



BILL LOTHIAN'S COMMUNITY SPORT

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JOHN'S TABLE TENNIS HEROICS IN VAIN

MURRAYFIELD Table Tennis Club came agonisingly close to a first title as the Scottish National League reached an exciting conclusion in Perth. Needing to beat North Ayrshire A in their final match Murrayfield A were only able to draw despite fine performances from John Hannah, pictured, who beat Zak Wilson and North Ayrshire skipper, Chris Main.

That gave North Ayrshire their seventh title in nine seasons. Elsewhere in Division One Murrayfield B beat Edinburgh rivals North Merchiston in a relegation decider while Murrayfield C were runners-up in Division Two. Two losses for Edinburgh International A meant they drop to Division Three. Following two clear victories on

the final day Edinburgh University A won Division Four with Bellway West Lothian also gaining promotion. In Division Six Haddington B produced two convincing wins to take top spot with Tianyi Zhang the star for Edinburgh University B as they claimed second place. Picture: Krzysztof Borkowicz



Cricket Scotland award winners

Cricket Scotland have held their annual awards, when principal winners, from Edinburgh and the Lothians, included Mark Watt: Men's Bowler of the Year and Players' Player of the Year; and Kathryn Bryce: Women's Batter of the Year and Players' Player of the Year

SPORT IN BRIEF . . .

- Meadowbank Gymnastics Club will see their new premises on the Mayfield Industrial Estate, Dalkeith, and next to the Ryze Adventure Park, officially opened on Friday at 6pm by world boxing champion, Josh Taylor who will cut a ribbon.
- Abercorn Tennis Club are holding a free women and girls taster session at their Willowbrae Road courts on Saturday (2pm-5pm). The session is in conjunction with the Audacious Women project. Coaches will be from the Judy Murray Foundation and the She Rallies group.
- A new programme to help people affected by cancer get active is launching in East Lothian tomorrow, backed by Macmillan Cancer Support, enjoyleisure and East Lothian Council. The leading cancer charity has carried out extensive research showing that being active during and after treatment is both safe and hugely beneficial. For more info - Shauna Cunningham on 0131-653-5264 or e-mail movemore@enjoyleisure.com



RUGBYFORCE UP AND RUNNING AGAIN

THE 12th year of RugbyForce, the Royal Bank of Scotland-backed grassroots programme, delivered in association with Scottish Rugby, has been launched. The initiative supports amateur clubs by providing funding to improve facilities and attract new members, encouraging clubs to become true community hubs with a sustainable future. Three quarters of amateur clubs in Scotland have benefitted with over £500,000 distributed. Men's and women's

Scotland internationalists were present at the launch along with members of the Boroughmuir youth set-up. Applications for funding are now open and can be made via the Royal Bank RugbyForce website at: <https://www.scottishrugby.org/clubs-and-schools/support-for-clubs/rugbyforce> Pictured above, left to right: Boroughmuir youth player Ollie Blyth Lafferty, 13, women's internationalist Sarah Denholm, men's internationalists Magnus Bradbury and Blair



Kinghorn, women's internationalist Rachel McLachlan and Boroughmuir youth player Zak Griffiths, 14.

Pictured right, Boroughmuir youth player Ben Watherston, 14, and Ben Malcom, 14, flanking Blair Kinghorn.



MEADOWS TENNIS APPEAL

A CELEBRATION is being planned at the Meadows to mark 100 years since the number of tennis courts were increased from eight to 16, creating the biggest venue for the sport in Scottish parks, a fact that still stands. Organisers are on the lookout for photographs or memories of a venue, and one item sure to feature is when, in 2017, in conjunction with these young players from nearby Preston Street Primary School, the club won a 'Court on Camera' competition run by the Lawn Tennis Association. The prize? A box of tennis balls! Anyone able to assist with photos or memories, please contact alexharkins@edinburghleisure.co.uk

Meanwhile, public park tennis was a major pursuit at the time of the Meadows court expansion with an annual trophy presented by Edinburgh's Lord Provost. Other Capital public tennis facilities were: Inverleith Park (eight courts), Harrison Park (8), Redbraes Park (10), Leith Links (5), Morningside (3), Portobello Rosefield (8), Saughton Park (6) and St Margarets Park (two grass courts).



Winton Castle host Cyclocross Super Quaich

Winton Castle and Estate in Pencaitland, East Lothian, hosted the second round of the Thistly Cross Cyclocross Scottish Super Quaich with 240 competitors tackling the 2.6-kilometre course. The event attracted all levels of participants from complete novices to seasoned professionals, aged 15-70. The cyclocross organisers John Archibald, Neil Clyde, Colin Shearer and Eric Easton, from Haddington Cycling Club, hailed the Winton Events team

saying: "We've had a lot of great feedback about the course such as 'Another stunningly epic cyclo-cross course. Best course by miles!'"

RESULTS:
1) Women's A 1. Kerry MacPhee; 2. Isabel Strathdee; 3. Riaz Newman;
2) Men's A - 1. Mark Scott; 2. Harry McGarvie; 3. John Mackenzie;
3) Women's B - 1. Sarah de Pablo; 2. Ailsa Curtis; 3. Brenda Callander;
4) Men's B: 1. Craig Easton, from Haddington Cycling Club, hailed the Winton Events team



EDINBURGH SOUTHERN OUTRUN STORM DENNIS

EDINBURGH Southern Orienteering Club runners braved Storm Dennis to take part in the Scottish Orienteering Night Championships at

Findhorn on Saturday. The club's ladies did them proud and among the age class winners and pictured were, left, Margaret Dalgleish (65+),

fourth left Anne Stevenson (70+) and. Right, Eleanor Pyrah (75+). Also successful for Edinburgh Southern was Maja Roberson (14+).

SQUASH BROTHERS WIN AT THE DOUBLE



BROTHERS Fraser, left, and Finlay Halton won the C and A sections representing Grange Squash Club at the Fife and Tayside Junior Open.