

## Monday Night Darts

League action started last week in the Herne Bay & District Winter Darts League 2017/18 season and there were three last game thrillers. The first saw reigning champions Hampton Inn come from behind to defeat the Angling Club "A" 6-5. The Hampton trailed 3-2 going into the singles games, but saw an opening singles win from Clive Johnson level the match score to 3-3. The Anglers regained the lead through Mike Brett's singles win and his team-mate George Grosvenor followed suit, winning his singles game to put the Anglers 5-3 up. The Hampton responded with back to back singles wins from skipper Peter Furner and Steve Moys to level the match score at 5-5. In the decisive last singles game, Hampton's debutant Craig Critchley put in a man of the match performance to narrowly defeat Anglers Les Bates 2-1 and get his new teams title defence off to a winning start. Highlights of the match saw the Anglers gain some consolation with trio Luke Adby, Mike Brett and Kevin Moran all hit maximum 180's, while Hampton's Paul Dawkins checked out on 119.

Last years wooden spoon winners, the Heron spent all season chasing a win, but have started this campaign with a 6-5 home win over the Whitstable Labour Club. The Labour Club took a 3-2 lead into the singles games, but saw the Heron turn the game around and lead for the first time in the match at 4-3 after opening singles wins from Trevor Morris and Bob Walton. Labour Club skipper Max Claughton levelled for his side and then his team-mate, Steve Russ, put in a man of the match display to win the next singles game to restore the Labour Club's lead at 5-4. The Heron then took their turn to level, landlord Bob Elliott winning his singles game to make it 5-5. With the scores locked at 5-5, rising star Luke Milner defeated Labour Club's Chris Bonici 2-1 to see the Heron take all three points.

Another thrilling saw the Catholic Club edge out the Rising Sun 6-5. Playing away, the Catholic Club took a 3-2 lead into the singles games, where an opening singles win from Stuart Angel doubled the Catholic's lead to 4-2. The Riser responded with singles wins from Mark Hancock and Charles Gillibrand to level the match score to 4-4. The Riser then took the lead for the first time, Graeme Poynter winning his singles game to put his side into a 5-4 lead. The Catholic Club immediately hit back, Adam Farmer in man of the match form, winning his singles game, aided by a maximum 180 and a 100 checkout. In the decisive last singles game, Catholic's Martin Godden capped a fine debutant, defeating Rising Sun skipper Alan Howlett to see the Catholic Club start their league season with a win.

Newly promoted Angling Club "B" travelled to last years runners up, the Divers Arms, but started their top flight status with a 7-4 away defeat. The Divers leading 3-2, saw opening singles wins from skipper Paul Knight and Chris Howard open up a commanding 5-2 lead. The Anglers pulled one back through Laurence Parker only to see man of the match Mike Cattell win the next singles game for the Divers and secure the win at 6-3. The last two singles games were evenly won by the two sides, Dean Owen for the Divers and Jeff Buxton for the Anglers. Highlights of the match saw Divers Mike Cattell hit two maximum 180's, while his team-mates Dean Owen and Paul Knight checked out on 115 and 106 respectively.

Week on leaders are the Smugglers Inn "B" after they won 9-2 away to Division One champions, the Chislet Colliery Club. Opening singles wins from skipper Chris Dadd and Keith Ralph secured the win at 6-1 after taking a 4-1 lead into the singles games. David Hards pulled one back for the Chislet but that as good as it got for his side as the Smugglers won the last three singles games through Richard Stevens, Jordan Dadd and debutant Joe Ralph.

### Results...Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Angling Club "A"	5-6	Hampton Inn
Chislet Colliery Club	2-9	Smugglers Inn "B"
Divers Arms	7-4	Angling Club "B"
Heron	6-5	Whitstable Labour Club
Rising Sun	5-6	Catholic Club
Smugglers Inn "A"	-Vs-	Bye

#### **100 plus checkouts:**

119-Paul Dawkins; 115-Dean Owen; 106-Paul Knight; 100-Adam Farmer

#### **Maximum 180's:**

2-Mike Cattell; 1-Luke Adby; 1-Mike Brett; 1-Adam Farmer; 1-Kevin Moran