

