



## Welcome to the new season - and the new TTAW newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of our brand new information bulletin. We aim is to keep members up to date with what is happening within Wales. We will publish regularly during the season.

As well as general news and features there will be regular sections on both domestic and international events. We also aim to have a regular "Around the Leagues and Clubs" slot to give local organisers an opportunity to let us know what is happening in their areas. If you have something you would like us to include or to be included in our distribution list please email [philipaveryco@hotmail.com](mailto:philipaveryco@hotmail.com).

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### A view from the chair - Bernie Carter

During my first year as Chairman of TTAW, we have seen notable successes.

Last November Ryan Jenkins was awarded the Coach of the Year Award by Sport Wales in recognition for his coaching achievements with our young players. A month later Sport Wales granted us extra funding for a General Manager position to be created. We were one of only four sports in Wales to be supported in this way. The focus of this position should increase our funding and volunteer base as we continue to grow.

In the early part of this year notable playing performances were achieved by our girl's squad - with the boy's squad not too far behind. The World Team Championships at Dortmund followed with both teams improving their World rankings.

In May all the directors attended a two day strategy meeting where our future plans were proposed, discussed and agreed. The work of our new General Manager, Phil Avery, has already started to have an influence on day to day events and our strategy programme.

In a recent conversation with Ryan Jenkins about our successes in 2012 and continuation into 2013, I mentioned the motto of Newport High School, the school I attended some years back. It was in Welsh 'Nid d'allir gwellir gwell' which literally translates to 'Nothing is good where better is possible'. Ryan agreed. I recently had the opportunity to communicate this again when I attended and spoke briefly at the recently well attended awards evening at Gorseinon. I believe, with the talent we have in our squad of young players, the fantastic support of the parents coupled with the ability and enthusiasm of the coaching team, even better is possible. I can assure you that the Board will do their utmost to secure the necessary funding and to apply their energies to making this happen.

Hopefully, as Chairman, I will see further successes in the coming season.

Bernard Carter Chairman

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## Coaching Corner - by Ryan Jenkins

### **Simon is Honoured**

Simon Oyler was rewarded for his hard work in the Cardiff area by receiving the 'Young Coach of the Year' award at the Sport Cardiff annual awards at the Swalec Stadium. Simon has been a part time coach with the TTAW for the past 2 years.

### **The Vale and Caerphilly are added**

Stephen Jenkins (of Stephen Jenkins Sports Agency) has expanded his operations to the Vale of Glamorgan and Caerphilly councils. With LAPA agreements in place, more provision is possible in schools and clubs, to follow on from the Rhondda Cynon Taff model that has been so successful to date.

### **Thank You Aled**

Aled Howells said farewell to Welsh Table Tennis in July to start a new chapter in his career with the English Table Tennis Association. Aled has been very successful in starting a programme in West Wales and has helped with numerous players coming into the performance programme in Cardiff. Good luck Aled in your new role and come back soon.

### **New Academy Opens**

Nathan Thomas has now opened his full time table tennis club in Cathays which offers a unique table tennis experience. Nathan's club ([www.cathaystabledtennisclub.com](http://www.cathaystabledtennisclub.com)) is open all day to help promote table tennis to individuals, schools, university and club players. Contact him through the website and get down there!

### **UKCC**

Nathan Thomas has started his UKCC Level 3 course. The 8 day, season long course is run from Lilleshall on weekends.

### **New boy on the block**

Mostyn Lewis of Swansea, who has been involved previously with the TTAW in a coaching capacity, has agreed to serve on the board of directors and take up the Coaching Officer role to oversee UKCC and Leaders course projects. Mostyn has a wealth of experience and will fit nicely into the coaching team.

### **Coaches EYE**

Name: Stephen Jenkins

Club: Tonyrefail TTC

Coaching Philosophy: "Work harder than the rest to be the best"

Best coaching result: Coached several Welsh players to British and Welsh Championships

Number of Years involved: 7

Coaching Goal: To take a player to Commonwealth Gold someday.

### **Events:**

3 week summer camps in August

Ryan Oyler, Jac Jenkins, Callum Evans & Chris Griffiths go to China – August

1<sup>st</sup> September 2012 – Men's & Women's Top 10 event

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2012 – TTAW Cadet Masters

15-16<sup>th</sup> September 2012 – Sussex 4\* Cadet/Junior Open Chairman

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## Contract with Butterfly/Tees Sport secured

TTAW is pleased to confirm it has concluded a sponsorship agreement with Butterfly & Tees Sport for the next four years which will see them providing free kit for our national squads. This is an excellent development for TTAW and we are pleased to be associated with such leading table tennis companies. We look forward to our relationship with them going from strength to strength.

We urge members to consider them for their own equipment and clothing.

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## TTAW links up with “Sported” - Grants available for clubs

We are pleased to announce that TTAW has formed a relationship with “Sported”

Sported is a registered charity which supplies assistance to local community sports clubs who can demonstrate that they can enhance the life of their communities through sporting provision. They focus particularly on clubs with 11-25 age groups involved.

Clubs which join them can:

- Obtain free support on constitutions, governance and other matters involved in running a club
- Apply for grants to increase capacity including equipment, coach education costs etc

Their grant panel meets quarterly. They have small grants available up to £2000 and major grants up to £10,000

Membership of Sported is free and the application form can be downloaded via their website. We would urge our clubs to join them. Clubs that are members can apply for their grants even though they may have had a Community Chest grant.

### **Contact Details**

Richard Thomas Wales Manager Tel: 07775 602164

email: [r.thomas@sported.org.uk](mailto:r.thomas@sported.org.uk) web: [www.sported.org.uk](http://www.sported.org.uk)

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## New member services

We are pleased to announce that with immediate effect TTAW has negotiated some new member services for full paying affiliates.

### **Free telephone legal advice**

The following two firms of solicitors have agreed to offer a free telephone helpline service (up to 10 minute calls – one call per topic) on any legal matters that they routinely deal with. If you have a problem simply telephone either firm and confirm that you are a full paying member and wish to take advantage of the TTAW helpline service - and they will be glad to assist you.

## **Free preparation of Wills**

The same two firms are happy to deal with the preparation of straightforward wills for full paying members **at no charge**. Although there is no legal obligation to do so we do hope that those availing themselves of the service may consider a modest bequest to TTAW as a lasting legacy to our sport.

### **TTAW panel solicitors:**

#### **Tonner Johns Ratti solicitors**

48 Walter Road Swansea SA1 5PW

Tel: 01792 643296 E: law@tonnerjohns.co.uk

[www.tonnerjohnsratti.co.uk](http://www.tonnerjohnsratti.co.uk)

#### **Caswell Jones solicitors**

Portcullis House, 18 Cardiff Road, Caerphilly CF83 1JN

Tel: 02920 864888 enquiries@caswelljones.com <http://www.caswelljones.com>

### **Free tax/business planning advice**

O`brien & Partners chartered accountants have agreed to offer free advice (by telephone) on a range of tax matters (personal or business) and also business planning generally. Calls may be restricted to 10 minutes in duration and to one call per topic and must be on matters that are within the range of expertise of the firm. To access this service simply call them on direct, ask for Gareth Francis and state you are a paid up TTAW member.

#### **O`brien & partners**

##### **Chartered Accountants**

Highdale House, 7 Centre Court, Treforest Industrial Estate, Treforest CF37 5YR

Tel: 01443 841184

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## **Volunteer coaches required**

As part of our development strategy we are looking for volunteer coaches to support the work of our staff coaches. We have a limited budget to support basic training and equipping of those who are prepared to agree to provide a minimum number of hours to coaching on our behalf. If you are interested in becoming a coach please contact Phil Avery at [philpaveryco@hotmail.com](mailto:philpaveryco@hotmail.com).

We are also eager to know of those who may be interested in volunteering in other roles - such as umpiring - or who have particular skills which may support the work of the Association. Again please contact Phil Avery.

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## **Enter the Dragon!**

The Dragon series of events was devised several years ago to provide appropriate competition for young players and especially beginners. It is designed to be fun and to give children as many games as possible. It has proved to be hugely successful and several of our top players started out in the Dragon events. The first competition this season is on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October at WIS, Sophia Gardens Cardiff. There are likely to be under 9, under 11 under 13 & under 15 categories. If you have or know of children who might enjoy taking part please contact Neil OConnell for an entry form (email [fodnam@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:fodnam@tiscali.co.uk))

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## Around the leagues & clubs

### **Aelybryn TTC – from Neil OConnell**

Aelybryn TTC trained 3 times a week through the summer in preparation for the new season. Dan OConnell and Alan Monks have been carrying out 1-to-1 coaching which is helping players get good results. It was great to see Darian Evans win his first Dragon at Cardiff TTC. The club will enter an extra team in TCW, making it 2 senior & 2 junior teams- with 2 top English players in the line-up. Girls still dominate the training sessions with Beth Roberts, Laura Edwards, Rachel Cuss, Bethany Brewer & Jamie Lee Harley leading the way.

Pen-y-Dre Tenants and Residents Association have very generously sponsored the club closed tournament for the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive year and 15 separate awards will be presented at this event on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

This is a very busy time for the club with players competing in the top 12 and Cadet Masters. The club is hoping to host regional training next season and to build on last season`s success.

**All league & club organisers are urged to let us have information on what is going on in their areas - which we will do our best to publish. Email your copy to [philipaveryco@hotmail.com](mailto:philipaveryco@hotmail.com)**

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## Other news

### **Community club membership**

Community Club members – ie those who only play for recreation in their own clubs and who do not take part in organised competitions are not required to pay the TTAW individual affiliation fee of £12.50. In the past there has been a requirement for a one-off annual club registration fee of £11. The board has decided to remove the £11 fee for community club registration and therefore there is now no barrier to organisers of such clubs registering with TTAW. It is important to note that those who are not registered do not receive the benefit of TTAW liability insurance cover. We urge organisers not to take this risk and to supply us with the names of all their members to ensure they are covered.

### **Veterans 6 Nations in Cardiff**

The Veterans Six Nations event will be held at WIS, Sophia Gardens Cardiff between 21-23 September. The top veterans from Wales and the rest of the UK will be on show and we urge you to pop in to support Wales and see some top class table tennis.

### **Ron Davies**

After over 20 years of dedicated service to TTAW Ron Davies has decided to retire from the board. He will be sorely missed. Ron has carried out virtually every job within TTAW over the years & devoted thousands of hours of his own unpaid time to the association. Without the efforts of volunteers like Ron the TTAW would not exist. Thankfully his knowledge and experience will not be lost as he will remain available to support the Association when needed. Thank you Ron!

**TTAW is supported by:**



***Official clothing suppliers to the Welsh Team***

