Big medal haul for GB Transplant team

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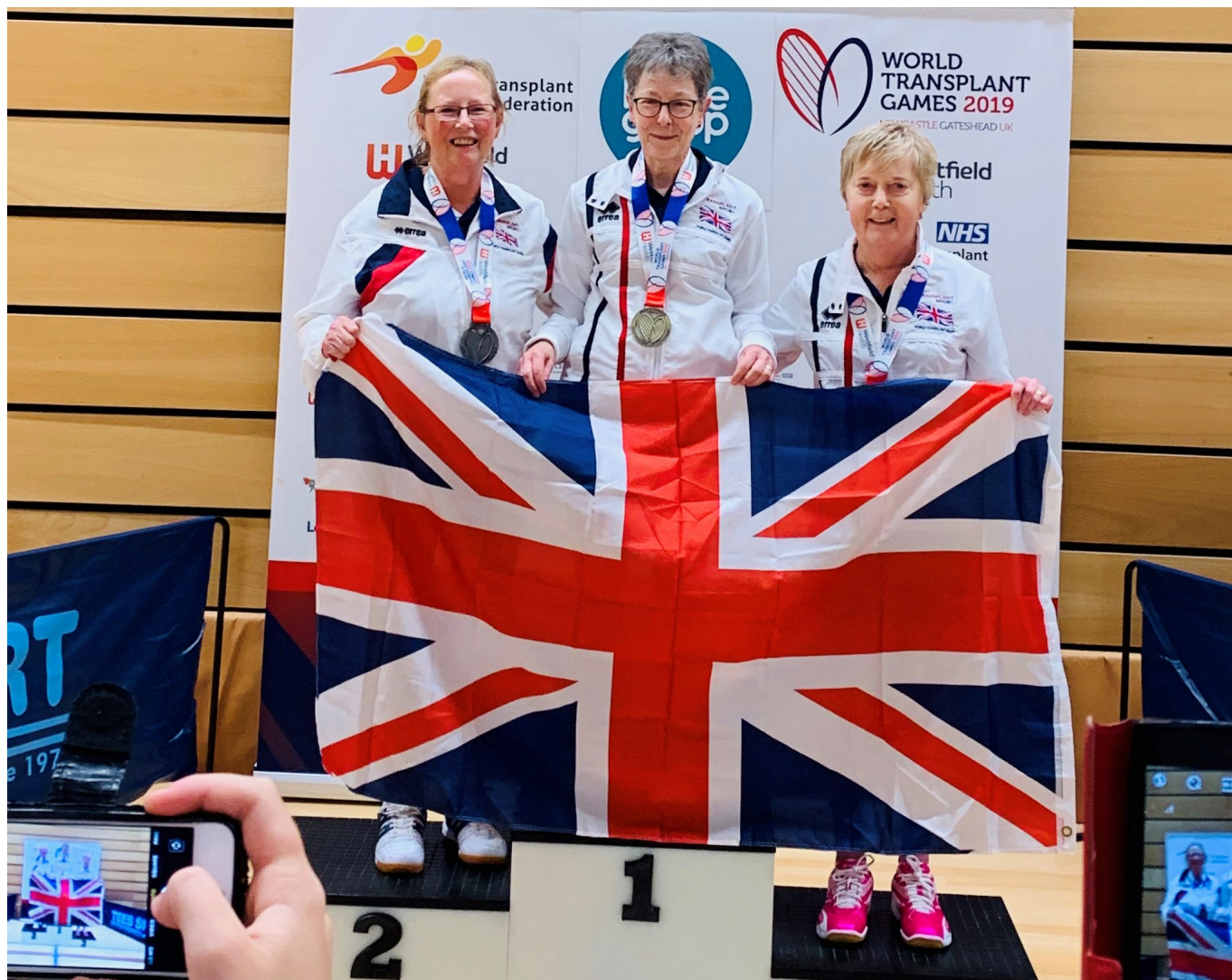
The Great Britain team claimed an impressive 15 medals at a home World Transplant Games in Newcastle.

The 35-strong GB team earned six golds, four silvers and five bronzes between them in the week-long celebration of life and sport after organ transplantation.

The most eye-catching success came in the women's 60-69 singles category, where GB swept the board – Charlotte Taylor taking gold, Grace Newman silver and Maggie Gambrill bronze.

Newman & Gambrill also combined to win the gold in the 50+ doubles.

Grace Newman, Charlotte Taylor and Maggie Gambrill on the podium

Among the other gold medallists were Charlotte Binley in the women's 18-29 category, upgrading from the bronze she won at the previous games in Malaga in 2016 and defeating the Iranian opponent who beat her last time.

There were also three more singles golds – Kristof Polgar in the boys' 9-11 category, Phoebe Pace in the girls' 9-11s and Amy Graham in the girls' 15-17 class.

Also in the singles, there was silver for Esben Rost in the boys' 15-17 class, while Andrew Hook won bronze for the third successive games in the men's 30-39 age group.

Ralph Rogers took bronze in the men's 60-69 category, while Terry Wright did the same in the 70-79 group, losing a tight semi-final in five sets.

In the doubles, as well as Newman & Gambrill's gold, there was silver for Boryana Nankova & Helen Tasker in the same category – the top two medals decided on countback.

Binley & Jade Carr won silver in the 18-29 category, while there was bronze for Callum Turner & William Davis in the men's 18-29s.

The team was coached by Tom Maynard and captained by Andrew Hook. The event was organised by Chris & Sheila of Imagine Table Tennis Club from Sunderland along with an amazing set of umpires and tournament organisers.

Charlotte Binley with Tom Maynard