

## Up and coming through the summer at RTTC

With the close season now upon us, we thought we would get some activities running throughout the summer months. RTTC will still be open as usual for Junior coaching on a Monday night but with Thursday now finished our attention turns to Fridays.



Fridays will become the club night of RTTC throughout the summer, with league matches now finished this is an ideal day to keep your skills 'honed' ready for the start of the season.

**Therefore we have a range of activities for all players, not just players from RTTC.**

Under the watchful eyes of Rik James, John Andrews and Alan Burgess we will be running a 4 week 'refresher' course for Adults only. It will involve going 'back to basics' for all four of the major stokes, backhand push and drive and forehand push and drive.

Also looking another important part of table tennis, serving as well as preparation and bat care.

The cost for this four week course will be £20 for non-members and £10 for RTTC members payable in advance and you can book your place on a first come, first served basis by calling either Rik, John or Alan.

The preliminary dates for these sessions are:  
17th June 2005  
1st July 2005  
15th July 2005  
29th July 2005

**Book early to guarantee your spot.**

RTTC will also be trying a new format in a Top 12 event. Entries will be taken in advance but also on the night.

There will, initially, be three events and they ALL carry a prize fund of £25 to the winner and £10 to the runner-up. There will



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be a Seniors, Veterans and a Division 2 down event. Basically the Top 12 players enter and battle out for places in the Top 12. This is an event used in other table tennis clubs and is highly successful and normally gets a big following, not only of players but also supporters as well.

The cost for entry is £5,

payable in advance with a group stage first then a knockout stage and then 'your' final which could be for places 1 and 2 or 9 and 10.

We are looking forward to making this a top class event and again your £5 is payable in advance and you can book your place on a first come, first served basis by calling

either Rik, John or Alan.

At the moment all the other Fridays in the close season will be used for a club night, just turn up for a knock, a chat and a cup of tea.

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## Juniors retain their inter-league title

Colchester Juniors retained their Essex Inter-League title for the fourth consecutive year.

Playing without their top three ranked players the youngsters performed magnificently led by John Li who was unbeaten for the A team as they beat Southend 6-4. Earlier in the day the Colchester B team made life a little easier for the 'A' team by holding Southend to a 5-5 draw.

Everybody played their part as RTTC's Holly Stubbings, Mike Shore, Lawrence Wilcox and St

Mary's John Li all won games with Li teaming up with Wilcox to win a vital doubles. Southend were led by their Essex ranked number one Cadet Josh Lovett and he remained unbeaten in both matches.

However, Colchester's strength in depth proved too much as Stubbings, Shore and Lee were joined by St Mary's Dan Pigeon to defeat the previously unbeaten Southend.

This was a great effort and credit must be given to manager Alan Burgess and the rest of the RTTC coaching staff for the continuity of producing excellent new players.

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## RTTC win Kiltie Cup Final thriller

Rowhedge A battled to a thrilling 5-4 win over Ipswich that went the full distance in the Kiltie Cup Final last week.

Going into the final game the scores were tied at 4-4 with Ipswich having won both previous doubles.

The Andrews pairing of John and Michael (no relation) held their nerve to take the game and ultimately the match in a superb Cup final.

The Intermediate Cup (Div's 2 and 3) went predictably to Div 2 champions Rowhedge F with Alan Burgess and Gareth Hayward both unbeaten in their 8-1 triumph over 3rd Div champions St Peters.

# Colchester Tournament

The Colchester Closed Tournament was held for the second year at Colchesters PremierClub venue RTTC and it was a double celebration for RTTCs Rik James who celebrated his 40th birthday over the weekend by claiming his eighth Colchester Men's singles title.

James aspirations were undoubtedly helped by the sensational exit of Rowhedge team-mate and reigning champion Dave Cole in the quarter-final, beaten 13-11 in the fifth set by Rayne's Steve Pennell.

In the first semi-final Pennell however, was no match for fellow Rayne player Steve Kerns who blasted his way to the final in three straight sets. James also had few problems against Bury St Edmunds champion Ian Brown in the other semi-final, his powerful loops proving too strong.

In the final both players opened cautiously with James rolling loops from the back of the court countered by twice Braintree champion Kern's touch play off the bounce. James took the first end 11-7 but the

second set was much closer as Kern's played more expansively with better shot selection. However James still won 12-10 and started to dominate more in the third running out a worthy winner after three well-crafted sets 11-9 in the final set.

Sue Welham retained her Ladies Single title beating both Hazel Hume and Holly Stubbings in a 'round-robin'.

In the Mixed Doubles Welham teamed-up with James to defend their title against scratch pairing of Dave Cole and Hazel Hume. This proved the most entertaining match of the night that went the full five set distance. In the final set Cole and Hume went from 7-4 up to 7-10 down and looked dead and buried but fought back to win 13-11.

Rik James partnered by Steve Edmonds won the Men's Doubles a title they last won four years ago. They beat Steve Kern's and RTTC's Alan Burgess.

Michael Andrews completed his first Junior Singles title having been hard pressed by rapidly improving Cadet Mike

Shore who had earlier beaten number two seed Greg Green 16-14 in the fifth set in the semi-final. In the Final he lost out in five to Andrews whose composure and clever tactics eventually saw him home 11-7, 10-12, 6-11, 11-4, 11-6.

Shore enjoyed an excellent weekend as he once again accounted for Greg Green this time in the Cadet Final (Under 15) in three straight sets.

Greg Green and John Li playing together for the first time following the withdrawal of Michael Andrews won the Junior Boys Doubles against National Sixth-Form finalists Dave Hitchen and Dan Pigeon once again in three tight sets.

Holly Stubbings, ranked sixteen in England won her first Junior Girls Final beating Gt Horkesley's Gemima Killick.

Steve Kerns capped his best Colchester tournament by winning the Veterans (40+) against Ipswich's Ken Lewis who went on to win the Over 50's with RTTC's Fred Button taking the Over 60's event at the first attempt.

## FINAL LEAGUE TABLES 2005

### Division One

	P	W	D	L	A	F
Rowhedge A	18	16	2	0	49	129
Rowhedge B	18	10	5	3	71	109
Ipswich A	18	8	2	8	77	103
Rowhedge C	18	8	3	7	79	100
Rayne A	18	9	3	6	87	93
Walton A	18	6	4	8	95	84
St Mary's A	18	8	0	10	96	83
Rowhedge D	18	3	4	11	110	70
Dedham A	18	4	5	9	113	67
Walton B	18	2	4	12	120	59

### Division Two

Rowhedge G	16	13	3	0	39	121
Walton C	16	9	3	4	58	102
Gt Horkesley B	16	10	3	3	72	88
Gt Horkesley A	16	8	3	5	74	85
Rowhedge F	16	5	4	7	79	81
Rowhedge E	16	4	5	7	85	74
St Mary's B	16	5	1	10	92	68
St Mary's C	16	2	3	11	110	50
Anchor Press A	16	1	5	10	110	50

### Division Three

St Peters A	18	12	5	1	61	119
St Mary's D	18	11	3	4	67	113
Pegasus A	17	12	1	4	61	109
Gt Horkesley C	18	11	2	5	73	107
Dedham B	18	9	4	5	82	98
Rowhedge H	18	9	3	6	86	94
Tollesbury A	18	6	1	11	111	69
CRGS A	18	5	1	12	112	68
Clairmont A	18	2	1	15	118	62
Informa A	17	1	1	15	119	51

### Division Four

Dedham C	16	14	1	1	39	121
Tollesbury B	16	9	4	3	58	102
St Mary's E	16	8	0	8	68	92
Pegasus B	16	10	1	5	70	90
Gt Horkesley D	16	9	2	5	72	88
Rowhedge I	16	5	4	7	89	71
Gt Horkesley E	16	5	2	9	98	62
Dedham D	16	2	1	13	111	49
Gt Horkesley F	16	1	3	12	115	45
CRGS B	0	0	0	0	0	0

# Colchester Awards

Holly Stubbings was a recipient of two accolades at the recent Colchester 2004 Sport Personality Awards.

She received a Certificate of Commendation in the Under-18s Female Sports Personality category following her successes at recent tournaments, which has seen her move into the top twenty in

England at Cadet (Under 14) level.

She also was part of the Under 18 Team Award winners along with Kieran Lally, Anthony Greenwood and Michael Andrews, having won three consecutive Essex Inter League Junior Championships and finishing second in last years National Carter Cup competition.

## RTTC on the web

Rowhedge Table Tennis Club is now fully functioning on the internet, come and visit at: [www.rowhedgettc.org.uk](http://www.rowhedgettc.org.uk). All the latest news at RTTC along with a guestbook (link in the bottom right of the page). Come and have a surf and sign the guestbook.

**RTTC**  
ROWHEDGE TABLE TENNIS CLUB

**ROWHEDGE TABLE TENNIS CLUB**  
2nd BEST CLUB SIDE IN ENGLAND 2004

**CADETS**  
Cadets are powering along in Division 2 under the guidance of John Stubbings with all exciting under the bigger spotlight

**JUNIORS**  
With the Juniors progressing, Colchester have entered teams in the Carter Cup and in British Junior League and division 2 and 4

**SENIORS**  
Seniors turning up on the Thursday Practice Night on the look out for a knock and progression up the Handicap Ladder League

**VETERANS**  
With the basis of the Colchester League's top veterans inter league side here at RTTC, the veterans are an integral part of the club

**LEAGUE NEWS**  
Colchester and Denton Table Tennis Tournament will be held at RTTC on the weekend of 5th and 6th March 2005. Entries must be in by January 31st

**THE TEAMS**  
Profiles of the RTTC teams are now up and available, pics needed of all players to that we'll all now each other when we turn up on Match Night

**WHAT'S NEW**  
With the website updated with more bells and whistles and guestbook to sign plenty of things to look at and a new download page, it's back now active...

**COACHING**  
Junior coaching carries on throughout the winter on a Monday Night under the ever watchful eyes of Rob James, John Andrews and Alan Burgess

This is the fifth edition of the Rowhedge Table Tennis Centre Newsletter. We will endeavour to make a newsletter available to all our members as soon as possible. We will keep you abreast of any changes that happen and if you wish to comment on the things that are developing here, don't hesitate to talk to your club captains, or speak with John, Rik or Alan.