



Inaugural Parkinson's event a big success

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Jan Fuller and Gary Lee both won a gold and a silver at the inaugural Ping Pong Parkinson UK Championship, held at St Neots TTC.

[Click here to see photos from the event, by Michael Loveder, on our Flickr page](#)

Lee won the Class 1-2 Singles in the morning, with a 3-0 (11-6, 11-7, 11-8) victory over Brian Carson in the final. John Roche took the bronze. The consolation event was won by Robin Buttery, who defeated John Birmingham 3-0 (11-7, 11-6, 13-11).

In the Class 3 Singles, George Chan emerged victorious in a pulsating match against Fuller, taking the gold with a 3-2 (6-11, 12-10, 13-11, 6-11, 12-10) scoreline.

The bronze medal match was also close, Martyn Symons staging a great comeback to beat Tim Kelly 3-2 (10-12, 7-11, 11-3, 11-7, 11-9). Symons had almost staged a similar recovery in the semi-finals, Fuller beating him 3-2 (14-12, 11-6, 8-11, 9-11, 15-13).

In the consolation event, Nick Beswick came out on top with a 3-0 (11-4, 11-8, 11-9) victory over Rob Cook in an all-Yorkshire final.

In the afternoon events, Fuller defeated Andrew Cassy 3-1 (11-8, 5-11, 11-8, 11-7) in the final of the Open Band A/B Singles. Rob Dawson beat Chan 3-2 (11-8, 11-6, 5-11, 5-11, 11-4) in the bronze medal match.

Both semi-finals had seen the victor recover from 2-0 down – Fuller defeating Chan 12-14, 9-11, 11-7, 11-6, 11-8 and Cassy overcoming Dawson 9-11, 8-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-3.

In the Open Band C Singles, the gold medal went to Ed Kirkham, who defeated Lee 3-0 (11-9, 11-7, 13-11) in the final. The bronze went to Joy Paul from Scotland.

Tournament organiser Dan Bullen said: "The tournament went really well, everyone enjoyed it and there was a

good atmosphere.

“The umpires said it was nice to see everyone with a smile on their faces, whether they were winning or losing and whatever the score was.”

It is intended to make the tournament an annual event. It was held under the banner of Parkinson’s TT UK (PDTTUK), which supports players with Parkinson’s to play table tennis, exploring different ways to engage and support the Parkinson’s table tennis community. [Click here for more info on Table Tennis England’s support for PDTTUK.](#)

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