



## Newsletter



## Winter term 2011

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### Josh's Jaunts

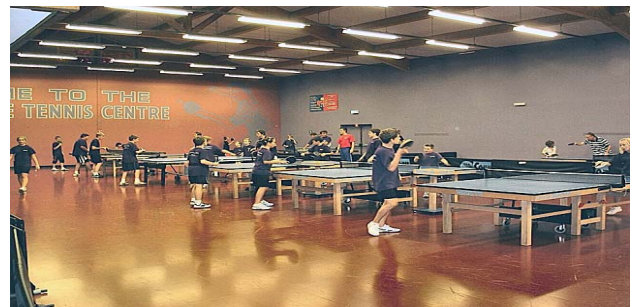


Josh Band (18) has been accepted on to the circuit by the International Table Tennis Federation, the first player ever from Jersey. Over the next 12 months he will be pitting his skills and wits in the World Pro Tour against top international players in tournaments from

Sweden to Korea, Qatar to Rio de Janeiro and most of Europe in between! Josh had competed in the World Championships in Guangzhou and Moscow as a teenager but his first matches in Stockholm proved a real baptism of fire. However, despite facing new pace and class, his plucky performance merited a feature article in the ITTF website. We will be following his progress as he jets around from one table to another and we all wish him well from Jersey.

### Dates for your diary

Bat & Ball	19-20 November
Junior Top 12 (Guernsey)	27 November
Jersey Open Top 12 Qualifying	3 December
Appleby Academy Xmas Party	14 December
CI Open Top 12 (Guernsey)	28 January (TBC)
World Team Ch'ship, Dortmund	25 March-1 April
Jersey Open	6—8 April



### Need equipment?



accessories through either Bribar or Custom Table Tennis

For all players, we have sourced some excellent quality bats, and wallets. For further details please contact Marcus on 07797 728125. We can also supply all sorts of bats and

### New Senior Sessions

Along with the Appleby Junior Academy, we have recently introduced a Senior Refresher session on Thursday evenings from 6.15 pm to 7.30pm. It is proving very popular with both new players and those returning to the sport and following an extensive marketing drive. We look forward to welcoming many more new members over the winter months.

### Appleby Academy Christmas Party

Hard bats, wrong-handed games, handicaps. Table tennis with a Christmas twist for all juniors. Come along on Wednesday 14 December at 6.00 pm and play and eat until you drop at 9.00 pm. Keep an eye open for further details.



### New Patron



Following the warm relationship we enjoyed with the recently retired Lieutenant Governor to Jersey, Sir Andrew Ridgeway, we are delighted to announce that his successor, His Excellency General Sir John McColl KCB, CBE, DSO has kindly agreed to be patron of the JTTA during his 5 year term in Jersey. We look forward to inviting him to the GRTTC once he has settled down and perhaps to even luring him on to the table for a knock-up!

## Tennis de table?

After Craig Gascoyne's recent fact-finding trip to an intensive training camp in Rennes over the October half term, next year we may look forward to top French juniors coming to Jersey. Jordan Wykes, accompanied by his father, Barry, spent a week at the camp, picking up tips, tricks and techniques from many of the country's top U15s but still managing to hold his own during an exhausting course.

Craig was delighted with the new working relationships he instigated and in the future Jersey players may find it as easy to travel and as challenging to compete in Rennes or other French centres as flying to the UK, which can be problematic with winter airline timetables. The parents may find it equally enjoyable!



## Quick Interview — Craig Gascoyne



Q: How long have you played Table Tennis?

A: Nearly 20 years

Q: Favourite music or pop group?

A: Daft Punks Derezzed tune gets me fired up for important TT matches which is a tune from Tron Legacy. You will have to watch the scene with the tune playing to know why it's so good!!!

Q: If stranded on a desert Island, what three things would you like to have with you?

A: Mobile phone to send out my SOS, lighter

to get a fire going and machete to hunt and build a camp

Q: Something that not many people know about you?

A: I was born deaf, learnt to lip read and still don't have the average person's hearing. But, when one of your five senses doesn't work properly, the others enhance.

## Car Boots—donations please

We need your help! We are holding two more car boots before Christmas: 26 November and 10 December. As well as manning the canteen, the JTTA takes a pitch. If you're having a little clear-out before family arrives for Christmas(!), we'd be delighted to receive donations, particularly items with a festive feel. You can bring them down to the Centre at 7.45 pm the Friday night before but, if that's not possible, please telephone Audrey on 490129 and she will arrange to pick up your goods.



## Introduce a friend \*

And receive a voucher for up to £30 \*\*

Help us to help you! If you introduce a new family or couples membership, you will receive a voucher for £30. For a new senior member, or senior refresher player, £25. For a new junior member or development squad player receive a voucher for £15.

\*Scheme subject to Council final approval at December meeting \*\*From selected stores. Terms and conditions apply.

## Umpiring Course

While most of us will be engrossed in our final Christmas preparations, ten JTTA members, from teenagers to Senior Citizens, will be hard at work on Saturday 17 December training to become Island umpires under the eagle eye of Mick Strode, "probably the best referee in the world". We are delighted that Mick is taking a break from his hectic calendar of UK Grands Prix, European and World Team Championships and our own Jersey Open to train us up.



## Lockers



For security and peace of mind contact Bruce Gallichan on 872723 about renting out a locker for an annual fee of just £10.

## Just for fun

Q: How many ping pong players does it take to change a lightbulb?

A: Four.

One to complain that it's "table tennis" not "ping pong"

One to change the lightbulb

One to protest about the type of glue he used to fix the lightbulb into place

One to get out his "Lights 'R' Us" catalogue and point out that he could have bought an even better one for 10p less.

Remember—this is **your newsletter**. If you would like to contribute a short article, news, ideas or be a 'quick interview', please contact Audrey Tupper on martin.tupper@jerseymail.co.uk