

Monday Night Darts

The Herne Bay & District Winter Darts League saw the last round of games in the first half of the season played and the top game saw the Smugglers Inn derby. The Smugglers Inn "B" went into the match looking to bounce back from their first defeat of the season, while the Smugglers Inn "A" season continues to derail since the Christmas break. The "A" side took an early 1-0 lead, but found themselves trailing 4-1 going into the singles games. An opening singles win from Benn Swinfield put the "B" side into a commanding 5-1 lead. The "A" side pulled one back through Tim Baker Snr but any comeback hopes were shortlived as the "B" side secured the win, man of the match Keith Ralph winning to make it 6-2. Further singles wins from Richard Stevens and Jordan Dadd put the "B" side 8-2. The "A" side gained some consolation with Tim Baker Jnr winning the last singles game.

An inform Angling Club "A" were made to come from behind to win 6-5 away to the Catholic Club. The Anglers trailed 3-2 going into the singles games, but opening singles wins from Kevin Moran and Luke Adby turned the game around to see the Anglers lead 4-3. The Catholic Club responded with debutants Sam Couzin's singles win to level and then regained the lead at 5-4 through Adam Farmer. Anglers skipper Gary Keeley levelled for his side at 5-5, setting up a decisive last singles game. With the scores locked at 5-5, Anglers Mike Brett put in a man of the match display to win 2-1 against Catholic's Martin Godden and secure a hard fought win for his side. Highlights saw Brett check out on 104.

Another last game thriller saw the Rising Sun take all three points at home to the Heron. The Heron were leading 2-0, but saw the Riser cut their lead to 3-2 going into the singles games. The Riser levelled at 3-3 with Mike Tucker's singles win and then take the lead for the first time, man of the match Nigel Grace winning his singles game to put the Rising Sun 4-3 up. The Riser's momentum continued as Charles Gillibrand won his singles to double his teams lead to 5-3. The Heron responded with back to back singles wins from Luke Simmons and landlord Bob Elliott to level the match score to 5-5. In the decisive last singles game, Riser's Graeme Poynter was in fine form as he defeated Heron's Trevor Morris 2-0.

With leaders Divers Arms not in action, reigning champions the Hampton Inn moved onto level points with Divers after winning 9-2 at home to the Chislet Colliery Club. The Hampton raced into a 5-0 lead, but saw Chislet Club skipper James Wells win the opening singles game, but it failed to inspire a comeback as the Hampton won the next singles game through Clive Johnson to secure the win at 6-1. The Chislet Club pulled another back through Martin Hackett, but that was as good as it got for the Club as the Hampton won the last three singles games through Paul Dawkins, Andy Smith and skipper Peter Furner. Highlights saw man of the match Andy Smith hit a maximum 180.

The Angling Club "B" moved up one place to fifth after a 9-2 home win over the Whitstable Labour Club. The Anglers were leading 5-0 but saw a mini revival from the Labour Club pull the score back to 5-2 after opening singles wins from Steve Russ and Ben Brickland. The Anglers responded with man of the match, William Weller, aided by a 145 checkout, win his singles game to secure the win at 6-2. Further singles wins from his team-mates Jeff Buxton, Chris Davis and Gill Bennett wrapped up the win.

Results...Monday 19th February 2018

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

100 plus checkouts:

145-William Weller; 104-Mike Brett

Maximum 180's:

1-Andy Smith