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**Townsville Table Tennis Association**

**Est 1931**

## **TIGERS TALES**

**Newsletter: Vol 3 March 2026**

### **Newsletter**

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The following is a summary of the events that took place at TTTA and elsewhere in the Table Tennis World during March 2026.

### **Around the Club**

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Congratulations to John Sherriff and Harold Bligh on being selected to represent Australia in the 2026 AUS v NZ Veterans Test Match in Auckland.

John has been selected in the Men's Over 75 team, while Harold will compete in the Men's Over 80 team. The Test Match will take place on 2 April 2026, bringing together Australia's top veteran players to compete against New Zealand.

Following the Test Match, both players will also compete in the New Zealand Veterans Championships, held in Auckland from 2-6 April 2026.

A fantastic achievement and a proud moment for our club. Congratulations John and Harry, and best of luck in New Zealand.

Joining John and Harry in the NZ Veterans Championship will be Marianne Orman, Therese Chappell and Wayne Wormald.

Our Friday Social Senior season 1 result ended with Morrie on top, closely followed by Ray Young, and De Moyes in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Congratulations to Pippa-Louise Trass on an outstanding performance at the Wynnum Open Championships, held on 28 February - 1 March.

Pippa took home two titles, winning both the Over 30 Women's and Over 40 Women's events. Well done Pippa.



While we had our own Hard Bat challenge Friday night tournament, the Cairns trio of Brett, Daryl and Rod took their bats to the premiere of Marty Supreme in Cairns, and ended up being interviewed by ABC Far North Radio to promote Table Tennis



<https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/farnor-th-saturday-breakfast/saturday-breakfast/106437746>

(Listen from 2:15:00 onwards)

A big thanks to the volunteers at the Sausage Sizzle on 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Fairfield Bunnings.

### *International Women's Day*

Happy International Women's Day.

Today we celebrate the strength, resilience and achievements of women in our community and in sport. Thank you to all the incredible women and girls who are part of our club and continue to inspire us every day.

Results: 2026 International Women's Day Tournament. A huge congratulations to all our winners and placegetters across the weekend:

#### Main Event

Champion: Taleisha Gaeta

Runner-Up: Therese Chappell

3rd Place: Andrea McDonnell

#### Social Event

Champion: Jeanie Zonta

Runner-Up: Rina Gaeva

3rd Place: Mary Jorgensen

#### Junior Singles

Champion: Taleisha Gaeta

Runner-Up: Manasee Sivayoganathan

3rd Place: Aarohi Achar

🏆 Sunday Open Tournament

Champion: Mischa Von Mellenthin

Runner-Up: Doyle Liang

3rd Place: Clency Oxenham

Consolation Winner: Paul Reid

Lucky Door Prize

Kindly sponsored by Buccan Amazing Scents by Pippa-Louise Trass

Winner: Lisa Watson

Thank you to everyone who was part of the weekend and helped make it such a great event. We're proud to celebrate women in sport and our table tennis community 💜

Two things not mentioned, the four or five families that put together the meals and the sweets for the luncheon packages for the players did a fantastic job, and the other issue was the Mackay Ladies, some who had been coming up every year for 14 years since the tournament inception, had to pull out due to the weather on the road. Very sorry you could not make it, but safety was the main consideration.



## [Queensland Senior and Junior Closed Teams](#)

Townsville Table Tennis is sending teams to the Qld Senior and Junior Closed Championships taking place in early April.

### **Senior Men's A**

Peter Besnard, Olav Dahl, Alan Walsh

### **Senior Men's B**

Safwat Boktour, Mischa Von Mellenthin, Brendan Gaeta

### **Senior Women's A**

Taleisha Gaeta, Paola Lovera

### **Senior Women's B**

Pippa-Louise Trass, Manasee Sivayoganathan

### **Junior U11 Boy's**

Ryder Doust, Advik Tiwari

### **Junior U13 Boy's**

Kiran Blackburn

### **Junior U15 Boy's**

Ben Blackburn

### **Junior U13 Girl's**

Aarohi Achar, Aarvi Raj

### **Junior U15 Girl's**

Manasee Sivayoganathan

Good luck to all the players

## [Upcoming Tournaments and Events](#)

All the **QLD** Events will be held at the South Pine Sports Complex

**QLD** Senior Closed – 2<sup>nd</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> April

**QLD** Junior Closed – 5<sup>th</sup> / 9<sup>th</sup> April

**2026 Sturt Business Centre Townsville Open** 2<sup>nd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> May (inc Nth Qld Junior, Senior and Para)

Mackay Open – 8<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> May (inc Nth Qld Vets)

World Masters – 5<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> June – South Korea

For all event dates, check TTQ website at [Events - Table Tennis Queensland](#) or our own Calendar at [Calendar and Events - Townsville Table Tennis](#)

## [Sausage Sizzles](#)

We have been given opportunities for fundraising at Bunnings Fairfield Waters as follows.

12<sup>th</sup> July

22<sup>nd</sup> November

We hope to get a few more dates in 2026.

## [Trivia / Thoughts about Table Tennis](#)

Play with a Plan

Table Tennis Doesn't Reward "Winging It."

"I'll just see how it goes" isn't confidence, it's gambling.

Here's the uncomfortable truth in table tennis, Any Plan is better than no Plan.

Before the first ball is hit, commit your plan to writing.

- What's your serve focus?
- Where do you expect your opponent to return the ball when you do a particular serve?
- What area of the table are you targeting - forehand, backhand, middle?

After the match, write again.

- What worked, and how often?
- What didn't work, and how often?
- Did you stick to the plan, or change mid-match?

This isn't about winning every match, It's about learning faster than your opponent/s.

Players who improve don't just play more, they think better between matches.

No Plan = repeating the same mistakes and calling it “experience.”

A Plan = Progress, even when you lose.

Next match, don't wing it.

Write it.

Review it.

Refine it.

That's how table tennis players actually level up.

That's all for this edition, and until next month.

***The Tigers Tail***