

## 5<sup>th</sup> NatWest Jersey Open Table Tennis Grand Prix Tournament, Singles final day report.



Mrs Di Romeril NatWest Jersey Branch Manager, Alice Loveridge Women's Champion, Ryan Jenkins Men's Champion, Mrs. Gail Johns top UK Coach and widow of the founder of the Jersey Open, Chris Band President of the JTТА

A large crowd enjoyed some of the finest table tennis ever seen at the Geoff Reed Table Tennis Centre on the final day of the tournament.

Number 1 seed Ryan Jenkins from Wales was simply superlative in the Men's Singles and on this form must surely be knocking on the door of GB selection for 2012. He beat his brother Stephen in the first of the Men's Singles semi-finals 3—0 whilst Damien Nicholls, the defending Champion from Shropshire, and Matt Ware from Hampshire battled out an epic match with Ware getting the verdict in the fourth game. Jenkins was then too strong for Ware in the final putting on a high quality 3—0 show and taking the trophy and the winners's cheque for £ 535.00.

Alice Loveridge from Guernsey took the Ladies crown defending her title from last year with her characteristic steely determination beating Derbyshire's England No.6 Emma Vickers to claim the title.

Jersey's own "Yogi" Ellis won the Veteran's Singles beating Dorset's Sanja Clements [England No.4 Ladies veteran] in the final and more local success came with Craig Gascoyne winning the Restricted Singles against Derbyshire's David Arrowsmith.

Josh Band made it into the semi finals of the Under 21 Men's Singles only to go out to eventual winner Matt Ware who was on a mission! Ware proceeded to beat Damien Nicholls in the final with some rasping shots from the back court and great retrieval to win points.

Emma Vickers gained revenge over Alice Loveridge by beating her to the Under 21 Women 's Singles title in an entertaining match with both players rallying well.

" It was a fantastic 5<sup>th</sup> NatWest Open," said JTTA President Chris Band afterwards. "Huge thanks go to all of those who helped during the three days of tournament and the preceding week of Masterclasses. The tournament goes from strength to strength and we expect an even bigger entry at Easter next year following the very complimentary words from all of the visiting players and supporters.