

Empire Table Tennis Club Newsletter

July 2007

Club Champs

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Last month the ETTC launched a new website. There are many exciting things happening in the club. For up to date information and news check out www.empirett.org.nz

The Club Champs for 2007 will be held on **Sunday 29 July**. The day will start with **Open Events at 9.30am** followed by age group and second division events at 11am and handicap events at 1pm. There are a number of trophies up for grabs. All club members are encouraged to participate. It is just \$2.50 for the day, entry forms are available at the club and on line. Entries can be handed in at club, phoned (977 6486) or emailed to membership@empirett.org.nz

Daniel Joseph (Neil) Menchi

22nd April 1931- 5th July 2007

Few of today's members would have realised that the Club lost a long time supporter and one who made considerable contributions to Empire's progress in earlier years.

Neil joined Empire in the early 1950s. Neil was a steady player but it was his dedication to the game that would provide a lesson in commitment to table tennis for many of today's players.

Neil was to make his mark more as a "hands-on" worker. He never sought positions on Club management (although once vice-president) but toiled hard behind the scenes. He assisted in Junior Club on Friday nights and contributed to fundraising by helping run "Housie" nights at the Victoria Tavern and later at the Central Hotel. Neil did serve a term on the Hutt Valley Association. He tried to re-establish the Taita TT Club, was a manager and transport provider for Hutt Valley teams.

To Kay and the members of Neil's family, the Club extends its condolences.

TTW Winter Interclub

Congratulations to the Empire Invaders (Margaret Cloughley, Maggie Dyer, Alistair Hicks) who were the **winners** of the first **B Grade** competition. Empire Crusaders (Nola Borrell, Joy Mozer, Zac Sun) were placed 3rd.

Empire Typhoons (Dawn Dorresteyn, Diane Hope, John Kane, Margaret Connolly) were placed 3rd in **Premier 3**.

New competitions will be run for Premier 3 (commencing Tuesday 24 July) and B Grade (commencing Wednesday 25 July). If you are interested in playing please contact Russell phone 472 8269 or email activities@empirett.org.nz Entries close on Friday 20 July.

Premier 1 recommences after the holiday break on 17 July and Premier 2 on 25 July. Placings after the first round are as follows:

Premier 1	5 th	Empire Blast (James Harter, Hanna Squire, Jason Giles, Thinh Nguyen)
	6 th	Empire Cyclones (John Nguyen, Stephan Gerschewski, Thom Nguyen Tony Rutledge)
	8 th	Empire Storm (Chris Talbot, Ian Talbot, John Gan, Martin Young)
Premier 2	1 st	Empire Hurricanes (Bruce Connolly, Chris Williams, Uy Tang)
	4 th	Empire Whirlwind (Junou Huang, Noam Bar-Shalom, Petar Vrecic, Russell Buchanan)
	5 th	Empire Tempest (Graham Sole, Thinh Nguyen, Norman Chan)

New draws will be done for Premier 1 and 2 based on positions after the first round.

A reminder that table fees are as follows: Seniors \$7, beneficiaries \$6, Juniors/students \$5 per night
Club shirts are required to be worn for interclub. These are available at the club in sizes XS-XXL for \$35.

Keep up to date visit www.empirett.org.nz

Variety Concert Report – Thank You!

Well where do I start...how about at the beginning

There was an Empire Club member called Leo Barnett with a wonderful Baritone voice who mooted the idea of a fundraising concert. Our Chairperson of the time, Russell Buchanan said great idea and I know some people who would love to come along and perform. So added to the evening are The Magpies, Dargaville, Dixie Lix, The Bach Choir, Jerome Chandrasen and The Leisure Steppers and compere Alex Hawley.

An approach to the Hutt City Council provided a venue at no cost, the performers themselves provided assistance with the diverse activities of sound, lighting, piano tuning contacts and ticket, poster and programme production. Terrace Legal sponsored printing and bought tickets to give to clients, and Russell himself was the overall producer of the show. Table tennis players, friends and relatives all assisted with activities ranging from stage work to welcoming the audience.

Attendees would need to eat and drink so a team came together to sort out food and drink. The actual catering was assisted by a whole team of volunteer caterers from partners and relations to Empire Table Tennis Club members who contributed "goodies" and / or helped on the night.

The foundations for a good evening were now set, but we also needed an audience. Members set about to buy tickets and to sell them to friends, families and contacts and while the efforts of everyone who bought tickets and / or made a financial donation is appreciated, two people went the extra mile and they are Leo Barnett and Russell Buchanan who sold over 100 tickets between them.

Thanks must go to everyone who took part in making the Variety Evening a success – the above is an attempt to outline the event and what went on behind the scenes so I hope everyone involved will accept this as a personal thank you.

And now for the news you have all been waiting for it looks like the Club has made around \$5,700 on the evening (exact figure to be confirmed). Well done everyone!

Maggie Dyer

Building Update

The new hall is now completely enclosed and weather tight. Progress has been slow lately as we await an engineers report. Once that is received the interior wall cladding and insulation can be installed. We have also approved the installation of a smoke detection system. Quotes are being sought for the lighting.

Midweek Report

Graham Sole has spent some time in Hospital and is now at home resting, but should be back to full strength within a few weeks. A tentative date of 21 July has been arranged to have another group photo taken, the last one was in 2005. Robin Radford has kindly agreed to repeat the exercise. On the 25 June 12 players from the Kapiti Club were hosted by Empire midweek. The following took part: Chung Zhou, Kim Yee, Anna Chu, Peter Mok, Nola Borrell, Joy Mozer, Eddie Moore, Leo Barnett, Henry Chin, Perry Joe, Len Ngan and Fay Ngan. Overall Empire won 27 to 18 and there were some close results, the difficulty is matching people with like standards however we think we got it right as best we could.

North Island Open and World Junior Circuit

The North Island Champs are being hosted by the North Harbour Table Tennis Association at the North Shore Events Centre from 11-15 July. A number of our players are competing including Hanna Squire, James Harter, Noam Bar-Shalom, Thom Nguyen and Yotam Bar-Shalom. Results are available on the Waikato TT Associations website www.wtta.co.nz.

Upcoming Events

Premier 1 Interclub resumes	17 July
Wgtn U16 Progressive Tournament	22 July
Premier 3 interclub competition starts	24 July
Premier 2 interclub resumes	25 July
B Grade interclub competition starts	25 July
Empire TT Club Champs	29 July
Wellington Open	4-5 Aug
Next ETTC Board Meeting	16 Aug
Wgtn Jnr Age Group Tournament	26 Aug
Wgtn U16 Progressive Tournament	2 Sept
Wellington Spring Open	15-16 Sept



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