



# *Table Tennis News*

No. 175

MAY-JUNE 1988

80p



**RANKED NO. 1 in the UK —**



**JAQUES TABLES  
and DOUBLE FISH  
TABLE TENNIS BALLS**

**Jaques**

## A memorable campaign . . .

NOT even the most accurate of the snipers opposed to the present ETTA administration can deny that the season now closing has been far more successful than its predecessor. We all know how important it is to see the numbers of people participating in local leagues increasing. And we all know that although this has been seen in some areas, in general, that becomes the vital problem.

The previous major problem, the one that now seems to have been overcome is the financial burden of trying to survive against ever mounting costs. It is well known the ETTA carries the heavy burden of the crumbling headquarters at Hastings. But ways round that problem are I believe, around the corner. Meanwhile, the Chairman tells us on Page 7, the best news in the whole magazine that we shall break financially even on the season.

Only ten months ago, the very new John Prean team faced 'an unprecedented barrage of criticism' at the ETTA AGM. One national newspaper went as far as saying that efforts were being made to replace the chairman. Happily, that embarrassing phase, just prior to the announcement of The Leeds sponsorship is now just a memory, but we must not forget that since then, despite mistakes, everybody makes them, progress has been so substantial that not only have the books been balanced but the former deputy chairman George Yates has returned as a vice-chairman, an event that must have shocked the opposition and has left them short of ammunition.

People outside the sport, quite a few in the last couple of months have made the simple statement to me that table tennis seems to be coming to the fore again. What has brought it to their notice? Principally, television, of course. No one can deny the power of that section of the media.

On the playing front, we failed once again by a whisker to win promotion to the Super Division of the European League. The fact that our men are strong enough to finish second only to Sweden in Paris means that we can do it, even though we are now faced with relegated Hungary, away, in the last match next March. It is possible to win promotion without an English woman player winning either the women's singles or helping to win the vital mixed doubles, but it becomes a mighty task, as each season, what we used to label the lesser nations in Europe become stronger — the best example, Belgium. And of course the number of national team migrant players is rapidly increasing. Carl Prean and Alan Cooke are potential European champions, so we have lots to look forward to.

To report a thriving national scene, communication through a first class magazine is vital, That costs money. It should be seen by the ETTA Management Committee and the National Council as a high priority, not as in the past, as something we would like but cannot afford.

**JOHN WOODFORD**



The official magazine of the English Table Tennis Association. Published eight times a year.

**Editor:**  
JOHN WOODFORD

**Advertisements:**  
JIM BECKLEY  
Sports PR, PO Box 8,  
Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle,  
Cheshire SK8 7RE

**Subscriptions and distribution:**  
Beth Davies,  
ETTA, 21 Claremont,  
Hastings TN34 1HF  
Tel: 0424 433121

**COPY DATE**  
**September 12**  
Issue 176, October 1988

Printed by:  
MANOR PARK PRESS LTD,  
Unit 7, Edison Road  
Highfield Industrial Estate,  
Hampden Park, Eastbourne,  
East Sussex BN23 6PT  
Tel: 0323 507474.

## In this issue

|                                                     | Page       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Courtside                                           | 2          |
| The European Scene, George Yates                    | 3          |
| South of England 3-Star Open, Michael Green         | 4          |
| The death of the President, Maurice Goldstein OBE   | 5          |
| Picture Parade                                      | 6, 27      |
| Chairman John Prean sums up the campaign            | 7          |
| NatWest Derby Selection tournament, Malcolm Allsop  | 8          |
| Richard Eaton gives his verdict on the Prean team   | 9          |
| The Essex 2-Star Junior weekend, Alan Shepherd      | 11         |
| Europaris 1988 — the last round-up                  | 12, 13     |
| The Leeds English Junior Open, Bridlington          | 14, 15     |
| The Leeds British League, Mike Loveder, Jim Beckley | 16, 17     |
| The Leeds County Championships                      | 18, 19     |
| News from the Counties                              | 20-26      |
| English Schools at Mansfield, David Lomas           | 29         |
| Mailbox                                             | 30, 31, 36 |
| Dunlop Lancashire 2-Star Open, George Yates         | 32         |
| The rubber ban by Cadet Garry Knights               | 35         |
| The Leeds Youth Cup                                 | 37         |
| Another chance at the Crossword, Eric Hall          | 38         |
| Scotland and Wales, Denis George, Nancy Evans       | 40         |

### ★ THE COVER PICTURE

ALISON GORDON, 23, from Reading, regained her English national title at Crawley, winning three 3-Star tournaments, Herby 2-Star event and was player of the season.

regained her English second time. She won 3-Star of England and undisputed No 1 lady VES.



# SIDE COURTSIDE

Compiled by

JOHN WOODFORD

## Still waiting for Chen



Predictably, Chen Xinhua will again lead the eight or nine match tour of England being arranged for October, but it is expected that he contracted to play more on tour than he did last year.

CHEN XINHUA who led the Chinese tour of England a year ago still has his fiance waiting in Manchester. The Chinese ace still has plans to emigrate from China to England and to marry.

But the latest story is that he is having a lot of difficulty getting his 'release' from China. He is at present training the Chinese national squad defensive players ready for the Olympic Games in Seoul and for that reason alone the Chinese TTA are not keen to lose him.

## Life Members



LIFE Membership is the greatest honour available for members of the ETTA who have given sterling service for many years. No-one will dispute that the two latest recommendations for the medal — Alan Ransome and Doreen Stannard have done more than enough over more years than they care to count.

## Doubles: 'a great leveller'

THIS was certainly borne out at the recent South of England 3-star tournament. The Men's Doubles No 2 seeds Nicky Mason and Matthew Syed made a very early exit to Ian Robertson and Richard Jermyn, in straight games. At the top end of the draw the No 1 seeds John Souter and Jimmy

Stokes experienced a little difficulty in their third round encounter against Mike Short and Mike Loveder as they just pulled through 23-21, 21-18.

However in the next round the seeds were quickly seen off by Des Charlery and Glenn Baker who won convincingly in straight games. They were then beaten in their next round by the scratch pairing of Joey Kennedy and Phil Bradbury who won the final against the unseeded Stephen Dorking and Nigel Tyler. Clearly the task of seeding doubles events is not one to be envied!

## George Top of the Poll

IT is not often that following a resignation, a returning officer tops the poll. It can now be seen how much of a blow it really was a year ago when George Yates pulled out of his role as deputy chairman, because the National Council sitting at Luton on April 18, voted George back as vice-chairman without portfolio with 32 votes for and two against.

The next highest vice-chairman was Jim Beckley, PR vice-chairman with 31 votes for and only two against. Anyway, all the vice-chairman previously sitting got back with substantial majorities, in fact there was not a real substantial move against anyone of the six in the hot seats, much to the delight of chairman John Prean who said 'I am grateful for this tremendous vote of confidence, it is great to get George Yates back.'

## Billingtons impressive

THE Billington family from Derbyshire are now making a considerable impact on English table tennis. Bradley and Julie have of course their father Maurice who was a former England international.

Bradley is on the fringe of the England senior squad and has had some real purple patches this season. Julie's latest big win was at Halifax on 23 April in the Yorkshire Junior 2-Star when she beat Andrea Holt, 21-10, 21-16.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**MORE** very late news: Alan ~~Yates~~ has resigned for Falkenberg in the Swedish National League, despite approaches by English clubs. Desmond Douglas is still listening to offers from home and abroad, but he will be an expensive investment.

SWEDEN's national squad will be visiting England in mid-August. Two or three matches are being arranged. In October, it is expected that there will be a nine-day Chinese tour at eight venues to be announced.

ENGLAND squad training during the summer is likely to include a young Japanese player for their national team. The request for the arrangement came from Japan and could clearly be an advantage for the English players.

FINANCIAL liability in the now unlikely event of the ETTA becoming insolvent is again a subject of some concern. It is understood that the arrangement of a maximum of £10 liability for persons involved in the counties has been dropped. A new arrangement is awaited by national councillors.

AS TTN went to press the latest junior ranking lists appeared with a shock at the top — English junior champion Bradley Billington has been replaced as No 1 by Yorkshire's Michael O'Driscoll, winner of the English Junior Top 12 at Milton Keynes while Billington was playing in the Belgian Top-12.



## Official news

AT their meeting held on Saturday, 16 April, the National Council endorsed the following appointments for vice-chairmen:

|                                       | For | Against |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---------|
| Malcolm Allsop (Administration)       | 30  | 4       |
| Chris Wright (Competitions)           | 28  | 6       |
| Alan Ransome (Marketing/Promotions)   | 29  | 4       |
| Jim Beckley (Press/Publicity)         | 31  | 2       |
| Stuart Sneyd (Selection/Coaching)     | 27  | 3       |
| George Yates (Without responsibility) | 32  | 2       |

Chairman, John Prean, said:

'I am delighted that my team received such a huge majority of the votes and I am grateful for this tremendous vote of confidence.

It is great to see George Yates back, his experience and international reputation will be invaluable.

Recent television programmes have shown that table tennis is an exciting sport and the future has never looked brighter.

## Promising letter from Channel 4

TABLE tennis photographer and enthusiast John Fairweather of Highbury, London N5 has received an interesting letter from the 'Duty Office' of Channel Four Television in reply to his letter of appreciation for the coverage of the Euro-Asia tournament.

After acknowledging Mr Fairweather's letter (showing again how important it is to let media sources know what you think) the letter reads: 'We have noted your request for more coverage of table tennis and shall bear it in stage across more consideration in Greece, and we're glad.'



## South of England 3-Star Open

# Three seeds out, Souter holds on

by MICHAEL GREEN

SHOCKS... and more shocks... that's what we have come to expect from a late season tournament and that's exactly what happened in the quarter finals of the Men's Singles at the South of England 3-Star at Woking.

Out went top seed David Hannah, weighed down by the hopes of his local Surrey supporters, submitting tamely to the youthful Matthew Syed.

Out went second seed Jimmy Stokes, ousted by a breathtaking display from that up and coming man from Essex Steve Dorking, 14, 17 the score.

Out went fourth seed Nicky Mason, squeezed out in a rip-roaring tussle of top spin and temperament by fellow Surrey man Glen Baker.

It is too much to expect all the top four seeds to fail and John Souter saved the day by beating Kevin Satchell fairly comfortably in the other quarter.

How far could the unseeded Dorking go... He really did have every chance in his semi against Glen but serving off at 19 all in third didn't help.

The Souter/Syed semi-final was probably the best match of the day. When Matthew is playing a quality opponent he really is a joy to watch with his defensive style. Although Souter looked near frustration he managed to remain composed and found vital winners to pierce the Syed defences.

On paper, the final ought to have been no problem for Souter. Although Baker took the second game he fell apart in the decider and Souter triumphed in one of the most memorable tournaments we have seen in Surrey.

Indeed, it was fitting tribute to

the late John Somerville, organiser of this and other events, who died in December. A minute's silence at the start of the finals session turned our minds to John's determination and dedication in getting the job done. He will be missed but the team he left behind did the job tremendously well. The success of the weekend augurs well for the continuation in the coming years of the South of England.

It was a pity that the women's singles did not have the same excitement as the men's but with the absence of Lisa Lomas and Mandy Sainsbury perhaps it was to be expected.

Having said this, Carol Giles (Dv) removed second seed Fiona Elliot in the quarters and very nearly beat Jill Harris (St) in the semis. As expected, Alison Gordon was too good for everyone and won the event with a fair amount of ease.

One point which does need to be cleared up is who exactly is allowed to play in a Class 2? It seems not everyone is sure and it might well be worth restating the position in the magazine.

### RESULTS

**MS: SF:** G. Baker b S. Dorking 13, -18, 19; J. Souter b M. Syed -17, 16, 17.

**Final:** Souter b Baker 19, -18, 10.

**WS: Final:** A. Gordon b J. Harris 13, 16.

**MD: Final:** P. Bradbury/J. Kennedy b S. Dorking/N. Tyler 9, 17.

**WD: Final:** A. Gordon/F. Elliot b A. Holy/J. Shaw 11, -16, 16.

**Class 2 Singles:** C. Oldfield b R. Jermy 17, 10.

**Veterans' Singles:** J. Hilton b C. Warren 19, 13.



John Souter



Alison Gordon

## GROVE IS ALL ACTION

by IAN MARSHALL

THE April Grove School Graded Singles Tournament saw the biggest entry of the season for the monthly tournament at Market Drayton, with all six grades keenly contested by local players and the rule of last received first out having to be imposed with players on the waiting list filling any vacancies caused by last minute withdrawals.

The was to be success in the H&E Scaffolding Elite Grade event for James Bradbury whilst Alan Harris captured the Grade A event. Meanwhile Telford's much improved junior Craig Strickley was the successful player in the Talbot Hotel Grade B event whilst young Grove player Adrian Cadman kept calm to win the Rainbow Flowers Grade C singles; to add to the success for the juniors Dylan Griffiths captured the Roofrite Grade D event and the diminutive Tim Wright used his good control to win the Concorde Grade E title.

In the county league Grove powered forward as the squad of Keith Sillitoe, Mark Turner and David Morris led the Shropshire Star First Division ahead of Wrexham duo Phil and Gary Jones whilst the ever present Telford brothers Robert and Nigel Holding are in third place. In the promotion race Peter Worrall and Colin Sayce of Pontesbury head the Farmers Garage Division 2A whilst there is further joy for Pontesbury in the Concorde Trophies Division 2B which is led by Jonathan Day and Allister Corfield ahead of Grove's Simon Edwards and Matthew Jeffrey.

## MIXED FORTUNES FOR ANDREA

ANDREA HOLT, 17 from Bury, Lancashire is way ahead of her English rivals but well behind most of her rivals on the continent. On 4 April at Milton Keynes her mixture of defence and attack saw her defeat all eleven of her rivals, with Julie Billington coming second and Clair Potts (Cheshire) in third place, in the Englishd Junior Top-12 event sponsored by the Borough of Milton Keynes.

The Milton Keynes event saved at the eleventh hour by Milton Keynes after it had been cancelled was marred in the boys event by the absence of several top players including Matthew Syed and Bradley Billington who played in the Belgian Youth event instead. The winner was Michael O'Driscoll (Yorks) with up-and-coming Neil Pickard second and Neil Bevan (Cornwall) third.

Seven days later captained by Paul Day, Syed and Holt were competing in the European Top-12 in Rumania where Syed did well to finish with a late flourish in seventh spot and the Lancashire lass tenth, with only 11 players competing in the girls event.

The winners in Rumania were Dimitri Mazunov (USSR) and Rumania's Ottilia Badescu, both of whom were extremely impressive in Paris at the senior European championships.

# The death of the ETTA President

## THE SINCERE MR TABLE TENNIS by JOHNNY LEACH

FROM the first moment I met Maurice 41 years ago we became firm friends. To me he was Mr Table Tennis.

Maurice was a sincere man of few words, spoken or written. I never missed a Birmingham or Midland Open that he organised. A few weeks prior to an event I would receive a letter reading: 'Dear Johnny, please enter the Midland, regards Maurice'. I would reply: 'Dear Maurice, put me in the draw I'll be there, regards Johnny'.

It was no different after I became world champion. Very few words were needed, we had an understanding and knew we could rely on each other. I am making this farewell as Maurice would like it — short and to the point.

Goodbye pal. You did a great service for table tennis and we all loved you. Rest in Peace. Regards Daisy and Johnny.

## MAURICE GOLDSTEIN

We regret to announce the death of the President, Mr Maurice Goldstein OBE on 1 May 1988 at the age of 77.

Maurice, who had been President since 1973 had a remarkable record of service to table tennis, having been Secretary of the Birmingham League since 1930 and Secretary of Warwickshire TTA since 1937. He also served at national level continuously since 1933.

His passing severs one of the strongest remaining links with the formative years of the Association. Chairman John Prean said 'Maurice was a staunch and loyal colleague whom we shall all miss. Our sympathy goes out to his family. He is quite irreplaceable.'



Maurice Goldstein

## MANY MOURNERS

OVER 300 people attended the funeral service prior to cremation at Selly Oak, Birmingham on 9 May. Among those who came to pay their last respects to Maurice and his devotion to the sport were the Chairman of the ETTA Mr John Prean and Mrs Erica Prean, Mr Roy Evans representing Wales, ETTA Deputy Chairman Alan Ransome, Derek Tremayne, George Yates, Desmond Douglas, Albert Shipley, Norman and Alma Reeve, Veronica Jackson, the new Birmingham general secretary, Arthur Upton, Stan Parr, George Taylor, Stan Lenton, Keith Ponting and representing the table tennis writers Johnny Leach and John Woodford.

## A TRIBUTE

by VERONICA JACKSON

HE WILL be remembered for his quiet modesty and dedication to the game, which began in the 1920s. Maurice became Secretary of the Birmingham Association in 1931 — when he took up his duties there were only 20 teams in the area, this number eventually increased until we were the largest Association in the country with 250 clubs. Sadly this number has declined over the last few years, due to the industrial recession and other factors.

Maurice was President of the English TTA, Secretary of the Warwickshire TTA and Secretary/Treasurer of the Midland League. His devotion to the game was unique — he was known worldwide as 'Mr Table Tennis', organising World Championships, International matches, tournaments and other events.

He will be sadly missed by all those who loved him and looked to him for guidance — he has left a large gap in our lives which cannot be filled.



ALAN COOKE



JOHN HILTON



ALISON GORDON

### 1988 Coaches

ALAN RANSOME  
JOHN HILTON, BOB WILEY  
ALAN COOKE  
ALISON GORDON  
DAVID HANNAH

# TEES SPORT SUMMER SCHOOL

## BRITAIN'S TOP TABLE TENNIS HOLIDAY AT DURHAM CASTLE

### 1988 Dates

JULY 25 - JULY 29

Further information available from: TEES SPORT  
Zetland Place, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS1 1HJ.  
Tel: (0642) 217844/5 or 249000 (24 hour answerphone)

- \* Personal Tuition.
- \* Top coaches.
- \* Good class accommodation and meals in fabulous surroundings.
- \* Large modern sports hall.
- \* 24 Butterfly tables.
- \* Seminars and video.
- \* Tournaments.
- \* Social Evenings.
- \* First class organisation.
- \* Grant Aid available.
- \* Excellent value.
- \* Plus beautiful Durham Castle and City.

## Picture Parade 1



Just one player is missing from this photograph of the England squad taken by Peter Barnes for the Leeds Permanent Building Society and Alan Pascoe Associates. The player is of course Desmond Douglas. Left to right back row: Alan Cooke (Derbyshire), Nicky Mason (Surrey), Matthew Syed (Berkshire), Skylet Andrew (Essex), Bradley Billington (Derbyshire), Carl Prean (Isle of Wight). Front row: Alison Gordon (Berkshire), Lisa Lomas (Bedfordshire), Don Parker (Lancashire), Andrea Holt (Lancashire) and Fiona Elliot (Staffordshire).



Cumnor House, Croydon, (Surrey Metropolitan) winners of the Boys' Under-11 event, at Lea Green, Matlock, with Wendy Cunningham, marketing projects manager of the Leeds Permanent Building Society. Photo: John O'Sullivan.



No wonder there is a smile on the face of top Avon coach Mike Lewis who has become involved in Women's Institutes table tennis in the last few months. He is pictured surrounded by this five-strong bunch of WI beauties. The move to bring the WI organisation into the sport is proving very successful. Four of these ladies are the Avon finalists in the WI event and their organiser with of course, Mike in the centre of the action.

## ALL OUR SUSSEX YESTERDAYS . . . 1956!



Down memory lane in the fifties, this was the Sussex senior team. In the days when counties had one senior and one junior side, the original idea of the county championships. Back row: Len Gunn, Graham Whalley, Roger Chandler. Front row: (names at the time), Valerie Gillam and Ann Woodford.

## A good season

THIS is the last magazine of the season, a good time to take stock. Critics sometimes accuse me of dwelling too long, too much on our achievements, not enough on our problems. Not really true. I cannot remember a more open, less secretive administration or a time when the members knew exactly what was going on. What, then are the main items that still need dealing with?

### The membership crisis

We lost 4.2% of our members. This is not good. However, it indicates at least an improving trend since some previous figures were very much worse. 70 or so leagues improved their figures, which shows this can be done. I hope, after all we have done this season, next time we shall see a further improvement, at least smaller minus percentages.

The local leagues, though our greatest activity, are not the only one and they should not be the only measurement of our success or otherwise. In many respects substantial progress is being made. A thousand players played in the County Championships, some hundreds in the British League. The Veterans game is flourishing under excellent management with substantial gains every season. Junior Tournaments are increasing in numbers. Some regions (sadly not all) are developing a growing list of events for both elite and non-elite players. The Leeds Youth Cup, I predict, will be very, very big in a matter of a season or two. In its first year it attracted many hundreds of entries all over the country.

It is inevitable that the very success and growth of so many other activities will induce some to reduce their local league commitments and that this should be reflected in league memberships. This must not be regarded as a tragedy, but should be seen in the wider context of the progress of the sport. The leagues are the bedrock of the Association. All our roots are there. The greatest service the ETTA can render is a healthier, more respected sport — one that looks good enough to take up and to stay with. The television picture — of which more later — is absolutely vital in terms of advertising and marketing the sport. If we succeed on that front, all our activities will benefit enormously.

### Divisions and disunity

I was elected, then an unknown quantity in managerial terms with a majority of 69%. Since then I have twice been elected unopposed. All my nominations in respect of Vice-Chairmen (departmental heads) were approved by the National Council by very large majorities during our April Meeting. It is right that decisions should be debated, but not forever and not with acrimony. The latter provides me with no problems, but those who support the sport may be less impressed and public foolishness is never admired, however few the originators. There is room for everybody in the sport — the recent return of George Yates is particularly impressive — but the jokers and knockers will continue to get the replies they deserve, but with humour and not rancour.

I can recall no time when the sport was more united or had its act together more.

### Finance

The last accounts showed losses of £49,000 (some attributable to earlier years). The year which ended in March will show a small profit, which in itself is a massive turn-round from the previous disaster. However, this is only the beginning. We need several good and better years to establish a healthy picture. We think we have made sufficient provisions to repair the ghastly offices in Hastings under the obligations in our lease. We shall see little change from £25,000, but we can at least deal with this now without going under.

### Television

We have certainly improved our coverage in both quantity, but particularly quality. Very many encouraging letters have gone both to me and the networks. These DO have an effect — so keep it up and thanks. We shall press for more and we shall try to bring top class table tennis to this country for you to see and to provide the television opportunities. Nothing will push the sport forward faster or more effectively. It is a very tough market. Be patient.

### International success

Very warm congratulations to our Men's team for their Silver Medal in the European Championships — a shattering success and a real team effort in which each man played a significant and indispensable part.

That is the sort of success we need to put the sport where it belongs and then the new members will start coming in bigger numbers and the older ones like me will feel new hope and pride.

### Under-11 Championships

A small initiative last year with only 30 or so entries, but very well run as usual by the English Championships Committee, has blossomed into a major one with over 90 entries this year, followed (as last time) by a coaching session with Don and Jill Parker, so that they get to know the stars of the future and so that we can help and encourage them very early in their career.

### The bigger events

The Leeds Euro-Asia and our Leeds Open were both magnificent events in their own right. My thanks again to all who have written to me about these. Doreen Stannard and Alan Ransome will be recommended as Life Members to the AGM in July. Both were leading spirits in these great days and, of course, on many others. Well done.

### Press

Again, we have attracted substantially more interest. I am told there is no such thing as bad publicity. I hope this is right. None has been too disastrous, but much could have been fairer. Every season officials decide to call it day. That has always been so. Last season at times newspapers made it look as if the ETTA World had stood still and members could be forgiven for thinking that I was standing on the burning deck alone. In fact, things were going well and determination and enthusiasm were at record levels. However, the increasing interest in the sport was gratifying and as a result many members changed from tabloids to quality press, as the latter has been first to 'discover' the sport. *The Telegraph* has allocated more and more space. John Woodford has produced a regular and entertaining column every Tuesday and new on many other days.

I hope we shall capture the tabloids one day, insofar as one can in the light of their limited space and other commitments.

### The Leeds

I have often paid tribute to the Leeds, but cannot close the season without doing so again. They have been tremendous and there is so much we could not have done without them and so much we did better because of them. Yet I feel the best is still to come — for the partnership and for English Table Tennis.

### A new confidence

My warmest thanks to all who have worked for the sport all over the country. Despite my title I look on myself as one of many. If I have achieved anything of note, then I hope it is a contribution towards a new confidence in the sport and perhaps that I helped to make things happen. If we can make more of our fellows see the sport as we do, we shall be well on our way. There is no greater game and, if we believe that, everything is possible.

Have a good summer.

JOHN

## EVENTS COMING UP . . . INTO NEXT SEASON

|            |                                                        |           |                       |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| 30 May     | Leeds Youth Cup Finals, Crystal Palace                 | 2 Oct     | Leeds British League  |
| 4-5 June   | Six-Nation Cadets' International Tournament, Bletchley | 8-9 Oct   | Sussex 2-Star         |
| 27-28 Aug  | Lambeth 2-Star                                         | 8-9 Oct   | Grove 2-Star Junior   |
| 3-4 Sept   | Kirkless 2-Star Junior                                 | 15-16 Oct | Yorkshire 3-Star      |
| 4 Sept     | Leeds British League                                   | 15-16 Oct | Kent 2-Star Junior    |
| 10 Sept    | Milton Keynes Under-21 2-Star                          | 15-16 Oct | English Top-12 Senior |
| 11 Sept    | Coventry 1-Star Junior                                 |           |                       |
| 17-18 Sept | Woodfield 1-Star                                       |           |                       |
| 18 Sept    | Woodfield 1-Star Junior                                |           |                       |
| 17 Sept    | Junior Regional Trials                                 |           |                       |
| 18 Sept    | Leed British League                                    |           |                       |
| 24 Sept    | Olympic Games to 1 Oct                                 |           |                       |
| 24 Sept    | North of England 2-Star                                |           |                       |
| 24 Sept    | Wiltshire 2-Star Junior                                |           |                       |
| 24 Sept    | Wiltshire 2-Star                                       |           |                       |
| 1 Oct      | County Championships                                   |           |                       |
| 1-2 Oct    | East Yorks 2-Star Junior                               |           |                       |

CALL IN TODAY TO  
OPEN AN ACCOUNT  
WITH



## Chris Oldfield, the northern star

### NATWEST DERBY SELECT JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

# OLDFIELD VICTORY OVER BEVAN

by MALCOLM ALLSOP

THE NatWest Derby Select Junior Table Tennis Tournament provided a feast of exciting table tennis over two days at the Derby Moorways Sports Centre. 375 entrants contested 10 events.

England No 3, Chris Oldfield from Yorkshire emerged as the Boys' Singles Champion after an exhibition of speed play which overwhelmed Cornwall's promising Neil Bevan in the final. In the semi-finals, Oldfield and Bevan had beaten Leigh Jeffries and Mark Ward resp.

The non-entry of Chesterfield's Bradley Billington left local hopes with Robert Scott-Birchall and Jason Bamford but they both lost to the champion, Oldfield, in the second and third rounds respectively.

Top seeded Debbie Toole, also from Yorkshire, won the Girls' Singles after a tough battle with Julie Norman in the final, after Norman had defeated local hope Julie Billington in the semi-finals.

The only local success came from Burton's Gary Knights who combined with Neil Bevan to win the Cadet Boys' Doubles.

Nichola Deaton just failed to add to her previous twelve Under-12 titles when she lost the closest final of the Tournament in the Under-12 Girls' Singles to Hull's Sally Marling.

Referee Stuart Sherlock once again did an excellent job in keeping to the crowded schedule despite rain putting two courts out of commission for part of the second day.



Neil Bevan

Thanks are extended to the NatWest Bank who sponsored the Tournament and the many officials, too numerous to mention, who ensured a successful event.

#### RESULTS

##### Junior Boys:

Semi-finals: C. Oldfield bt L. Jeffries 15, 10; N. Bevan bt M. Ward 18, 18.  
Final: Chris Oldfield bt Neil Bevan 17, 17.

##### Junior Girls:

Semi-finals: D. Toole bt J. Roberts 14, 11; J. Norman bt J. Billington -13, 15, 19.  
Final: Debbie Toole bt Julie Norman 24, 7.

##### Junior Boys' Doubles:

Semi-finals: A. Thorp/M. Ward bt L. Jeffries/M. Stephenson 14, -20, 17; G. Connelly/M. Pernet bt P. Carter/A. Cole -20, 16, 16.

Final: Adrian Thorp/Mark Ward bt Graeme Connelly/Matthew Pernet 16, 20.

##### Junior Girls' Doubles:

Semi-finals: J. Roberts/D. Toole bt S. Pengelly/H. Stephens 15, 14; K. Gower/J. Norman bt J. Billington/K. Goodall 16, -18, 16.  
Final: Joanne Roberts/Debbie Toole bt Kate Gower/Julie Norman 6, 12.

##### Cadet Boys:

Semi-finals: N. Bevan bt I. Collier 8, 11; B. Mileham bt M. Adams 19, 19.  
Final: Brian Mileham bt Neil Bevan.

##### Cadet Girls:

Semi-finals: E. Meddings bt H. Potts 16, -17, 19; M. Thornley bt H. Wright 19, 17.  
Final: Maria Thornley bt Ellen Meddings.

##### Cadet Boys' Doubles:

Semi-finals: J. Blake/D. Howarth bt S. Coverdale/B. Forster 12, 16; N. Bevan/G. Knights bt M. Greenwood/M. Pridde -18, 27, 10.



Malcolm Allsop

Final: N. Bevan/G. Knights bt Jason Blake/Darren Howarth.

##### Under-12 Boys:

Semi-finals: D. Blake bt C. Sladden -20, 7, 16; A. Perry bt E. Hatley.  
Final: Darren Blake (Surrey) bt Alexander Perry (Devon) -11, 14, 15.

##### Under-12 Girls:

Semi-finals: S. Marling bt N. Massingham 3, 10; N. Deaton bt L. Heyward 9, 10.  
Final: Sally Marling (Yorkshire) bt Nicola Deaton (Derbyshire) 18, 21.

## RICHARD TANNER VICTORIOUS

by KEVIN HACKETT

THIS year the Civil Service Table Tennis Championships returned to Crystal Palace for the 57th National Finals. Despite home advantage London region were unable to repeat the successes of recent years and all the titles left with the guests.

The first final was the women's singles contested by Sally Weston (South East) and last year's winner Clare Mouzon (Northern), the first and second seeds. Clare reached the final without much trouble and although Sally dropped the first game to Joanne Pickles (East Midlands) in the semi-final she won the next two comfortably enough.

In the final Clare started well and took the first end, Sally went into a lead at the start of the second and although Clare fought her way back level at 17 all Sally clinched it with some powerful hitting. The third game was similar with Sally establishing a lead and Clare struggling to get back, this time however she didn't make it to level terms and Sally held on to avenge her defeat in last year's semi-final and win the title for the first time.

#### Confident

The first game of the final saw Percy Collino establish a big lead only to lose it to some confident hitting from Richard Tanner. Un-

fortunately for Percy the second set started as the first had finished and Richard won comfortably.



Sally Weston

### THE WINNERS

**Men's Singles:** Semi-finals: Richard Tanner bt Tony Rigby 9, 16; Percy Collino bt Gary Sweet 19, 14.  
Final: Tanner bt Collino 20, 12.

**Women's Singles:** Semi-finals: Sally Weston bt Joanne Pickles -19, 9, 14; Clare Mouzon bt Jean Newton 13, 9.  
Final: Weston bt Mouzon -16, 19, 18.

**Veteran's Singles:** Semi-finals: Alan Timewell bt Maurice Cheek 8, 17; Phil Newton bt Allan Jesson 10, -20, 13.  
Final: Timewell bt Newton 5, 11.

**Men's Doubles:** Final: Allan/Robert Jesson bt Tanner/R Nelhams 20, 17.

**Women's Doubles:** Final: Ruth Bentley/Pickles bt Sylvia Graham/Karen Gibson -15, 17, 21.  
**Mixed Doubles:** Final: Weston/Nicky Standen bt Graham/Dave Roberts 17, 13.

## CALENDAR OF WORLD EVENTS from the ITTF . . .

#### 1988

May 20-May 22  
June 6-June 11  
June 10-June 12  
June 11-  
June 17-June 19

Czech Junior Open Championships  
4th Veterans World Championships, Zagreb  
Italian Junior Open, Verona  
ETTU/Nancy Evans Cup Finals, Baden Bei Weim  
Hungarian Junior Open Championships, Keskemet

June 22-June 26  
July 8-July 10  
July 30-Aug 7  
Sept 14-Sept 18  
Sept 23-Oct 1

US Open Championships, Miami Beach  
Spanish Junior Open, Alicante  
31st European Youth Championships, Bergen  
Turkish International Youth Tournament, Izmir  
**TABLE TENNIS AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES, SEOUL**

Oct 7-Oct 14  
Oct 27-Oct 30  
Nov 17-Nov 20  
Nov 24-Nov 27  
Dec 1-Dec 4  
Dec

1988 Bicentennial Open Australia Championships  
Italian Open Championships, Arrezzo  
Yugoslav Open Championships  
Dutch Open Championships, Hertogenbosch  
French Open Championships, Nantes  
4th Oceania Championships, Noumea, New Caledonia

#### 1989

Jan 7-Jan 8  
Feb 3-Feb 5  
Feb 23-Feb 26  
Mar 19-Mar 25  
Mar 29-April 19

5th European Junior Top-12, Switzerland  
European Top-12, Belgium  
Czechoslovak Open Championships  
9th Commonwealth Championships, Cardiff  
**40th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, DORTMUND**

# Interest boosted by John Prean

by RICHARD EATON OF *The Sunday Times*

IT WAS the season when the giant stirred, the world stood on its head, and the man some dismissed as an eccentric or a fanatic was proved right in many things. Table tennis, perhaps the best known pastime of all, started to be noticed again in the country that had done most to spread it. The country that had become best at playing table tennis suffered strange reverses. And John Prean made people take an interest in it all.

It was the season when Jiang Jialiang, a world champion beaten five times in a fortnight, became the first Chinese player to enter an English press room and try to give an interview in English. He couldn't say a lot and we couldn't understand a lot. But this was memorably unique. Jiang transcended barriers that were linguistic, geographical and political, with his smile, his sportsmanship and his courage. For that alone he should not be forgotten.

Nor should Desmond Douglas. After so many years as the finest English player of modern times, his balloon burst. This was the season when he finally lost his national title, as well as his European Top Twelve title, when he and others boycotted the National Top Twelve, when he was barred from playing in the Leeds Euro-Asia tournament, and when he severed his contract with the ETTA.

Alan Cooke, defeater of Douglas, got to the Olympics just when it seemed certain he would be eliminated, Andrea Holt made the sun and the moon of an English open debut, and Nicky Jarvis quit — leaving England's coaching set-up, already without David Fairholm and Peter Simpson, even more dependent on the hard-pressed Parkers. Meanwhile George Yates, the man who walked out, walked right back in again.

The Leeds Building Society enjoyed a great start, Ted Wallbuton bravely made a great comeback, televised TT made a great revival, and Prean senior, whose vice-chairmen were at last returned with an overwhelming vote, appeared to have completed a clean sweep at National Council.

#### New hope

This then was the season of controversy, of reconciliation of

hassle and of new hope. This was the season when my twelve-year love affair with TT ceased to look like an expensively pleasurable self-indulgence. This was the season when English table tennis realised it can be great again.

#### Exhilarating

But he ended it by being a vital part of the finest men's team England has had for thirty years, a team that went within a whisker of upsetting a Swedish side good enough to win the world title in Dortmund next year. During that exhilarating march to the European silver medal Carl Prean overcame a whole hatful of fine players, only to be told later he had done so with a rubber that was no longer legal. This was the first stage of a great revolution. All four should continue an increasingly fruitful partnership.

Perhaps the biggest single success of all was Alan Ransome's splendidly organised Leeds



Richard Eaton

Euro-Asia tournament, which did more than anything to resurrect the morale of a once-moribund sport.

It was the season when Skylet Andrew was seen demolishing a glass jug on *A Question of Sport*, and when he beat six European League opponents only to be removed from the European rankings. Few could have been more eloquent in eliciting an apology. It was also the paradoxical season when England beat the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and France in the European championships, yet crucially contrived to lose at home to Holland in the European league.

## EXPRESS SPORTS — THE WINNING TEAM!

At Express Sports we not only sell table-tennis equipment, we support table tennis — this year we have helped several players, below are some of the successes of this season.

Steve Dorking



A leading England ranked Senior. Essex No 2 player.

Janet Smith



Scottish No 2. Winners of several open tournaments.

Sara Pengelly



Ex No 5 England Cadet, currently No 17 in U-17s at 15 years of age.

Alex Perry



England's leading U-12 player — Winner of 12 opens this season.

REMEMBER — EXPRESS OFFER YOU THE TOP PRODUCTS AT THE BEST PRICES; EXPRESS SPORTS SUCCESSFUL TRAINING CAMPS ARE ON THROUGHOUT AUGUST AT ONLY £100 PER WEEK, FULL BOARD.

### SUPPORT EXPRESS — THE COMPANY WHO SUPPORT THE PLAYERS

Ring or write to Express Sports, 19 Campbell Close, Uckfield, Sussex  
Telephone 0825 4566 Managing Director: Malcolm Francis Visa & Access accepted

# Jeffries victory at Harlow

by ALAN SHEPHERD

A WONDERFUL weekend of table tennis at Harlow was made memorable by the magnificent victory of Leigh Jeffries of Warwickshire in the final of the Junior Boys' Singles over local boy Grant Solder of Essex. The scores of 19, 22 show up the closeness between the two old rivals and the actual play was exciting enough to satisfy everybody.

Leigh took delight in top spin defending while falling about among the surrounds at the back of the court while Grant was smashing the high balls. When close to the table play was resumed Leigh just hit that little bit harder and fully deserved his win.

Earlier, there had been two thrilling semi-finals. Leigh had beaten Jonathan Taylor (Cheshire) by -13, 14, 21 and Grant had touched off Mark Wood (Yorks) -20, 16, 21. Unfortunately No 1 seed Chris Oldfield (Yorks) had scratched in favour of another of those European opens which our governing body only seems to find out about after the draw has been made. However, the seeds from No 2 to No 8 had been eliminated prior to the semi-finals. I think that it must be said that the idea of having a National Top-12 event for Juniors and Cadets overlapping a Select Tournament must not be repeated and was the cause of much dissatisfaction among players, parents and coaches. Many players were much too tired and/or peaking down (if that is the right way to describe it) to do themselves justice. Only one example need be mentioned. Neil Bevan finished third in the Top 12 yet one day later was seen losing 2-18 to Grant Solder in the first game of his two-straight defeat. Such a travesty of form cannot be put down to Neil having an off-day.

On the Saturday I believe that all who took part in the mixed team event on 36 pairs thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The tried and trusted combination of Alan Cole (Sussex) and Paul Carter (Surrey) was the eventual winners by 3-1 over the team of Jason Tendler (Essex) and Scott Greenbrook (Sussex).

## Unseeded

The Junior Boys' Doubles event was won by No 1 seeded pair of Mark Ward and Adrian Thorpe (Staffs) whose final victims were the team event winners Cole/Carter — unseeded!

In the corresponding girls' event Joanne Roberts (Yorks) most unfortunately became ill during the day and had to withdraw, which gave a fairly easy passage to the No 2 seeded pair of Andrea Holt (Lancs) and Joanne Keighley (Yorks). They an

unseeded pair in the final, namely Helen Stephens (Lancs)/Sarah Pengelly (Devon) who profited from the absence of the No 1 seeded pair but removed the No 4 seeds, Kate Gower (Essex)/Andrea Ambrose (Suffolk) in the semi-final. Question — is Helen Stephens the first Lincolnshire player to contest an Essex Junior Open Final?

## Valiant

The final Sunday event was the Girls' Singles won easily by England No 1 Andrea Holt. She and Joanne Keighley did not drop a game in the doubles and Andrea did not drop a game in the singles. Andrea Ambrose once more opposed her, but valiantly as she tried she had to yield to a much more skilled adversary.

Easter Monday was Cadets and Under-12 day. Little Alex Perry from far off Devonshire was in need of no tips on this day as he sailed through to a second consecutive Under-12 title. His predictable final opponent was No 2 seed Andrew Nicholls from Yorkshire, who went close but lost two-straight.

The Under-12 girls event was again contested by the two top seeds, and this was quite a humdinger. Little Nicola Deaton (Derbyshire) had a great battle with Claire Pengelly (Devonshire) before the former triumphed.

Gary Knights (Staffs) withdrew from the Cadet events due to the Lentex ban (of which more later) which left a gap at the bottom of the draw. Ian Collier (Durham) possibly the only Geordie at Harlow, gratefully took this over, defeating Martin Adams (Berks) and Gavin Yates (Oxon), en route to the final.

The girls event was won by No 2 seed Kay Goodall (Yorks) whose only real test came in the semi-final, where Linda Radford (Essex) fully extended her. Ellen Meddings, also Yorkshire, and No 1 seed, ran into problems, when edging out Nicola Meddings (Warwicks) by 20, -16, 16 in the semi-finals. Nicola herself had been earlier involved in a tremendous tussle with Sara Williams (Middlesex) just beating her -19, 19, 20 (and they don't come much closer than that!) Surprisingly Kay beat Ellen quite comfortably in the final. This left only the two doubles events to be

decided. Neil Bevan, having lost partner Knights, was told by me that I could only offer him 'Maggie' his Cornish side-kick, who I said could hardly prove more than nuisance value to the opposition (since he certainly had proved one hell of a nuisance to the control table). Neil accepted my offer and the Bevan/Maggs duo then went all the way to the final, where they fought a colossal battle with No 3 seeded pair James Patterson (Norfolk ex-Herts) and Martin Adams, before losing out in the deciding game.



Grant Solder

## THE RUBBER BAN

I suppose I must say something about the great Lentec controversy. We had, of course, all heard about the banning of Carl Preat's rubber in the European Championships. Now we learned that Len Pilditch, referee of the Top-12 event, had similarly imposed that ban. Whether that decision was right or wrong, it is not for me to say. However, ITTF Rule 4.2.1.1.2 says that in Open International Championships 'the covering material on a side of the blade used for striking the ball shall be of a brand and type currently authorised by the ITTF' and our own Tournament Regulation 9 reads as follows:

'Except as stated otherwise in these Regulations such of the ITTF Regulations for International Competitions as are stated therein to be applicable shall apply to every Open Tournament unless otherwise agreed by the participants, such agreement being evidenced by the completion and submission of an entry form containing details of the nature and extent of any variation from the requirements of such ITTF regulations.'

As a result I had no alternative but to enforce this ban, although I had the greatest of sympathy with those players affected by it, such as Ian Knights, Sarah Pengelly and Jason Tendler. Unfortunately some of the parents seemed to think that it was my personal plan to defeat the chances of their offspring! Luckily I was able on the Sunday evening to obtain a special dispensation from an ETTA vice-chairman who happened to be present and was allowed to lift the ban. This was something we could all have done without, since it did introduce an unhappy atmosphere into what was otherwise a smoothly running tournament being enjoyed, I feel by everybody present. As to this I would like to express my very grateful thanks to Valerie Roffe, my last minute deputy assistant referee, to Gillian Squier my indefatigable microphone girl, to Barry Granger, our organiser, and last and certainly not least to our hard working squad of umpires.

## RESULTS

**Team event final:** A. Cole (Sussex)/P. Carter (Surrey) b J. Tendler (Essex)/S. Greenbrook (Sussex) 3-1.

**Junior Boys' Semi-finals:** G. Solder b M. Ward -20, 16, 21; L. Jeffries b J. Taylor -13, 14, 21.

**Final:** L. Jeffries b G. Solder 19, 22.

**Junior Girls' Semi-finals:** A. Holt (La) b E. Meddings (Y) 11, 13.

**Singles:** A. Ambrose (Sk) b C. Buckley (Bd) 15, 13.

**Final:** A. Holt b A. Ambrose 11, 13.

**Junior Boys' Doubles Semi-finals:** Ward/Thorpe b Cutler/Boon -16, 17, 15; Cole/Carter b Radford/Rand 11, 11.

**Final:** Ward/Thorpe b Cole/Carter 18, 18.

**Junior Girls' Doubles Final:** Holt/Keighley b Stephens/Pengelly 17, 11.

**Cadet Boys' Singles Final:** B. Mileham b I. Collier 12, 20.

**Cadet Girls' Singles Final:** K. Goodall b N. Meddings 12, 14.

**Cadet Boys' Doubles Final:** J. Patterson (Nk)/M. Adams (Bk) b N. Bevan/J. Maggs (Co) 19-23, 15.

**Cadet Girls' Doubles Final:** L. Radford (E)/T. Cole (Sx) b N. Meddings (Wa)/G. Ottolini (Dv) 17, 18.

**Under 13 Boys Singles Final:** A. Perry (Dv) b A. Nicholls (Y) 17, 19.

**Under 12 Girls' Singles Final:** N. Deaton (Dv) b C. Pengelly (Dv) -19, 12, 14.

# Paris gets into the 'populars' . . .

THE Public Relations Department has an aim to improve the coverage of table tennis in the popular press — *The Sun*, *Mirror*, *Mail* and *Express*. Brian Spicer has been set the task of meeting the editors and journalists of these newspapers in their London offices, and at events, to develop the rapport between the media and the ETTA.

To this end, Brian was the *Daily Express* man in Paris at the European Championships and his report makes interesting reading.

*Brian Spicer writes—*

When my first accreditation form was returned from Paris three weeks before the event, it seemed that the forward planning, would make up for the missing ALPS card, to verify that I was a professional journalist.

1. The *Daily Express* fully supported my attending. A freephone number had been provided, so no charges or need for a telephone operator.

2. Hotel and travel arrangements had been made known to the organising committee.

3. I was accompanied by two English journalists Richard Eaton and John Woodford.

4. George Yates, general secretary, ETTU, endorsed the application.

5. Table tennis would receive wider coverage, for without a correspondent the *Daily Express* would only print results, sent by the Reuter agency.

My last visit to European Championships had been in Rotterdam, 1974, when I learned much from the stylish Geoffrey Harrower, then the 'Telegraph' man.

## Trade unionist

So, on time, we arrived at Bercy, walked to gate 12, the press entrance, and were immediately confronted by the press officer of the Championships, M. Dupont, a journalist himself, trade unionist, AIPS member and proud of it. Dupont later became a friend, but at this time, having accepted £100 from intrepid cameraman Brian Webster from Scotland, and then relegating him to a position in the seating area, stubbornly refused to accept me in the press office, or anywhere.

## Situation resolved

A day passed before this situation was resolved with my receiving the badge of acceptance to wear around my neck. I was most grateful for the diplomacy used by Denis George, European press and publicity chief and Stojan Protic, chairman of AIPS in overcoming this delicate situation.

The Press Service though slow with some England team results taking 2 hours to reach the press room, much improved as we entered the individual stage. The arena was superb and the attendants preventing admission to the playing surface almost outnumbered the players.

This security was vital to the success of the championships, however, and the presentation, timing, scheduling and facilities were all superbly done.

It is a great help to journalists to be able to spend time close to one's players to fully appreciate the atmosphere and to take quotes and up to date facts back to one's newspaper.



Brian Spicer

This privilege was officially denied by the rule that only players, captains, congress members and attendants were to be at court level. It never ceases to amaze me, that, nevertheless, if one congratulates staff on their efficiency in doing their jobs, that one receives an invitation to return.

## 12 paragraphs

From the outset the *Daily Express* had been only interested in British successes and with an English team and Carl Preat's individual performance of such merit the *Express* printed 12 paragraphs of copy from 30 supplied. To the team I take my hat off. Carl's demolition of Waldner and Lindh and his optimistic attitude, once robbed of his Lente rubber, was an example to all. Desmond maintained his elder statesman approach, breathing

confidence. Alan (The Pringle) Cooke clearly found new levels of performance. Skylet's high level of support on the bench was enthusiastically received. His two doubles matches were of the highest quality. Don and Jill Parker managed the England team in the style expected of two professionals. The ladies fought off potential relegation with great effort.

In conclusion, my biggest assets were the many lovely peo-

ple who helped the ten days in Paris swing, both in business and the few hours we were able to relax.

Such team effort can only help table tennis to gain ground and the experiences with this time with the *Daily Express* will pave the way in our efforts with the other popular press next season, for a number of big events including the world championships in Dortmund.

## BELGIAN UMPIRES' 'INSPECTOR' DEREK TYLER REPORTS FROM PARIS

# Umpiring, presentation

THE FRENCH Table Tennis Federation can well be proud of their organisation of the European Table Tennis Championships 1988. The facilities included a stadium of immense proportions, large enough for 16 tables at the outset, a separate training hall with 12 tables, and seating for many thousands of spectators — filled nearly to capacity for the final stages.

One had an uninterrupted view from all seats — provided your neighbours remained seated. A pair of binoculars was useful to view the distant matches. The seats were more comfortable than those of the average sports hall, but for the general public there were no others — to partake of a drink or a snack one had to stand or take your purchases in to the stadium.

Large electronic display panels, way above the tables, kept one informed of the participants, and during the final stages a progressive score of the match in progress. In the early stages the umpires had to be reminded to place their score indicators at an angle to facilitate viewing by the public. This helped to some extent, but while aiding the view of the majority of spectators, it created problems for others. On the second Saturday, when there were just five playing courts, it seems a pity that only the central court had the facility of score-indicators in the corners.

## Off duty

There were many umpires off duty at this time who could have manned the corners of the other courts, giving a better public presentation. The use of a microphone by the umpire was restricted to the last final. This could well have been extended to other occasions when play was restricted to one table. The audible calling of the score concentrates the attention of the public, who otherwise may be chatting to

their neighbours and thus miss several good exchanges — particularly at the start of each game.

The Men's Singles final was well presented, but the umpire failed to repeat the score after 'Let' — to indicate that the result of the rally was 'Nil' — as recommended by the ITTF regulations.

## Difficult

It is difficult to give a precise assessment of the umpiring from the public seats, but the general impression was that it was of a high standard. However, the critical eye could detect some errors — mainly of omission. Several teams of umpires had not changed into sports shoes. No doubt this was a special Bercy concession.

## Bat inspections

Far too many umpires failed to examine the bats before commencing the match, and relatively few took the trouble to measure the net. The final of the Men's Team event was notable for the lack of bat inspection for the majority of the matches, and the Mixed Doubles final had the same omission.

One Czech umpire excelled by identifying a rubber that was not on the authorised list.

## Good old England

It was notable that the English umpire team continued the high of efficiency normally associated with umpire squads, and were one of the few who regularly checked the height of the net.

# The Ladies: changes needed

by DIANE SCHOLER (née Rowe)

IT HAS been more than apparent in the past two or three years that the growth of Ladies TT has taken a step backwards. Naturally, there are several reasons for this. The modern world with so much to offer in every way — even the Eastern countries are having difficulty to enrol youngsters to our sport and that I hear not only in the female section. The problems arising for our young talent these days is that they are required to take part in training at least two to three times weekly which in itself requires the parents to play a large part in looking out for their safety. And this at an early age of seven to eight years old!

We in the WTV are taking explicit steps to try and encourage our young ladies to take part in our sport.

However we are still at a great disadvantage. The general attitude still remains that ladies table tennis is a second rate sport in comparison to the opposite sex.

The male players have taken in the past few years a great step forward to becoming 'Professionals', simply because the financial benefits are a great encouragement. They are quite prepared to give 100% effort to achieve these financial benefits.

We — and I mean clubs, trainers and officials of Area and National Associations expect that our Ladies give just as much time and effort to obtain international level and more. The German Table Tennis Centre has to a certain extent recognised this and are giving the Ladies the same opportunity as the men to reach International levels — such as training facilities and schooling. Unfortunately, the problem does not end there. The financial benefits for most of our Ladies remains at a remarkably low level.

## Not easy

I realise that it is not easy to gain sponsors for the Ladies — but our sport has become more interesting — there are no longer long pushing games, it is now more attractive — faster — if not with quite so much spin and power as the men. What we do have at the moment is the opportunity to watch a first class defensive player against attacking players. One had only to watch the Ladies Finals in the European Championships in Paris — Bulatova versus Badescu. Probably one of the most interesting and exciting finals in Paris.

It was quite obvious that the organisers in Paris compiled a completely new programme for the semi-finals and final events. Most likely due to the public and television allocation time. It has been usual in past years to play

the Mixed Doubles Final on the evening before the final day. However in Paris they also played the Ladies Doubles Finals (why not Ladies Doubles and Men's Doubles with the Mixed Doubles on the final day) on the evening — which was finished after the prizegiving at 10pm. A quick look at the final day's programme informed us that not only were the Ladies denied the right to play their doubles on the final day, but that they should also play a semi-final singles match at 9am the next day (which actually was 8am as the clock had to be put back an hour!)

In actual fact, the French concentrated the final afternoon's play on three men's singles (semis and finals); and one ladies singles! I know that there is no actual programme set out by the ETTU or even ITTF as to how a final should be organised — however there should be some means of making sure that all competitors are given the same rights.

How can we expect and ask our Ladies to give as much time and effort as the men, without any financial security and then be pushed into the background as second class citizens?

## Over-shadowed

The team finals were held at exactly the same time — hence we were over-shadowed by the men. Would it not have been better to start the Ladies Finals earlier — then continue with the men at an appropriate time?

I hear also that a World Cup Doubles Tournament is being considered. Prize money will be to the extent of \$150,000. This is proposed by Mr Tamasu — who after a census found that doubles tournaments held in Japan have increased the general interest in table tennis.

I can only express my support for such a tournament — if, and I say if the ladies are also invited!

It is my request to the clubs — trainers — area Associations — National Associations — Euro-



Diane & Ebbie Scholer

pean TT Union and the International Table Tennis Federation alike, whatever the hurdles, let's work together to try and improve the attitude to our ladies sport — don't push us into a corner.

## Benefits

I am convinced with an all-out effort we can begin to achieve what tennis has achieved. Top class sportswomen with first class benefits to compare with our male players.

On a lighter note — congratulations to Ella Constantinescu in becoming the first Lady Vice-President of the European Table Tennis Union — a well earned honour — its a step in the right direction, but we still have a long way to go.

At the banquet in Paris — the men were given a tasty morsel — 'topless' striptease — certainly not that interesting for the ladies — or most of us at any rate!

## MORE COMMENT ON PARIS

by RON CRAYDEN

PLAYING conditions in the stadium were first class and the French Association are to be congratulated on staging a successful championships, especially in selling so many tickets. It makes such a difference to the players and the surrounding atmosphere when most of the seats are full. Although in general the presentation was very good I thought the staging of the men's quarter finals left a lot to be desired. The arena was laid out with a centre court plus four other courts, one in each corner.

## VIP treatment

To my way of thinking it would have been fair and sensible to have played the four matches, one in each corner, but because a French player was involved he was given VIP treatment. All attention therefore was focused on the centre court with TV cameras and the press gathered around, while the other contestants were banished to the corner courts.

## Memory lapse

The design of the stadium allowed for excellent viewing from all angles and levels but the architects must have had a lapse of memory with regard to catering arrangements. There were



Ron Crayden

literally no cafeterias or refreshment lounges for spectators.

## Young Russians

From a playing point of view it was heartening to see so many young players coming to the fore and we should keep a sharp lookout for the young Russians and in particular Andrei Mazunov. Many of the smaller countries whose players were once considered walk-overs are producing excellent performers, so with the brilliant Swedes to lead the way, the future of table tennis in Europe is in an extremely healthy state.

**DON'T FORGET —  
ORDER YOUR TABLE TENNIS NEWS  
MONTHLY FROM THE ETTA OFFICE**

# Leeds Junior English Open 1

## THE RESULTS AT BRIDLINGTON

### BOYS INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITION

#### SEMI-FINALS

##### England II 0 Federal Germany I 3

J. Wosik b M. O'Driscoll 18, 17;  
J. Lang b C. Oldfield 12, 19;  
I. Wosik/J. Lang b M. O'Driscoll/C. Oldfield 9, 19.

##### England I 3 Sweden 2

B. Billington b T. Buza 18, 21;  
M. Syed b F. Persson 13, 14;  
B. Billington/M. Syed I T. Buza/F. Persson -17, -17;  
B. Billington I F. Persson 12, -16, -15;  
M. Syed b T. Buza -18, 19, 15.

#### FINAL

##### England I 0 Federal Germany I 3

T. Wosik b B. Billington 20, -17, 10;  
J. Lang b M. Syed -19, 11, 15;  
T. Wosik/J. Lang b B. Billington/M. Syed -18, 18, 11.

### GIRLS INTERNATIONAL TEAM COMPETITION

#### SEMI-FINALS

##### Federal Germany 0 England I 3

C. Potts b S. Mienhaus 10, -7, 22;  
A. Holt b E. Schall 13, 19;  
C. Potts/A. Holt b S. Mienhaus/E. Schall 16, 18.

##### England II 3 Sweden 1

J. Billington b P. Fredriksson 11, -12, 21;  
D. Toole I A. Svensson -18, 20, -16;  
J. Billington/D. Toole b P. Frederiksson/A. Svensson 16, -16, 18;  
J. Billington b A. Svensson 16, 16.

#### FINAL

##### England I 1 England II 3

D. Toole I A. Holt -18, -16;  
J. Billington b C. Potts 19, -11, 18;  
D. Toole/J. Billington b A. Holt/C. Potts 14, 18;  
J. Billington b A. Holt 17, -16, 17.

### BOYS' SINGLES:

#### Semi-finals:

M. O'Driscoll (Eng) b B. Billington (Eng) 14, 21;  
M. Syed (Eng) b C. Oldfield (Eng) 19, 16.

#### Final:

M. O'Driscoll (Eng) b M. Syed (Eng) 8, 17.

### GIRLS' SINGLES:

A. Holt (Eng) b E. Schall (FRG) -17, 16, 14.

### BOYS' DOUBLES:

F. Persson/T. Buza (Swe) b M. O'Driscoll/C. Oldfield (Eng) 13, -19, 12.

### GIRLS' DOUBLES:

A. Schroeder/P. Regenweter (Lux) b S. Mienhaus/E. Schall (FRG) 12, -13, 14.

### MIXED DOUBLES:

J. Lang/E. Schall (FRG) b M. O'Driscoll/D. Toole (Eng) 20, -20, 18.

### CADET BOYS:

T. Tran (Fra) b E. Durand (Fra) 17, 15.

### CADET GIRLS:

C. Creuze (Fra) b H. Potts (Eng) 18, 12.

### BOYS PLATE COMPETITION

#### FINAL

##### Canada 3 Israel 0

F. Trudel b S. Zukerman 11, 18;  
J. Ng b D. Portnoi 18, 13;  
J. Ng/P. NG b S. Zukerman/D. Portnoi 24, 14.

### GIRLS PLATE COMPETITION

#### FINAL

##### Canada 0 Luxembourg 3

A. Schroder b J. Barton 16, 18;  
P. Regenweter b C. Paquet 11, 13;  
A. Schroder/P. Regenweter b J. Barton/C. Paquet 14, -11, 18.



### HAMPSHIRE TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Please reply to:-

Tel: Gosport 501779

48, Trinity Close,  
Haglar Road,  
Gosport, Hants.  
1012 1BF

Dear Sirs,

"Double Fish" Table Tennis Balls

12<sup>th</sup> November, 1987

With reference to the sample 'Double Fish' table tennis balls kindly forwarded some time ago and which I distributed among players in Hampshire.

I have had nothing but good reports on these balls. Players have said that they are far superior to most of the other brands on sale, both in quality and strength and say that if they are available they will continue to use them.

I hope these comments will be of use to you.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

*Harold Albery*  
(H. Albery.)  
General Secretary.

One Grade above other 3 Star Balls  
(see above unsolicited letter)

**DOUBLE FISH**

★★★ Black Grade Balls  
The Great Ball of China

**ONLY 65 pence**

CLUB SECRETARIES: FREE Trial Box of three.  
PLAYERS: Half-price Trial Box of three.

Take this advert to your local Sports shop or write direct to:-

John Jaques & Son Limited  
361 Whitehorse Road  
Thornton Heath  
Surrey CR4 8XP

**Jaques**

# O'Driscoll marches on

by JOHN WOODFORD in Bridlington



MICHAEL O'DRISCOLL from Mirfield, West Yorkshire provided a delightful surprise at the Leeds Junior Open by nonchalantly knocking out the first and third seeds Bradley Billington and Matthew Syed. His final victory over Syed by 8, 17 was comprehensive and amazing proof of new strength in depth.

For the forthcoming European Youth Championships in July, England juniors like the seniors, have a squad of four powerful players — Syed, Billington, O'Driscoll and Oldfield. Foreign teams that beat these four boys will have to be extremely powerful.

Although West Germany won the team event 3-0 against England, England turned the tables neatly in the boys' singles. Jonathan Taylor provided one of the biggest shocks of the tournament when in the quarter-finals he beat Jochem Lang (West Germany) 19, 23; whilst in the bottom half Bradley Billington stopped Torben Wosik (brother of Ralph Wosik) -13, 19, 18. This left four English boys as semi-finalists, a delightful happening in any case, possibly unprecedented, although the strength of the foreign entry was disappointing.

Andrea Holt, in her last major junior event in England lifted the girls' singles crown from the No 2 seeded position, beating the unseeded Elke Schall (Germany) -17, 16, 14 in the final. The surprise in Round 2 in the girls' singles came when Julie Billington lost to the unseeded Malin Nylin from Sweden.

The boys, girls and mixed doubles titles all went to foreign

players, although Michael O'Driscoll lost in the mixed final with Debbie Toole and also in the boys' final. O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield lost to the Swedish pair Persson and Buza.

### Huge entry

Over 270 players appeared at Bridlington, most of them British. Apparently, there were two reasons for this massive influx of players probably a record. One was the addition of cadet events and the other high-rated computer points.

Playing conditions seemed reasonably good but the use of two halls was unavoidable with the large entry and there were no proper changing or show facilities in the halls. There were too many events. The addition of the cadets might have ousted the mixed doubles, a curse at the end of most events and that is why it has been taken out of most tournaments.

Once again the referee took the old-fashioned line of leaving the singles to last, the result was exhausted players, the crowd dwindling to about 60 and losing a report that would have got into the *Daily Telegraph* the next day had play finished an hour or even half-an-hour earlier, than the actual finish at about 9 pm.



Michael O'Driscoll (Mirfield, Yorkshire) and Andrea Holt (Bury, Lancashire) the singles winners on the podium at Bridlington having swept aside all the opposition foreign and British. Picture: Peter Barnes.

## MY VERDICT ON BRIDLINGTON

by PAUL ELPHICK

DESPITE the fact that the European countries who visited Bridlington were not the strongest we have seen here, the English Junior Open was a triumph for the English teams, players and coaches.

With Andrea Holt capturing the Girls' Singles title and English boys occupying all four semi-final spots — proving that the performance in the team events was a temporary lack of form — England can now boast several other superb prospects apart from the 'big three' who have already made it at senior level — Matthew Syed, Bradley Billington and Miss Holt. Three others caught my eye at Bridlington.

On Saturday Julie Billington played her best table tennis since her return from injury. In the team events she powered England II to victory with formidable victories against the Swedish top seed Ase Svensson and in the final defeated the top English pairing of Claire Potts and the champion Andrea Holt. The main feature of her game is her backhand both powerful and consistent and used to great effect against both Potts and Holt. It was a pity that Saturday's efforts took their toll on Julie on

Sunday morning when she crashed out in round two of the singles.

### Impact

The second player to make an impact was Lancashire's 16 year-old rising star Jonathan Taylor. I'd only seen him once before at the South of England Senior Open and he impressed there but at Bridlington he was brilliant in defeating the German third seed Jochem Lang 21-19, 25-23 in round two.

Jonathan has both a powerful forehand and backhand but the outstanding feature of his game is his coolness and concentration especially on the pressure points against Lang. With another year left for Jonathan in the juniors he is a name to watch next year and in future years as a senior, as his maturity exceeds his 16 years both on and off the table.

A few words on the new champion Michael O'Driscoll. His casual approach but undoubted talent for the game were evident throughout the weekend. Michael's control and above all touch in his final victory over Matthew Syed was stunning.

Effortlessly he wore down the Berkshire man's defence for a fairly comfortable victory.

## PULLING POWER

NO SOONER had Gerard Holdsworth Productions placed an advertisement in the April issue for coaching videos than they received a reply — from South Africa.

'We were amazed that the magazine had got so much pulling power', said company spokesman Anne Brunker.

'This gentleman had received his magazine and immediately sent back his order. We were delighted with the response. We shall certainly consider placing more advertisements next season.'

Which goes to show that advertising in *Table Tennis News* really pays off. Although we can't guarantee you will get a reply from South Africa!



Andrea Holt now finishing a distinguished career as a junior lifted the Girls Singles title at Bridlington, despite losing to Julie Billington.



# British League

Promoted by the English Table Tennis Association



## Bath just too hot all season

by MIKE LOVEDER & JIM BECKLEY

NOVEMBER'S *TT News* tipped Bath as hot favourites for the Premier title and, with an average result of exactly 7-1, the playing team and organising team under the management of Paul Hewitt are worthy winners.

Des Douglas retained his 100% record and Kevin Satchell was impressive with 23/24. Commiserations to Grove who found a star in Bradley Billington who managed an 86% record. Dave Hannah's 89% helped to keep Ormesby in third place. At the opposite end from Bath it is Dunlop Express who take the plunge as they finished just one point below Butterfly Cardiff.

There was just one close match in this final period as Rotherham beat Cardiff 5-3 with Nigel Thomas providing most resistance. Stephen Scowcroft won his two for Rotherham as John Hilton missed this match and finished with 70%.



Glen Baker, Ashford



Graham Sandley (Grove)

### Ashford win and lose

Congratulations to Ashford I in winning Division 1 back in March. Trebor Dagenham inflicted Ashford's only loss for two years in the last fixture of the season. Des Charley found devastating form winning two while his team mates took one each. Richard Jermyn dealt the final blow with a two-straight win over David Goode.

TSP Larkhall achieved a miracle escape from relegation by just one game. Their recent loss of form saw them suffer two 7-1 defeats. In the first Percy Collino beat Max Crimmins 21-3, 21-9 to prevent a whitewash by Ashford.

### Relegation

It was Steve Davis who finally saved two relegation points as he trailed 18-20 in the third against Paul Elphick when the team was 7-0 down to Horsham Dolphins. Bradford Investments Unity battled into the runner-up spot with a 5-3 win over Byker Newcastle with two more valuable wins from Steve Sharpe. Horsham take the bronze led by the form of Andy Dodd and Ritchie Venner. And so, despite an inspired recovery with Adrian Dixon, it is West Warwickshire who face the drop with Byker Newcastle.

### Gunning 'em

Andy Cunningham has led C&L Ruislip into Division 1 as his team won Division 2 South just five games ahead of Plymouth Bulldogs. He is likely to rocket up the national rankings as a result of his form this season. Plymouth's Gary Wilson is just 3% behind him in the leading averages. Doleq Carpets' challenge died out with their loss of 81%-man Brian Jeanes. Ramlosa finished in third place with a 5-3 win over Fellows Cranleigh who escaped relegation early in April. Ian Attridge starred for Ramlosa with 75%. Richard Beckham played consistently for Rejects but their 16pts were only enough for fifth place.

The absence of Beckham and Gary Spencer against Cranleigh caused a Rejects loss which resulted in the relegation of Gunnersbury Triangle who have experienced difficulty since their loss of Tony Stark to C&L Ruislip during the season. Simon Proffitt has produced some exceptional wins lately, including his two against the divisional winners. Kingfisher Reading II failed to win a match although in their final fixture Graham Kemp excelled against Rejects again. Two players on 0% were too much of a burden to carry for Tony Duffield who has enjoyed some good individual wins.

## THE NEW LINE-UP

NEW TEAMS for next season include Harlepool People's Table Tennis Club, Levi Westfield, two teams from Milton Keynes — City of Milton Keynes and AHW Comets while Grove have entered a third team.

Barry (Glamorgan) have entered the Third Division (East) making five teams in all from Wales playing in the league whilst Britannia Ipswich celebrate promotion to the first division by adding a second team.

There's a return for Peterborough and a new name appears Vymura International from Hyde in Cheshire. A familiar name in this team is Derek Schofield who played briefly for Oldham, so a clash with his old team-mates in division two (north) should prove interesting.

For Trinity, winners of the third division (North) there is an extra move into the first division, a reward for excellent match presentation and general performance.

But the league lose five clubs including Byker Newcastle, IMI Leominster, Wolverhampton, EAE Waveney and Vickers Sports.

It all means that there are now 72 teams in the league, eight

more than this season, although at the time of going to press there was one vacancy in Division Three (North) so any enquiries to Les Wooding the league's admin man.

The premier division is as expected with Ashford taking the place of Dunlop Express after a fine season both on and off the table. The first division has been split into two divisions North and South, so less travelling, more local 'Derby' matches.

After a bit of juggling there will be a new second division, hence the rise of some teams from third division status to second division without actually winning promotion.

Nevertheless, it all points to a successful and buoyant period and hopefully even more success next season with nine divisions and more work on the shoulders of the British League Committee. So please try and co-operate and make it a season to remember.

More news about players and their new clubs next season, but one player already seemingly on the move is former European champion John Hilton. The Rotherham player is already linked with at least two other teams — more later.

# Leeds British League 2 — Final Tables

## Premier Division

Grove 1, Bath 7; Ormesby 8, Chan Construction 1; Bath 8, Chan Construction 1; Dunlop Express 1, Ormesby 8; Kingfisher Reading 0, Grove 8; Rotherham 5, Butterfly Cardiff 3.

## Division 1

Bradford 5, Byker Newcastle 3; St Neots 4, Horsham Dolphins 4; TSP Larkhall 1, Ashford 7; Dagenham FC 5, West Warwickshire 3; Ashford 3, Dagenham 5; Byker 2, St Neots 6; Horsham Dolphins 7, Larkhall 1.

## Division 2, South

Team Ramlosa 5, Fellows Cranleigh 3; Fellows Cranleigh 6, Rejects 1; Doleq Carpets 3, Plymouth Bulldogs 5; Gunnersbury 2, Ruislip 6; Rejects 5, Kingfisher Reading 3.

## Division 2, North

EAE Waveney 2, Wolverhampton 6; Ormesby 1, Wellingborough 7; March 3, Waveney 5; Lincoln 7, Ormesby 2; Wellingborough 3, Grove 5; Wolverhampton 4, Leeds 4.

## Division 3, East

Lincoln 1, AHW Pioneer 7; Fellows Cranleigh 2, Britannia Ipswich 6; AHW Pioneer 1, Chelmsford 7; Birmingham 3, Fellows Cranleigh 5; Britannia Ipswich 6, Norwich Foxwood 2; Dagenham 3, Crusaders Lincoln 5.

## Division 3, North

Ormesby 4, Chan Construction 4; Trinity, Newcastle 4, Kingsboro 4; Vickers SC 0, Oldham 8; Chan Construction 1, Byker Newcastle 7; Kingsboro 7, Ormesby 1; Leicester 8, Vickers 0; Oldham 3, Trinity Newcastle 5.

## Division 3, South

Larkhall 2, Ashford 6; Ashford 7, Alpha 1; Tunbridge Wells 7, Thorn 1; Reigate 4, Larkhall 4; Rejects 0, Deptford Rams 8.

## Division 3, West

Cheltenham 6, Bath 2; Bath 6, Jolliffe Poole 2; Leominster 1, Butterfly Cardiff 7.

## the LEEDS BRITISH LEAGUE — TABLES



### Premier Division

|                         | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|-------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Bathwick Tyres — Bath I | 14 | 14 | 0 | 0  | 98 | 14 | 28  |
| Grove I                 | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2  | 85 | 27 | 23  |
| Ormesby I               | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 69 | 43 | 19  |
| Rotherham TTC           | 14 | 6  | 1 | 7  | 48 | 64 | 13  |
| Kingfisher Reading I    | 14 | 4  | 0 | 10 | 36 | 76 | 8   |
| Chan Construction I     | 14 | 4  | 0 | 10 | 35 | 77 | 8   |
| Butterfly Cardiff I     | 14 | 3  | 1 | 10 | 42 | 70 | 7   |
| Dunlop Express I        | 14 | 2  | 2 | 10 | 35 | 77 | 6   |

### Division 1

|                           | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|---------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Ashford I                 | 14 | 12 | 1 | 1  | 85 | 27 | 25  |
| Bradford Investment Unity | 14 | 8  | 3 | 3  | 65 | 47 | 19  |
| Horsham Dolphins          | 14 | 6  | 5 | 3  | 62 | 50 | 17  |
| Trebor Dagenham FC I      | 14 | 5  | 5 | 4  | 58 | 54 | 15  |
| St Neots TTC              | 14 | 4  | 4 | 6  | 51 | 61 | 12  |
| TSP Larkhall I            | 14 | 3  | 4 | 7  | 46 | 66 | 10  |
| West Warwickshire         | 14 | 3  | 4 | 7  | 45 | 67 | 10  |
| Byker Newcastle I         | 14 | 1  | 2 | 11 | 36 | 76 | 4   |

### Division 2 (North)

|                          | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| City of Leeds            | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2  | 83 | 29 | 23  |
| Ruston Marconi Lincoln   | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 70 | 42 | 19  |
| Grove II                 | 14 | 8  | 3 | 3  | 62 | 50 | 19  |
| EAE Waveney              | 14 | 7  | 0 | 7  | 64 | 48 | 14  |
| Wolverhampton            | 14 | 5  | 4 | 5  | 57 | 55 | 14  |
| March TTC                | 14 | 5  | 1 | 8  | 43 | 69 | 11  |
| Well-Conn Wellingborough | 14 | 4  | 1 | 9  | 50 | 62 | 9   |
| Ormesby II               | 14 | 1  | 1 | 12 | 19 | 93 | 3   |

### Division 2 (South)

|                       | P  | W | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|-----------------------|----|---|---|----|----|----|-----|
| C & L Ruislip         | 14 | 9 | 3 | 2  | 74 | 38 | 21  |
| Plymouth Bulldogs     | 14 | 9 | 3 | 2  | 69 | 43 | 21  |
| Team Ramlosa Essex    | 14 | 9 | 1 | 4  | 71 | 41 | 19  |
| Doleq Carpets         | 14 | 7 | 3 | 4  | 63 | 49 | 17  |
| Rejects I             | 14 | 7 | 2 | 5  | 63 | 49 | 16  |
| Fellows Cranleigh I   | 14 | 3 | 3 | 8  | 45 | 67 | 9   |
| Gunnersbury Triangle  | 14 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 40 | 72 | 7   |
| Kingfisher Reading II | 14 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 23 | 89 | 2   |

### Division 3 (East)

|                               | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|-------------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Britannia Ipswich             | 14 | 13 | 1 | 0  | 87 | 25 | 27  |
| Chelmsford OC's               | 14 | 9  | 4 | 1  | 77 | 35 | 22  |
| Norwich Foxwood               | 14 | 6  | 5 | 3  | 66 | 46 | 17  |
| Birmingham Athletic Institute | 14 | 6  | 2 | 6  | 58 | 54 | 14  |
| AHW Pioneer                   | 14 | 6  | 1 | 7  | 53 | 59 | 13  |
| Trebor Dagenham FC II         | 14 | 3  | 1 | 10 | 38 | 74 | 7   |
| Fellows Cranleigh II          | 14 | 2  | 2 | 10 | 39 | 73 | 6   |
| Crusaders Lincoln             | 14 | 2  | 2 | 10 | 30 | 82 | 6   |

### Division 3 (North)

|                             | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|-----------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Trinity Newcastle-U-Lyme    | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2  | 83 | 29 | 23  |
| Leicester TTC               | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 73 | 39 | 19  |
| Kingsbro Financial Services | 14 | 8  | 3 | 3  | 72 | 40 | 19  |
| Oldham                      | 14 | 8  | 2 | 4  | 67 | 45 | 18  |
| Chan Construction II        | 14 | 8  | 2 | 4  | 66 | 46 | 18  |
| Byker Newcastle II          | 14 | 5  | 0 | 9  | 42 | 70 | 10  |
| Ormesby III                 | 14 | 1  | 2 | 11 | 31 | 81 | 4   |
| Vickers Sports Club         | 14 | 0  | 1 | 13 | 14 | 98 | 1   |

### Division 3 (South)

|                            | P  | W  | D | L  | F  | A  | Pts |
|----------------------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Ashford II                 | 14 | 11 | 3 | 0  | 79 | 33 | 25  |
| Countrymen Tunbridge Wells | 14 | 10 | 1 | 3  | 75 | 37 | 21  |
| Deptford Rams              | 14 | 9  | 3 | 2  | 73 | 39 | 21  |
| TSP Larkhall II            | 14 | 4  | 5 | 5  | 56 | 56 | 13  |
| Alpha Warriors             | 14 | 5  | 3 | 6  | 48 | 64 | 13  |
| Rejects II                 | 14 | 4  | 3 | 7  | 46 | 66 | 11  |
| Reigate & Redhill LTTC     | 14 | 1  | 3 | 10 | 33 | 79 | 5   |
| Thorn Ellenborough         | 14 | 0  | 3 | 11 | 38 | 74 | 3   |

### Division 3 (West)

|                          | P  | W  | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Butterfly Cardiff II     | 14 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 81 | 31 | 25  |
| Jolliffe Poole           | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4 | 64 | 47 | 19  |
| Cheltenham Saracens      | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4 | 62 | 50 | 19  |
| Duchy Windows Launceston | 14 | 6  | 1 | 7 | 52 | 60 | 13  |
| Generation Fareham       | 14 | 4  | 1 | 9 | 49 | 63 | 9   |
| IMI Leominster           | 14 | 4  | 1 | 9 | 48 | 64 | 9   |
| Bathwick Tyres — Bath II | 14 | 4  | 1 | 9 | 47 | 65 | 9   |
| Dunlop Express II        | 14 | 4  | 1 | 9 | 44 | 68 | 9   |

# Final Averages

## PREMIER DIVISION

(Minimum 14 matches)

| NAME                 | TEAM                | P  | W  | %      |
|----------------------|---------------------|----|----|--------|
| 1 DOUGLAS DESMOND    | BATH. TYRES BATH I  | 20 | 20 | 100.00 |
| 2 SATCHELL KEVIN     | BATH. TYRES BATH I  | 24 | 23 | 95.83  |
| 3 HANNAH DAVID       | ORMESBY I           | 28 | 25 | 89.29  |
| 4 MASON NICKY        | BATH. TYRES BATH I  | 23 | 20 | 86.96  |
| 5 BILLINGTON BRADLEY | GROVE I             | 22 | 19 | 86.36  |
| 6 SYED MATTHEW       | BATH. TYRES BATH I  | 18 | 15 | 83.33  |
| 7 SANDLEY GRAHAM     | GROVE I             | 24 | 19 | 79.17  |
| 8 MILLS STEVE        | GROVE I             | 14 | 11 | 78.57  |
| 9 STOKES JIMMY       | GROVE I             | 26 | 20 | 76.92  |
| 10 WILSON COLIN      | BATH. TYRES BATH I  | 23 | 17 | 73.91  |
| 11 HILTON JOHN       | ROTHERHAM T.T.C.    | 20 | 14 | 70.00  |
| 12 SOUTER JOHN       | ORMESBY I           | 24 | 16 | 66.67  |
| 13 BROE JOHN         | ORMESBY I           | 27 | 17 | 62.96  |
| 14 GIBSON SEAN       | KING. READING I     | 24 | 15 | 62.50  |
| 15 BRADBURY PHILIP   | DUNLOP EXPRESS I    | 22 | 13 | 59.09  |
| 16 NEALE DENIS       | ORMESBY I           | 24 | 13 | 54.17  |
| 17 MORGAN CARL       | CHAN CONSTRUCTION I | 26 | 12 | 46.15  |
| 18 TYLER NIGEL       | BUTTERFLY CARDIFF I | 26 | 12 | 46.15  |
| 19 SCOWCROFT STEPHEN | ROTHERHAM T.T.C.    | 14 | 6  | 42.86  |
| 20 ECKERSLEY NIGEL   | ORMESBY I           | 28 | 12 | 42.86  |
| 21 THOMAS NIGEL      | BUTTERFLY CARDIFF I | 28 | 12 | 42.86  |
| 22 THOMAS MARK       | BUTTERFLY CARDIFF I | 22 | 9  | 40.91  |
| 23 GANNON DAVID      | ROTHERHAM T.T.C.    | 22 | 9  | 40.91  |
| 24 GUNN PHIL         | CHAN CONSTRUCTION I | 28 | 11 | 39.29  |
| 25 TAYLOR TONY       | ROTHERHAM T.T.C.    | 28 | 11 | 39.29  |
| 26 GRIFFITHS ALAN    | BUTTERFLY CARDIFF I | 28 | 9  | 32.14  |
| 27 GILES PAUL        | DUNLOP EXPRESS I    | 28 | 9  | 32.14  |
| 28 WELLMAN ANDY      | KING. READING I     | 17 | 5  | 29.41  |
| 29 JOHNS BRIAN       | CHAN CONSTRUCTION I | 24 | 7  | 29.17  |
| 30 ROGERS CHRIS      | ROTHERHAM T.T.C.    | 28 | 8  | 28.57  |
| 31 BARR DAVE         | KING. READING I     | 22 | 6  | 27.27  |
| 32 WHITING PAUL      | DUNLOP EXPRESS I    | 27 | 7  | 25.93  |
| 33 OLDFIELD CHRIS    | KING. READING I     | 16 | 4  | 25.00  |
| 34 LAMBERT GARY      | DUNLOP EXPRESS I    | 28 | 5  | 17.86  |

## DIVISION 1

| NAME               | TEAM                | P  | W  | %     |
|--------------------|---------------------|----|----|-------|
| 1 JACKSON KENNY    | ASHFORD I           | 26 | 24 | 92.31 |
| 2 BAKER GLENN      | ASHFORD I           | 28 | 22 | 78.57 |
| 3 RICHARDSON KEITH | ST. NEOTS T.T.C.    | 28 | 20 | 71.43 |
| 4 SHARPE STEVE     | BRADFORD INV. UNITY | 28 | 20 | 71.43 |
| 5 DIXON ADRIAN     | WEST WARWICKSHIRE   | 14 | 10 | 71.43 |
| 6 DODD ANDY        | HORSHAM DOLPHINS    | 26 | 17 | 65.38 |
| 7 BURLETON JOHN    | TREB. DAGENHAM FC I | 26 | 16 | 61.54 |
| 8 KINSELLA MARTIN  | BRADFORD INV. UNITY | 26 | 16 | 61.54 |
| 9 VENNER RITCHIE   | HORSHAM DOLPHINS    | 26 | 16 | 61.54 |
| 10 DODD DAVID      | TREB. DAGENHAM FC I | 26 | 16 | 61.54 |
| 11 CRIMMINS MAX    | ASHFORD I           | 28 | 17 | 60.71 |
| 12 GOODE DAVID     | ASHFORD I           | 20 | 12 | 60.00 |

# The Leeds County Championships 1

## Season over: all is well

by DOUG MOSS

560 MATCHES have been played; champions of all divisions decided, and promotion hopes realised or dashed! A very good season with very few problems posed in the playing of matches.

**VETS PREMIER:**— Kent 8, Essex 1; Cheshire 6, Middx 3; Bucks 5, Herts 4; Essex 1, Cheshire 8; Sussex 2, Lincs 7; Middx 4, Bucks 5; Bucks 5, Essex 4; Kent 5, Sussex 4; Herts 0, Lincs 9; Sussex 5, Herts 4; Middx 2, Lincs 7; Cheshire 6, Kent 3.

Cheshire continue to lead the field — they retained the Premier Div. Championship. But this was not until the final session of the second weekend matches at Weston Hyde. The vital contest was with Kent. Cheshire went 0-2 down but took the next 6 events, finally winning 6-3. This match included the best games of the weekend when Roger Hampton (Ch) beat Henry Buist (K) 17, -21, 21! This repeated Roger's unbeaten singles record of last season. He was also unbeaten in the men's and mixed doubles this season. Cheshire, as always, well served by Doreen Schofield, who also achieved 100% singles wins for the 2nd consecutive season, and she also had a clean sheet in mixed doubles. Margaret Dignum (K) also had a good season losing only to Doreen Schofield in singles and mixed.

Herts, promoted only last season, are due for demotion. They will be joined by Essex and it seems that even the inclusion of Lesley Radford in this 2nd series would not have saved them.

**SENIOR 2A:**— Suffolk 10, Staffs 0; Yorks II 5, Worcs 5; Lancs II 3, Northumberland 7; Warwick 6, Cheshire 4.

Suffolk went through the season unbeaten and proceed directly from Division 3 to Premier Division. Cheshire, after a good start, lost their last 5 matches and are relegated.

**SENIOR 2B:**— Somerset 3, Devon 7; Hants 5, Avon 5; Sussex 6, Kent 4; Middx II 8, Wilts 2.

Devon had a hard match against Somerset to finish unbeaten and head for Premier Division. Paul Whiting (Dv) lost his unbeaten record to Ron Weatherby 10, -15, -18.

**SENIOR 3A:**— Lincs 6, Warwick II 4; Worcs II 3, Norfolk 7; Cheshire 5, Cumbria 5.

Lincs upset Warwick's unbeaten record but the Midlanders top the table, with Norfolk as the promotion candidates.

**SENIOR 3B:**— Dorset II 3, Cornwall I 7; Avon II 8, Somerset II 2; Devon II 8, Hereford 2; Dorset II 6, Cornwall II 4.

Devon II were close on the heels of Dorset but the latter take the title on games average. For Dorset Clayton/Sigrell and Skevington/Coop won all their doubles matches.

**SENIOR 3C:**— Cambs I 9, Northants I 1; Herts II 3, Cambs II 7; Beds I 7, Suffolk II 3; Cambs I 7, Northants II 3; Cambs II 10, Beds 0; Hunts 4, Beds II 6.

Cambs I finish unbeaten and are promptly back to Division 2 — and Cambs II are the runners-up! Joanne Pettitt/Hilary Finch (Ca I) achieved a 100% doubles wins over the season.

**SENIOR 3D:**— Sussex II 4, Herts 6; Surrey II 7, Berks II 3; Oxford 6, Bucks 4.

Herts kept an unbeaten record. The match score stood at 4-4 but they won the last 2 events against Sussex. Keith Samuels (He) had 100% in singles with one match to play but was beaten by Paul Elphick 16, -5, -15.

**VETS 2A:**— Yorks 8, Warwick 1; Leics 6, Essex II 3; Worcs 3, Cheshire II 6; Notts 6, Norfolk 3.

Yorks dominated this Div and should compete well in Premier Div next season. Notts had a good win over Norfolk but are demoted with Essex II.

**VETS 2B:**— Surrey 7, Dorset 2; Middx II 6, Hants 3; Herts II 5, Berks I 4; Kent II 7, Sussex II 2.

Surrey carried all before them and should also cope well in Premier Div. Derek Holman (Sy) got 100% in singles and doubles, with Barbara Winn. Herts II get an immediate return to Div 3 — joined by Berks.

**VETS 3A:**— Clwyd 0, Yorks II 9; Lancs 9, Hunts 0.

Yorks II invincible in this Section and will replace their 1st team in Div 2. Norman Thewliss (La) went through the season with a clean sheet in singles.

**VETS 3B:**— Norfolk II 3, Essex III 6; Berks IV 6, Herts III 3; Hunts II 3, Northants 6.

Essex III won all their matches and keep an Essex team in Div 2. Derek Wood (E) had his first defeat at the hands of Peter Cole (Nk).

**VETS 3C:**— Surrey III 4, Oxford 5; Herefords 3, Wilts II 6; Bucks II 5, Berks III 4; Glos 7, Herts 2.

Surrey/Oxford match score was 4-4 but Alf Davies (Ox) got the last vital event which gave Oxford 100% wins and promotion.

**VETS 3D:**— Dorset II 4, Surrey II 5; Berks II 5, Sussex III 4; Hants II 3, Wilts I 6.

Surrey II unbeaten in this Section and replace the Surrey team on their way to premier Div. Brian Simmons/Dave Crowley (Sy) notched up 100% in doubles events.

**JUNIOR PREMIER:**— Derby 6, Notts 4; Staffs 2, Lancs 8; Essex 2, Yorks 8; Wks 2, Devon 8; Notts 3, Wks 7; Devon 3, Essex 7; Lancs 5, Derby 5; Yks 10, Staffs 0; Essex 4, Wks 6; Derby 2 Yks 8; Staffs 6, Devon 4; Lancs 7, Notts 3; Wks 4, Staffs 6; Devon 5, Derby 5; Yks 8, Lancs 2.

St Neots TTC was again the venue for the second series of Junior Premier matches. Just as in the Senior and Vets Premier Divs it was not until the final session that the championship was decided. And this season it was again down to Yorks and Lancs. Lancs needed to win to take the title, which was certainly a tall order with Michael O'Driscoll and Chris Oldfield as Yorks Nos 1 and 2. Yorks retained the title with an 8-2 win — and over the programme of 7 matches the team lost only 8 events!

### Ward lost one

Michael O'Driscoll won all 14 singles events, although against Jason Bamford and Robert Scott-Birchall (Dy) both wins were at deuce in 3rd game! Chris Oldfield played only in 2nd series and also got 100%. And the boys won all their doubles events. Mark Ward was beaten only once, and at deuce in 3rd to John Tendler (E). In the same match Debbie Toole lost her only singles to Kate Gower (E) 15, -19, -16.

The excitement was in the relegation zone. At the final session Notts were certain of relegation but 4 other teams were in danger. Both Essex (v Notts) and Staffs (v Wks) got 6-4 wins, but only in the final events. This settled Warwickshire's fate as Devon played well to get a draw against Derby.

### Good wins

**JUNIOR 2A:**— Lancs II 4, Yorks II 6; Cambs 1, Beds 9; Hunts 7, Lincs 3; Cheshire 8, Suffolk 2.

Despite Howard Whewell's (La) good wins over Michael Auchterlonie and Mark Stephenson, Yorks took the 2 points for a win and head the table. But Beds will be the team for Premier Div.



Berkshire: Jimmy Stokes

**JUNIOR 2B:**— Middx 7, Herts 3; Kent 4, Somerset 6; Glam 3, Sussex 7; Surrey 5, Essex II 5.

Middlesex win their way back to Premier Div after a break of 2 seasons. Tim Cutler played a significant role with 100% singles win.

**JUNIOR 3A:**— Durham 8, Clywd 2; N'berland 7, Cheshire II 3; Lancs III 4, Leics 6.

Durham dropped just 1 point throughout and gain promotion. Ian Collier (Du) was unbeaten until his last game of the season when he went down to Spencer Harris (Cw) -20, -16.

**JUNIOR 3B:**— Berks 9, Hunts II 1; Warwick II 3, Norfolk I 7; Warwick II 7, Norfolk II 3.

Berks carried all before them and take the title.

**JUNIOR 3C:**— Dorset 4, Avon 6; Wilts 0, Glos 10; Hants 1, Worcs 9.

The 2 teams at the top of the table met in the last match. Avon had to beat Dorset to take the title — and they made it! Their boys won 6 of their 7 events. It was an exciting finish. With the score 4-3 to Avon, Steven Bettison (Av) won a vital match against Dorset No 1 (Kevin Smith) at 19 in 3rd. Tracy Scott-Pawson (Do) then won her singles and it left Mark Butler (Do) to fight it out with David Hadley (Av). Hadley won 13, -17, 11 and Avon were home.



**JUNIOR 3D:**— Bucks 8, Kent II 2; Herts II 5, Berks II 5; Essex III 5, Middx II 5; Sussex II 5, Surrey II 5.

Kent, Bucks, Middx II and Essex III all had 10 points with 1 match each to go. Bucks met Kent and Essex played Middx — the latter match ending in a draw. Bucks triumphed with an 8-2 win over Kent to take the title.

# The Leeds County Championships 2

## SENIORS

| Premier Division | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Derbyshire       | 7 | 7 | 0 | 44 | 19 | 14 |
| Middlesex        | 7 | 6 | 1 | 42 | 21 | 12 |
| Berkshire        | 7 | 5 | 2 | 35 | 28 | 10 |
| Lancashire       | 7 | 4 | 3 | 34 | 29 | 8  |
| Yorkshire        | 7 | 2 | 5 | 27 | 36 | 4  |
| Leicestershire   | 7 | 2 | 5 | 22 | 41 | 4  |
| Surrey           | 7 | 1 | 6 | 26 | 37 | 2  |
| Essex            | 7 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 41 | 2  |

| Division 2A    | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Suffolk        | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 52 | 18 | 14 |
| Northumberland | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 39 | 31 | 9  |
| Yorkshire II   | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 36 | 34 | 8  |
| Warwickshire   | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 36 | 34 | 7  |
| Worcestershire | 7 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 35 | 35 | 7  |
| Staffordshire  | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 31 | 39 | 6  |
| Cheshire       | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 36 | 34 | 4  |
| Lancashire II  | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 15 | 55 | 1  |

| Division 2B  | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Devonshire   | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 55 | 15 | 14 |
| Sussex       | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 49 | 21 | 12 |
| Kent         | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 30 | 8  |
| Avon         | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 32 | 38 | 7  |
| Somerset     | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 30 | 40 | 6  |
| Middlesex II | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 30 | 40 | 5  |
| Hampshire    | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 22 | 48 | 3  |
| Wiltshire    | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 22 | 48 | 1  |

| Division 3A       | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Warwickshire II   | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 44 | 16 | 10 |
| Norfolk           | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 39 | 21 | 10 |
| Lincolnshire      | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 35 | 25 | 9  |
| Leicestershire II | 6 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 27 | 33 | 6  |
| Cumbria           | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 24 | 36 | 3  |
| Cheshire II       | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 39 | 3  |
| Worcestershire II | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 40 | 1  |

| Division 3B     | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Dorset I        | 8 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 67 | 13 | 14 |
| Devonshire II   | 8 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 60 | 20 | 14 |
| Cornwall I      | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 55 | 25 | 13 |
| Gloucestershire | 8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 45 | 35 | 10 |
| Avon II         | 8 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 30 | 50 | 8  |
| Herefordshire   | 8 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 30 | 50 | 4  |
| Dorset II       | 8 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 28 | 52 | 4  |
| Cornwall II     | 8 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 25 | 55 | 3  |
| Somerset II     | 8 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 20 | 60 | 2  |

| Division 3C         | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Cambridgeshire I    | 8 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 65 | 15 | 16 |
| Cambridgeshire II   | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 55 | 25 | 13 |
| Northamptonshire I  | 8 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 51 | 29 | 13 |
| Hertfordshire II    | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 45 | 35 | 10 |
| Bedfordshire I      | 8 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 30 | 50 | 6  |
| Northamptonshire II | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 32 | 48 | 5  |
| Suffolk II          | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 28 | 52 | 4  |
| Bedfordshire II     | 8 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 26 | 54 | 3  |
| Huntingdonshire     | 8 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 28 | 52 | 2  |

| Division 3D     | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Hertfordshire I | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 20 | 14 |
| Surrey II       | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 47 | 23 | 11 |
| Essex II        | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 48 | 22 | 10 |
| Berkshire II    | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 34 | 36 | 7  |
| Sussex II       | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 40 | 30 | 6  |
| Oxfordshire     | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 23 | 47 | 5  |
| Buckinghamshire | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 24 | 46 | 3  |
| Hampshire II    | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 14 | 56 | 0  |

## JUNIORS

| Premier Division | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Yorkshire        | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 62 | 8  | 14 |
| Lancashire       | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 42 | 28 | 11 |
| Derbyshire       | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 35 | 35 | 9  |
| Essex            | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 35 | 35 | 6  |
| Staffordshire    | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 28 | 42 | 6  |
| Devonshire       | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 31 | 39 | 5  |
| Warwickshire     | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 42 | 5  |
| Nottinghamshire  | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 19 | 51 | 0  |

## THE FINAL COUNTY TABLES

| Division 2A     | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Yorkshire II    | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 52 | 18 | 13 |
| Bedfordshire    | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 47 | 23 | 12 |
| Lancashire II   | 7 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 42 | 28 | 8  |
| Lincolnshire    | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 37 | 33 | 7  |
| Huntingdonshire | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 32 | 38 | 7  |
| Cheshire        | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 31 | 39 | 4  |
| Cambridgeshire  | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 20 | 50 | 4  |
| Suffolk         | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 19 | 51 | 1  |

| Division 2B   | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Middlesex     | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 46 | 24 | 11 |
| Sussex        | 7 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 43 | 27 | 11 |
| Surrey        | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 39 | 31 | 10 |
| Kent          | 7 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 30 | 8  |
| Hertfordshire | 7 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 35 | 35 | 6  |
| Suffolk       | 7 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 37 | 6  |
| Essex II      | 7 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 24 | 46 | 3  |
| Glamorgan     | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 20 | 50 | 1  |

| Division 3A    | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Durham         | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 41 | 19 | 11 |
| Leicestershire | 6 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 37 | 23 | 10 |
| Derbyshire II  | 6 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 36 | 24 | 8  |
| Northumberland | 6 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 31 | 29 | 7  |
| Clwyd          | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 27 | 33 | 4  |
| Lancashire III | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 19 | 41 | 1  |
| Cheshire II    | 6 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 19 | 41 | 1  |

| Division 3B        | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Berkshire I        | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 55 | 15 | 14 |
| Oxfordshire        | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 42 | 28 | 11 |
| Norfolk I          | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 46 | 24 | 9  |
| Northamptonshire   | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 38 | 32 | 9  |
| Huntingdonshire II | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 29 | 41 | 7  |
| Warwickshire II    | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 33 | 37 | 4  |
| Norfolk II         | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 29 | 41 | 2  |
| Cambridgeshire II  | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 8  | 62 | 0  |

| Division 3C     | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Avon            | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 47 | 23 | 12 |
| Dorset          | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 45 | 25 | 11 |
| Worcestershire  | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 49 | 21 | 10 |
| Cornwall I      | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 45 | 25 | 9  |
| Gloucestershire | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 38 | 32 | 7  |
| Hampshire       | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 31 | 39 | 5  |
| Cornwall II     | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 15 | 55 | 1  |
| Wiltshire       | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 10 | 60 | 1  |

| Division 3D        | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Buckinghamshire    | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 48 | 22 | 12 |
| Middlesex II       | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 44 | 26 | 11 |
| Essex III          | 7 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 43 | 27 | 11 |
| Kent II            | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 46 | 24 | 10 |
| Hertfordshire II   | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 31 | 39 | 4  |
| Buckinghamshire II | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 23 | 47 | 4  |
| Surrey II          | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 26 | 44 | 3  |
| Sussex II          | 7 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 19 | 51 | 1  |

## VETERANS

| Premier Division | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Cheshire         | 7 | 7 | 0 | 45 | 18 | 14 |
| Kent             | 7 | 6 | 1 | 46 | 17 | 12 |
| Lincolnshire     | 7 | 5 | 2 | 40 | 23 | 10 |
| Sussex           | 7 | 4 | 3 | 32 | 31 | 8  |
| Buckinghamshire  | 7 | 3 | 4 | 24 | 39 | 6  |
| Middlesex        | 7 | 2 | 5 | 27 | 36 | 4  |
| Essex            | 7 | 1 | 6 | 21 | 42 | 2  |
| Hertfordshire    | 7 | 0 | 7 | 17 | 46 | 0  |

| Division 2A     | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-----------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Yorkshire       | 7 | 7 | 0 | 50 | 13 | 14 |
| Warwickshire    | 7 | 4 | 3 | 33 | 30 | 8  |
| Leicestershire  | 7 | 4 | 3 | 29 | 34 | 8  |
| Cheshire II     | 7 | 3 | 4 | 35 | 28 | 6  |
| Worcestershire  | 7 | 3 | 4 | 28 | 35 | 6  |
| Norfolk         | 7 | 3 | 4 | 27 | 36 | 6  |
| Essex II        | 7 | 2 | 5 | 25 | 38 | 4  |
| Nottinghamshire | 7 | 2 | 5 | 25 | 38 | 4  |

## THE WEST COUNTRY STAR



Kevin Satchell, (Wilts)

| Division 2B      | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Surrey           | 7 | 7 | 0 | 48 | 15 | 14 |
| Kent II          | 7 | 5 | 2 | 39 | 24 | 10 |
| Dorset           | 7 | 4 | 3 | 33 | 30 | 8  |
| Sussex II        | 7 | 4 | 3 | 30 | 33 | 8  |
| Middlesex II     | 7 | 3 | 4 | 31 | 32 | 6  |
| Hampshire        | 7 | 2 | 5 | 28 | 35 | 4  |
| Hertfordshire II | 7 | 2 | 5 | 19 | 44 | 4  |
| Berkshire        | 7 | 1 | 6 | 24 | 39 | 2  |

| Division 3A       | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Yorkshire II      | 6 | 6 | 0 | 46 | 8  | 12 |
| Lancashire        | 6 | 5 | 1 | 42 | 12 | 10 |
| Huntingdonshire I | 6 | 3 | 3 | 30 | 24 | 6  |
| Cheshire III      | 6 | 3 | 3 | 21 | 33 | 6  |
| Northumberland    | 6 | 2 | 4 | 22 | 32 | 4  |
| Lincolnshire II   | 6 | 1 | 5 | 16 | 38 | 2  |
| Clwyd             | 6 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 42 | 2  |

| Division 3B        | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Essex III          | 6 | 6 | 0 | 38 | 16 | 12 |
| Northamptonshire   | 6 | 5 | 1 | 35 | 19 | 10 |
| Norfolk II         | 6 | 4 | 2 | 29 | 25 | 8  |
| Berkshire IV       | 6 | 3 | 3 | 25 | 29 | 6  |
| Hertfordshire III  | 6 | 2 | 4 | 25 | 29 | 4  |
| Huntingdonshire II | 6 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 34 | 2  |
| Bedfordshire       | 6 | 0 | 6 | 17 | 37 | 0  |

| Division 3C        | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Oxfordshire        | 7 | 7 | 0 | 43 | 20 | 14 |
| Buckinghamshire II | 7 | 6 | 1 | 43 | 20 | 12 |
| Gloucestershire    | 7 | 4 | 3 | 37 | 26 | 8  |
| Berkshire III      | 7 | 4 | 3 | 37 | 26 | 8  |
| Surrey III         | 7 | 3 | 4 | 31 | 32 | 6  |
| Hertfordshire IV   | 7 | 3 | 4 | 27 | 36 | 6  |
| Wiltshire II       | 7 | 1 | 6 | 24 | 39 | 2  |
| Herefordshire      | 7 | 0 | 7 | 10 | 53 | 0  |

| Division 3D  | P | W | L | F  | A  | P  |
|--------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Surrey II    | 5 | 5 | 0 | 33 | 12 | 10 |
| Wiltshire I  | 5 | 4 | 1 | 26 | 19 | 8  |
| Berkshire II | 5 | 2 | 3 | 22 | 23 | 4  |
| Sussex III   | 5 | 2 | 3 | 21 | 24 | 4  |
| Hampshire II | 5 | 2 | 3 | 17 | 28 | 4  |
| Dorset II    | 5 | 0 | 5 | 16 | 29 | 0  |

# Counties 1

## BERKSHIRE

Bob Adams

BOTH the Reading and Bracknell Leagues should have been over by the time of writing but ties for the top 2 places in both Divisions 1 and 2 of the Reading League will necessitate play-offs. No such doubts at the top of Bracknell's tree with Kingfisher A (formerly Woodley) holding off the challenge of ICL yet again to take the Premier Division title by a margin which would be not over generously described as 'wide'. However it was good to see the next two places closely contested with ICL by Telephones and Met Office, the latter playing only their second season in the Premier and after only narrowly avoiding relegation last year.



Matthew Syed

On the Junior Tournament front the two major events have been the new Leeds Youth Trophy (Southern Region) and the England Junior Top 12. In the former Berkshire were well represented supplying more than a fair proportion of the players, including the No 1 seeds in the Junior Girls (Julie Norman) and Cadet Boys (Martin Adams). Unfortunately this was not a day for No 1 seeds, with not one winning in any of the 4 principal events, which wouldn't have mattered too much if 'our man' Cadet finalist Nicky Bradfield from Maidenhead had continued his winning ways by wrapping up that event. However his earlier sure touch temporarily deserted him and he just failed to make it against a returned-to-form Gavin Yates of Oxfordshire. At the end of a very long day of nearly 12 hours of table tennis Martin to some made amends by grabbing the Junior Boys title and going on a fortnight later to take a creditable second place in the Cadet section of the Top 12.

The Air Canada Reading Masters Tournament took place on 9 April featuring those dozen qualifying players from the First and Second Divisions of the Reading League. Qualification for this fiercely contested competition is by a complicated but fair system which takes into

account both percentage and actual number of matches won. The four semi-finalists to emerge from the Group stage were Dave Reeve, Graham Kemp, Tony Duffield and Harry Gehlot, with Harry squeezing in by what must be the narrowest margin in the history of count-backs. I am reliably informed that had Dave Streak scored just one extra point in any of the games he played against Harry, he would have won through. However Harry's good fortune did not stay with him sufficiently long for him to win the £100 first prize, which went to Dave Reeves for the third year running, with Graham Kemp as Runner-up and Tony Duffield in third place.

## CUMBRIA

Gordon Brown

BARROW brother and sister John and Karen Backhouse played a prominent role in Cumbria's 5-5 draw in Cheshire. The result meant Cumbria finished their return to the Leeds County Championship after a season's break with a creditable three points and third from bottom position.

John won one of his two men's singles over No 1 Rob Bevan, while Karen beat No 2 Bev Parkes and maintained her successful doubles partnership with skipper Julie McLean (Carlisle).

### Clinched draw

Julie also won her singles against No 2 Karen Tonge and was one of four Cumbrian winners in a row after the side had trailed 5-1.

In a good, all-round team performance, county closed men's singles champion Stephen Temple took a game off Bevan and won his second set, against No 3 Andy Wright to clinch the draw.

Although losing both his sets, veteran Roger Stewart (Carlisle) performed outstandingly, particularly in his first set when all three games were decided by only two points.

### Results

Cheshire names first: Rob Bevan beat Stephen Temple 21-15, 20-22, 21-14; lost to John Backhouse 20-22, 21-13, 20-22. Simon Jones beat John Backhouse 21-11, 23-21; beat Roger Stewart 21-15, 20-22, 21-16. Andy Wright beat Roger Stewart 19-21, 22-20, 22-20; lost to Stephen Temple 18-21, 21-13, 18-21. Karen Tonge lost to Julie McLean 9-21, 14-21. Bev Parkes lost to Karen Backhouse 13-21, 12-21. Bevan and Jones beat Temple and Stewart 21-16, 21-15. Tonge and Parkes lost to McLean and Backhouse 12-21, 7-21.

## ESSEX

Alan Shepherd

I HAVE just returned from my annual pilgrimage to St Neots and the equally annual struggle by our junior team to avoid relegation from the Premier Division. The weekend was very exciting and we went into our last match, against the already relegated Notts side, needing at least a draw to avoid joining them in Division 2. By this time our team was performing in a distinctly jaded fashion, most of its members having taken part in the Top-12 Tournament, the Essex Junior Select, and the Pontins Holiday Week one after the other. Suddenly our 3-1 lead faded away, and we found ourselves at 4-4! Fortunately Kate Gower held firm and won the vital ninth set against Claire Oldman, after which Grant Solder just stood up long enough to beat Paul Wood. Our 6-4 victory amazingly gave us fourth place in the table.

Earlier we had doubled Yorkshire's sets against column by virtue of our two hard earned wins, when Jason Tendler remarkably beat Mark Ward after saving five match points, and Kate Gower superbly beat No 3 in England Debbie Toole. We almost became the only county to take a third set off the champions when Alison Gower lost 16-18-19 to England No 6 Joanne Roberts.

Our best performance of the weekend was reserved for the match against Devonshire. Damian Holland has had a turbulent career, mixing brilliant performances with some verging on the abject, and his behaviour has sometimes come under strong criticism. On this occasion it was a pleasure to see him smiling, happy, and behaving impeccably throughout the weekend, not all the time showing the form which made him one of the best players in England not so long ago, but making one think that the pressure which always seemed to weigh on his shoulders had in some miraculous fashion been removed. In every sense of the word Damian was our No 1, striving his utmost when on court, and clapping and encouraging the team when not playing. His singles wins over Chris White and Greg Bridgett were very important, while Grant Solder also came good with two wins, and Kate Gower had another excellent victory over Jane Wright, ranked one above her on the computer.

If the Devon match was the highspot, our game against Warwickshire was the low spot, and I can only imagine that the efforts of our boys were designed to

prevent the delightful Alison Ledwitch, and Nicola Meddings from being relegated to Division 2. Despite our contriving to lose 4-6, I am afraid Warwick's did go down. Damian was so shattered from his exertions of the previous day that he asked to stand down, which at least gave us the opportunity of bleeding Bradley Clutton, our reserve. He had been a model member of the squad and Jackie Billington had been pleased to meet this other Bradley. He beat David Clarke and was not far off beating Rajinder Singh to give us a draw. His losing score of -17, -20 was very creditable.

Although our Junior second team suffered relegation from Division 2, as I had feared for some months, they ended their season on a high note by drawing with Surrey 1. Allan Radford had a splendid win in this match over England No 15 Matthew Pernet, while last minute inclusion Ruth Cleminson (ranked No 13 in Essex) beat Hannah Webber and, with Linda Radford, won the Girls' Doubles.

While this was going on our junior third team had an arithmetical chance of replacing the second team in Division 2. To achieve this they had to beat Middlesex II while Kent had to beat Bucks. As it happened our team just failed to beat Middlesex — it was a 5-5 draw, while Bucks won 8-2, to gain promotion for their county. I would like to congratulate Bucks most sincerely — they were the most sporting team we played all season. Our match against Middlesex saw the last county appearance of Ann Faber, prior to her family's emigration to Canada in May. Her county career amounted to three matches in which she remained unbeaten in three singles and three doubles. Our very best wishes go to Ann, her brother Stephen (our No 4 cadet) and her parents in their new life 'over there'.

## THE BRENTWOOD CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Men's Singles:** Richard Darnell b John Holland 8, 11.

**Ladies' Singles:** Kate Gower b Joan Hand 10, 11.

**Men's Doubles:** Ian Hayden/Peter Hayden b Jon Stokes/Paul Stephens -19, 14, 19.

**Ladies' Doubles:** Kate Gower/Alison Gower b Lisa Hayden/Joanne Cook 11, 14.

**Mixed Doubles:** Richard Darnell/Alison Gower b Paul Stephens/Lisa Hayden 11, 14.

**Under-21 Singles:** Richard Darnell b David Cole 18, 11.

**Veterans' Singles:** Fred Lockwood b Dave Finlayson 15, 20.

## GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Alf Peppard

A HIGHLY imminent person once said: 'that the pen is mightier than the sword; now I am not too sure if that kind of rhetoric is true or not, but it would appear over the past season that certain poignant articles that I have written, and had printed have attracted the public eye.

Some of these written words unquestionably have been of an implying nature — but as long as they were 100%, and as long as I remain county press officer I shall continue to write in blunt and straightforward terms — giving praise where praise is due, and even perhaps pointing out through the written word where possible improvements might be made.

Our three county teams will one assumes remain as they are, neither the Seniors, the Juniors nor the Veterans (who have just had their first season) have gained promotion and neither have they courted disaster in the form of relegation, hopefully they will all aspire to do much better next season.

In the Leeds British League Division 3 West — Saracens the Cheltenham based club terminated the season with a 6-2 win over Bathwick Tyres II, the latter's Chris Holley was the jewel in the Bath teams side and indeed the fatal attraction for Saracens as he came through the match unbeaten for the visitors, Saracens in their first British League season are to be congratulated for finishing up in third position.

### Around Gloucestershire's leagues, ie: Final's Nights. Starting with Gloucester City.

The Men's Singles champion Darren Griffin retained his crown at the CEGB Barnwood but the holder of the Ladies title Heather Colwill — lost out to last year's beaten finalist Judy Morley.

Griffin began the evening with a 17, 18, win over ex-champion William Dawe in the first semi-final, in the other semi county champion Dave Harvey beat Steve Moreman 14, 17.

Thus Harvey faced Griffin in the final, which was the best of five — Harvey took the first at 17, but Griffin fought back in the second to win 13, Harvey at 38 years of age raced away with the third winning at 13, after a rather shaky start Griffin levelled the fourth at 18, in the final set, Griffin really came to life and exerted his youth and superiority and won the match and title game 15.

The Women's final was a replay of last year's match, but with a reverse result, Newents'

Heather Colwill seemed unable to cope with Judy Morley's deep chop defence and lost in straight sets.

There was a surprise in the Under-17 Boys' Singles with top-seeded Raymond Powell losing out in three exciting games 22, -14, 23, to Rudford's Jeremy Hyatt, both lads indeed put up a great performance.

### Stroud and District Finals Night

Played in the small hall of the Stroud Leisure Centre the championships attracted between 50 to 60 spectators.

In the first Open Singles semi-final of the evening last year's runner up Alan Giles beat Steve Porter 18 and 20, meanwhile in the second semi Martin Harper proved far too strong for Andrew Stratford beating the latter 12 and 16, and thus earning a place in the final versus Giles.

This final turned out to be a classic example of a good attacker versus a good defender, Giles ultimately ran out the winner 16, 16. He told me later that he has now won the Stroud Open Singles a total of seven times.

## HAMPSHIRE

David Cosway

HAMPSHIRE had a better result against Wiltshire and a 6-4 win gives them hope of avoiding relegation if they can beat Avon in their last match. Mark Wilding won his two sets, Ramish Bhalla one set, and Graham Toole beat Terry Bruce. Sarah Hammond won her singles and combined with Cheryl Buttery to win the doubles. The second team lost 4-6 to Bucks II with Tony Duffield winning a singles and combining with Charlie Childs to win the doubles. Tony Catt and Sarah Turner each won a singles. The second team led Oxford by 3-1, but eventually went down 3-7. Andrew Ely and Tony Catt each won a singles, whilst Sarah Turner and Tina Caws won the women's doubles.

### Recovery

The junior team recovered from 1-5 to draw their match against Gloucester with Jeff Giles winning his 2 singles and Edward Connell, Elizabeth Shubbrook and Claire Woodham contributing the other Hampshire wins. The veterans' A team had a good 5-4 win over Kent with Ken Giles winning the vital last set at 4-4 and combining with Christine Davies to win the mixed. Ray Lush won his two sets and Ken Burton one. The second veteran team went down 0-9 to Surrey second.

I thought it was a bit ironic that Generation had an 8-0 win in the National League against Cheltenham Saracens. Their opponents turned out a reserve team as the usual players gave preference to the Cheltenham Closed Tournament. You will recall that given the same choice, the Generation players opted for the club, rather than the Hampshire Closed. Would it not be possible for closed tournaments to be arranged on the same date to avoid the need for such divided loyalties? To be fair though, both the Cheltenham and Generation matches were rearranged away from the normal National League dates!



Cheryl Buttery



Tony Holmes

In the second batch of inter-town junior matches, Aldershot had a comfortable 8-2 win over Bournemouth to win the Division 1 title. Bournemouth without their top two girls, Tracy Scott-Pawson and Debbie Applin still had the top player in the unbeaten Paul Bickell. Graham Connely and Bryant Gonsalves were next in the league averages but Bryant surprisingly lost to the rising Southampton B player, Michael French. Portsmouth, perhaps the favourite for relegation had good wins over Basingstoke and Southampton B to avoid the drop and Southampton B go down to Division II. In the second Division, Gosport and Fareham return to the top Division after 8 years with an unbeaten record. Jeff Giles has 100% and the team only dropped 8 sets in the four matches.

I am delighted to see that the County has a new Coaching Officer in Graham Lynch who has just moved to the area. This vital job has been vacant for far too long and I wish Graham all success.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

John Wood

FANTASTIC! That was the Hemel Hempstead 'Fab Four' when they won the Hertfordshire Veteran Inter-League Trophy, at the Barnet Table Tennis Centre, recently.

Wellcome's Dave Gomm, Kings Langley's Mick Chandler, Boxmoor's Dave Wackrill and Hiretech Hemel School's John Wood, have created history by winning the coveted Veteran champion title for the very first time in the lifetime of the Hemel Hempstead and District League.

The last Sunday of the competition saw Hemel Hempstead open up a 2 point gap over closest rivals Barnet, before these two met for the last game of the competition where Barnet needed to win 7-0 to take the title, but they could only manage a 4-3 victory.

### Came again

But Barnet Juniors fared much better, winning the County Junior Inter-League Trophy.

Barnet's 'Famous Five' Duncan Taylor, Terry Boucher, Maria Williams, Maurice Greenberg, and George Saunders, came from behind to take the title from under the noses of early favourites St. Albans, who came third, and runners-up Watford.

It was great news when the County Senior 1st team clinched promotion to the 2nd Division of the Leeds County Championships, when they recorded their sixth successive win of the season, when they beat their rivals Essex II 6-4.

This excellent victory which guarantees the Division 3D trophy, saw Keith Samuels excell in his win over Essex's David Newman, coming from 18-20 behind to take the second game. Dave Seaholme played his part too, beating Essex's Alex Abbott at a particularly critical point in the match, coming through from 19-20 down in the third to win 22-20.

### Team effort

Highlight in the Ladies' Singles, was new girl Lynne Harrison's victory over Marjorie Dawson, in only her second 1st team match for Hertfordshire.

This season's achievement has been a fine team effort, with important contributions from Alison and Caroline Boxall, Lynne Harrison, Peter Harris, Rob Liquorish and David Seaholme, but the backbone of the team's success has been Keith Samuels and John Taylor who have won 22 out of a possible 24 singles, and are undefeated in the doubles.

## ISLE OF WIGHT

Brian Lamerton

AFTER threatening noises were made by Rookley early in the season Sandown again emerged as first division champions so its congratulations to Roger Hookey, Ian Smith and Mike Turner.

| Division 1     | pts |
|----------------|-----|
| Sandown A      | 67  |
| Rookley A      | 58  |
| Shanklin       | 54  |
| Newport Vics A | 44  |
| Rookley B      | 39  |
| Wroxall A      | 31  |
| Newport Vics B | 23  |
| Ryde A         | 15  |
| Sandown B      | 14  |
| Wroxall B      | 12  |

Winners of other divisions were: Div 2, Rookley C; Div 3, Ryde Electrics; Div 4, Ryde C; Div 5, Rookley G.

Ryde Electrics were allowed through to take the 3rd division title when in the last match Cowes High School needed to win by 8 sets to 2, or better to take the title — they won but only by 6 sets to 4 and so finished second — and who were their final match opponents? — their own B team! Joe Daly, Dave Hilliam and Nigel Ash representing Shanklin have won the Knowles Cup and the County Press Tournament for 2-man teams has gone to Neil and Keith Griffin of Wroxall — the third time in four seasons that this event has been won by a father and son partnership.



John Prean

Congratulations to Carl and John Prean — to Carl for his magnificent performance at the European Championships — who knows but for the rubber controversy (no doubt reported on other pages) what even greater heights might have been reached and to John for being returned unopposed together with his Deputy and Treasurer — surely acceptance by the masses that the Association is on the right lines.

## LANCASHIRE

George Yates

THERE was double cause for celebration in East Lancashire when Burnley, having won promotion from Division 2 (North) of the Lancashire and Cheshire League, triumphed 5-2 over Liverpool, the first division champions, in the final of the Norman Cook Memorial Trophy competition.

Burnley, in receipt of three points start per game, got off to a tremendous start when the veteran Jack Keogh beat Lawrence Kenwright, David Newton beat Keith Williams and young Howard Whewell accounted for Paul Hutchings.



Sean Gibson

Brenda Buoy pulled one back in beating Sonja Stevens in the women's singles only for Burnley to re-establish their 3-set margin when Keogh and Newton combined to beat Kenwright and Williams.

Predictably the mixed doubles was won by Liverpool only for Newton to thunder back and seal Liverpool's fate in blasting Kenwright off the table. Individual scores: J. Keogh b L. Kenwright 14, 14; D. Newton b K. Williams 18, 15; H. Whewell b P. Hutchings 19, 11; S. Stevens b B. Buoy -15, -15; Keogh/Newton b Kenwright/Williams 9, 11; Whewell/Stevens b Hutchings/Buoy -13, -16; Newton b Kenwright 18, 12.

In the Jack Livingstone Memorial Trophy competition, for junior teams, Barrow made it three-in-a-row when they travelled to Oldham and won 5-1, this win to complement their Junior first division title success, again at the expense of Oldham on a superior sets analysis.

Final Men's Division 1 table:

|              | P | W | D | L | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Liverpool    | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 13  |
| Bolton       | 7 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 12  |
| Stockport    | 7 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 10  |
| Warrington   | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5   |
| Blackburn    | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 4   |
| Trafford     | 7 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4   |
| Oldham       | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 4   |
| Macclesfield | 7 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 4   |

Congratulations to Bury's Andrew Leigh who not only won his own league's men's singles title with a final win over Graham Hoy but, the following week, added the Bolton League's title in accounting for Bob Jackson in the final.

The AGM of both the LTTA and the L&C TTL will take place at the Thames Board Mills former club at Warrington — as last year — on Tuesday, 24 May. See you there.

## LEICESTERSHIRE

Terry Bown

THE Byron Roofing Sponsored Leicestershire Championships were held at the Hinckley Leisure Centre. Held in conjunction with the Hinckley Leagues Championships, a much reduced entry nevertheless produced some very exciting matches amongst the 12 events. Once again Chris Rogers triumphed in the Blue Riband event disposing of a plucky Dave Gannon 18, 15 in the final. Another multi winner at these championships, Karen Smith, took the Ladies' title with a 12, 9 win over Julie Revill. Back on the table tennis scene after a few years absence, and Steve White is playing as well as ever and to prove it he took the Veterans' title defeating Graham Hughes 16, 15. The Intermediate Singles produced one of only two finals which required a deciding game which went to Ian Brown with a close -20, 18, 16 verdict over Dave Grundy. The Grading event, which was a new addition this year, saw young Ian triumph again this time beating Loughborough's Dave Roche 15, 7. The Boys' Singles final brought together club colleagues and friends, John Gayton and Darren Bramhall of Knighton Park. A rather one-sided match saw John take victory at 10, 9. After Jayne Freer received a walk-over in the Girls' Singles, the next final brought together Liza Hobday and Mark Brunning to contest the Cadet Singles final and after some nervous play Brunning came through winning 11, 13. One of the closest finals of the day came during the Men's Doubles which saw Chris Rogers and Martin Pickles squeeze through with a 22, 19 win over old adversaries Maurice Newman and Keith Fellows. The Women's

Doubles was a slightly easier affair for Karen Smith and Julie Revill who showed their superiority beating Tracy Clark and Joanne Pickles 17, 16. Chris Rogers and sister Karen Smith completed their perfect day by each winning their third title when they combined to take the mixed doubles 10, 14 over Keith Fellows and Tracy Clark. The Junior Doubles produced only the second final requiring a deciding game. Some superb exchanges saw Darren Bramhall and John Hodgkinson triumph over Michael Statham and John Gayton -16, 17, 14 to conclude a well organised and successful championships.

The Leicester Leagues Closed Championships were held at the Leys Leisure Centre on Sunday 14 February with over 300 entries from 19 clubs — wonder what happened to the other 39 clubs?

— The Championships started at 10.20 am with Alan Philpott at the helm, superbly aided on the 'mike' by Pat Pickles with supporting roles by Mike Smith and Tony Lapworth. The Men's Singles saw Maurice Newman beat Martin Pickles, in an excellent final with Newman forcing the issue with some amazing returns from Pickles, but the attacking power of Newman proved unbeatable and eventually won 2-0. Julie Revill won the Ladies' Singles beating Joanne Pickles. Joanne put up a spirited and entertaining display but there was only one possible result with Julie winning 2-0. That man Newman was at it again in the Men's Doubles when with partner Martin Simpson and some hard hitting they took the Men's Doubles beating Tony Kinsey and Graham Hughes 2-0. Chris Kinsey triumphed in the Boy's Singles beating John Gayton. Both lads seem destined for great futures and stood out in a ten strong entry. The Veterans' title was won by Tony Kinsey, the number one seed, who got the better of number two seed, Steve White in a very entertaining final. Paul Bumpus of Loughborough came through in the Intermediate Singles. Paul, having a good championship and playing out of his skin, overcame David Grundy of Hinckley in a well fought final. Graham Hall and Julie Revill beat Martin and Joanne Pickles. With a very low entry the final nevertheless was extremely entertaining.

### GRADED RESULTS:

Under 300 Martin Simpson beat Steve Day; Under 250 Martin Gladders beat Terry Highton; Under 200 John Gayton beat John O'Connor; Under 150 Darren Bramhall beat Brian Philpott; Under 100 Dave Hodgkinson beat Chris Tidmarsh.

# Counties 4

## LINCOLNSHIRE

Sharon Harvey

AS THE season draws to a close in Lincolnshire, so 'tournament mania' seems to be spreading throughout the county. The Lincolnshire Closed was held in Spalding on 6 March, and several individual leagues have held their closed tournaments.

### Lincolnshire Closed

There were a couple of surprise results at this year's tournament, including the men's singles. Dave Skerratt, the No 3 seed from Scunthorpe, pulled off an outstanding result beating the No 1 seed Stuart Worrell in the semi-finals, and then carrying on to defeat Grantham's Chris Bryan in a very closely fought final. In the mixed doubles the seedings went totally to pot, with the unseeded pair of Jane Strawson and Simon Pullen eventually beating Helen Stephens and Jimmy Brewster in the final. Elsewhere, in the veterans singles Boston's Brian Hill defeated No 1 seed Matt Shearer -20, 11, 20 in the final, and the ladies' crown went to Sue Radley of Lincoln after a very long final against Jane Strawson of Grantham.

Here are the results:

### Men's Singles:

Semi-finals: D. Skerratt b S. Worrell 17, 16; C. Bryan b J. Brewster 15, -14, 18.

Final: D. Skerratt b C. Bryan 19, 20.

### Ladies' Singles:

Semi-finals: J. Strawson b B. Voss 14, -19, 11; S. Radley b J. White -20, 18, 10.

Final: S. Radley b J. Strawson 17, -12, 15.

### Boys' Singles:

Final: J. Rowson b L. Robinson.

### Girls' Singles:

Final: H. Stephens b S. Johnson 8, 10.

### Veterans Singles:

Final: B. Hill b M. Shearer -20, 11, 20.

### Men's Doubles:

Final: Brewster/Worrell b Bryan/Pullen -17, 7, 23.

### Ladies' Doubles:

Final: Moran/Fisher b Strawson/Radley 17, 8.

### Mixed Doubles:

Final: Strawson/Pullen b Stephens/Brewster -11, 14, 16.

### Lincolnshire Junior Closed

**Girls' Under-11 Singles:** Nicola Massingham b Louise Stokes 16, 10.

**Girls' Under-13 Singles:** Catherine Challis b Abigail Durrands 20, -18, 9.

**Girls' Under-15 Singles:** Sally Johnson b Micheala Roberts 13, 17.

**Girls' Under-17 Singles:** Sally Johnson b Helen Stephens -19, 24, 18.

**Boys' Under-11 Singles:** Scott Allison b Matthew Sims 20, 11.

**Boys' Under-13 Singles:** Matthew King b Terry Pexton 12, 15.

**Boys' Under-15 Singles:** Lee Robinson b Andy Freeman 14, 13.

**Boys' Under-17 Singles:** Lee Robinson b Jason Williams 20, -15, 20.

**Mixed Class Singles:** Matthew King b Terry Pexton 14, 16.

**Boys' Doubles:** J. Rowson/M. Williams b L. Robin/A. Gooding 7, 4.

**Girls' Doubles:** H. Stephens/S. Johnson b H. Sims/C. May -20, 18, 12.



Bill Moran

### Inter-town Competitions

Three of the four inter-town competitions are now completed, and we offer our congratulations to Grantham for winning the Haigh Cup, Grantham I Ladies for the Butlin Cup, and Grimsby for the Veteran Cup. Only the Butcher Cup has yet to be decided, though the main contenders seem to be Gainsborough and Mablethorpe.

#### Haig Cup

|              | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Grantham     | 6 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 43 | 17 | 10  |
| Lincoln      | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 38 | 22 | 9   |
| Louth        | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 36 | 24 | 9   |
| Grimsby      | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 25 | 35 | 4   |
| Scunthorpe   | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 25 | 35 | 4   |
| Stamford     | 6 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 20 | 40 | 4   |
| Gainsborough | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 23 | 37 | 2   |

#### Butlin Cup

|              | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Grantham I   | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 24 | 16 | 7   |
| Grantham II  | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 24 | 16 | 6   |
| Louth        | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 21 | 19 | 4   |
| Grimsby      | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 22 | 18 | 3   |
| Gainsborough | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 9  | 31 | 0   |

#### Veteran Cup

|              | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Grimsby      | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 39 | 11 | 9   |
| Stamford     | 5 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 36 | 14 | 8   |
| Lincoln      | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 32 | 18 | 7   |
| Gainsborough | 5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 20 | 30 | 4   |
| Mablethorpe  | 5 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 16 | 34 | 2   |
| Boston       | 5 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 7  | 43 | 0   |

#### Butcher Cup

|              | P | W | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Gainsborough | 7 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 58 | 12 | 13  |
| Mablethorpe  | 6 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 40 | 20 | 11  |
| Grimsby      | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 39 | 31 | 9   |
| Grantham     | 7 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 35 | 35 | 9   |
| Scunthorpe   | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 23 | 37 | 5   |
| Lincoln      | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 25 | 35 | 4   |
| Stamford     | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 28 | 42 | 3   |
| Spalding     | 7 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 24 | 46 | 2   |
| Boston       | 6 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 18 | 32 | 2   |

## NORFOLK

Ray Hogg

FOR the first time in my 20 plus years in Norfolk we have a senior team promoted to the second division — and this without the services of Phil Logsdon and only spasmodic appearances of Neil Pickard and the non appearances of Richard Stevenson. It will be tough next season but should those three players be available captain Steve Howlett should have an interesting season.

Our juniors this season were more interested in consolidating their position with many new faces being given a chance — some 17 during the season. The veterans first team survived in Division 2 after a good start went off toward the end but looking at the table there was not much in it at the finish regarding games average. Second team thoroughly enjoyed their season and as they could not go up or down varied the team to suit the players not who they were playing. Any Norfolk person who is or is nearly a veteran and would like to be considered for county play please contact me as there is a possibility for a third team being entered in the future.

CEYMS for the fifth time running have won the premier Norwich league and cup. Next season who knows — maybe Park Lane?

Stan Honor has retired as Norwich coach after six years but will still look after the county coaching which is not as demanding. Ron Applegate has taken over the Norwich scene with considerable enthusiasm and has a register of over 50 new juniors attending his Saturday am and pm sessions.

He is hoping to get something going for the schools next season and to place some of his improving youngsters into established league teams. Any Norwich league team short of a player should contact Ron and they might be surprised at the standard.

Norwich championships shock with Neil Pickard beating favourite Phil Logsdon two straight. Ladies winner Jeanne Reynolds. Vets winner Mick Broughton. Handicap winner Jonathan Cockburn. Mixed Doubles winners Mick Broughton/Russell King. Women's Doubles winners Jeanne Reynolds/Joy Dixon. Cross Doubles winners Mick Broughton/Jeanne Reynolds. Shame Richard Stevenson did not enter again as the week before he beat John Kitchener in a British league match and could have made an impact.

This year's County championships will be held on 3 December, 3rd Junior and 4th Senior at Long

Stratton. An Under-11 or 12 event will be added and we hear there are many of that age group round the county who don't feel they could enter older events. This will blood them into the atmosphere of county play without exposing them to the big guns.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

Pauline Long

THE Wickham-based firm of Tyne and Wear Office Supplies, who have a team in Division 4 of the Northumberland League, very kindly agreed to sponsor this year's Closed Tournament, which was held on Sunday 20th March at Blaydon Youth Club.

It was a case of sweet revenge for Eddie Smith and Clare Mouzon, both of whom had recently been demoted to No. 2 in their respective ranking lists, but who showed their class when it mattered most to retain their singles titles. Smith beat the man in form, Ian Robertson, to retain the Men's Singles titles, while Clare, after a close first game, eventually outlasted Caron Guthrie — who had beaten her only a week earlier in the Maureen Kerry Memorial Tournament at Consett — to retain the Women's Singles title.

Clare in fact reached all four finals of the events she was able to enter. She beat Phil Robson in a most entertaining handicap singles final, having taken out Barry Foster, Stephen Coverdale and Stephen Penman in succession to reach this stage, and also retained her Women's Doubles title in partnership with Pauline Long. Only in the Mixed Doubles did she fail after an extremely long day, when she and John Crawford lost out to Robertson and Guthrie.

Fred Short was unable to defend his Veterans' title because of injury and last year's runner-up Gordon Bissett took advantage of this to run out the winner, beating John Donnelly in the final.

### Results

**Men's Singles:** Eddie Smith b Ian Robertson 14, 19.

**Women's Singles:** Clare Mouzon b Caron Guthrie 19, 11.

**Men's Doubles:** Robertson/Mark Christie b Michael Curry/Malcolm Lusk 6, 11.

**Women's Doubles:** Mouzon/Pauline Long b Linda Spensley/Christine Thompson 14, 20.



## Counties 5

**Mixed Doubles:** Robertson/Guthrie b John Crawford/Mouzon 11,14.

**Veterans' Singles:** Gordon Bissett b John Donnelly -16, 15, 12.

**Handicap Singles:** Mouzon (scratch) b Phil Robson (+9) -16, 19, 20.

**Division 1/2 Singles:** Dave Godbold b Neil McMaster 8, 22.

Both the senior and junior County teams won their last matches of the season 7-3 away to Lancs II and home to Cheshire II respectively. Robertson was unbeaten in both singles and doubles, with Christie winning both his singles and Smith and Guthrie one each. In the junior match, Curry, Forster and debut boy Robson, a late replacement for Coverdale, were all unbeaten in singles and doubles.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Mike Tunningley

THE Worksop Table Tennis League concluded their most successful season in their history by winning the County Inter League Championship which was held during March at the Sycamore Sports Centre, Nottingham. The Worksop team of Mick Bartrop, John Hall, Paul Davison, Stephen Harrison, Mick Vesey and Gloria Stocks defeated the Mansfield Table Tennis League 11-1 and then won the competition outright after gaining a magnificent 9-3 victory over the Nottinghamshire League.

This win follows successive victories over the Retford League in the Inter Town and Champions v Champions competitions.

### Title lost

In the annual championships the Open Single's Champion Dale Ajeto lost his title to Stephen Harrison after losing -18, 22, -23 in a thrilling final. Another shock came when Simon Rafferty who was sporting a 100% record lost to the up and coming Paul Joyce in the final of the Carnation Cup. His crucial win gave him and his partner Dale Ajeto the victory over Paul Davison and Simon Rafferty by a 3-2 margin.

### New venue

The Mansfield Table Tennis League also held their annual championships recently at the new venue of Brunts Hall New School. During the competition nine titles were contested and with play continuing non stop from 9.45am until 6pm a special mention must be made of the tremendous endeavour and stamina of these involved.

The winners were: Open Singles R. Hume; Open Doubles A. Rusinowski and P. Clamp; Ladies' Singles A. Brettel; Mixed Doubles A. Rusinowski and A. Brettel; Veteran Singles J. Collen; Handicap Singles A. Fleming; Draw Doubles S. Spencer and A. Read; Under-17 Singles P. Clamp; Hard Bat Singles I. Riley.

The Mansfield Premier title has been won by Howard Wright's team Lucas Toyota for the twelfth time in twenty years, a marvellous achievement. The runners-up were the General Hospital who were worthy competitors and could easily have been winners. Leading Division 1 are EMEB A with opencast A and Mansfield Colliery in hot pursuit, while the leading players are D. Hooton 92%, R. Webbe 91%, D. Brookes 84%, C. Bostock 78%, W. Ainsworth 73% and I. Negus 67%.

In Division 2 the are still four teams in the hunt for honours. Pretty Polly are favourites for the title but with four games left this is not a forgone conclusion with difficult matches coming up against Rolls-Royce, BRSA Kirkby and the Department of Employment. Westfield Cricket Club currently lead and with I. Riley still on a 100% record they may just pip their close rivals yet. Leading averages are: I. Riley 100%, S. Spencer 88%, J. Perkins 83%, J. Kirk 79%, A. Fleming 79%, D. Lee 76%, B. Needham 76% and J. Rawson 74%. Finally in Division 3 The Jockeys are virtually certain to gain promotion after remaining undefeated so far this season while the runners-up spot is a straight battle between Edwinstowe A and DHSS Sutton B.

## SHROPSHIRE

Ian Marshall

THERE was a pleasing response to the coaching courses held during the school half term holidays in February with the four centres heavily subscribed by local schoolchildren.

It was rewarding to note that there was an excellent attendance for the one day course at Belvidere School in Shrewsbury matched by a similar enthusiastic group who met for two days at New College, Telford whilst Mary Webb School continued to provide a firm base for coaching in Pontesbury where a potentially promising group of children attended for two days. The courses held by Malcolm Green underline the enthusiasm for the sport and hopefully clubs in those areas will take the opportunity to encourage the youngsters who took part.

Meanwhile the coaching courses held at Grove School in Market Drayton during the week's holiday saw over fifty schoolchildren introduced to the sport as some twenty-five tables were erected for the first two days with the Grove's leading junior players acting as assistant coaches. The last two days saw the county's leading young players participate in a much more intensive programme. A most successful week, with over one hundred schoolchildren introduced to the sport and the most promising afforded the chance for further progress.

The final section of play in Shropshire County League sees the Welshmen Spencer Harris and Phil Jones representing Wrexham lead the Shropshire Star First Division on sets difference from current champions Grove I in the guise of David Morris and Mark Turner whilst the experienced Manor House duo of Joyce Blairs and Mike West head the Farmers Garage Division 2A and Grove Michael Pigram and Philip Edge have underlined recent progress to lead the Concorde Trophies Division 2B.



Keith Sillitoe

Once again it was to be the tried and trusted 'hard bat' which was to prove the scourge of the March Graded Singles Tournament as Phil Jones won the H&E Scaffolding Elite Grade Singles title to add to earlier success in the county league. Meanwhile it was to be a good day for the Grove club with Grade A being won by Sarah Creasey, the Talbot Hotel Grade B title by David Marshall whilst ten-year-old Kevin Edge captured the Rainbow Flowers Grade C event to be joined on the winners rostrum by Richi Jenkin the victor in the Roofrite Grade D Singles and the rapidly improving Lawrence Kelly the victor in the Coverwell Insurance Grade E event.

Meanwhile in Shrewsbury the experience of Bob Wilson came good to take the Men's Singles title with a determined display gaining the county town stalwart a well merited success.

On the national scene Grove has enjoyed a good run of successes in the British league with the Premier Division side successful against Ormesby, Kingfisher Reading, Butterfly Cardiff and Chan Construction. The second team were not to be outdone as the young squad beat both Ormesby and Waveney.

## SUSSEX

Paul Elphick

HORSHAM Dolphins the only Sussex club in the Leeds British League have had their most successful season. Under the leadership of top England veteran Keith Horton they finished 3rd in the first division. Player of the season for Horsham was Kent county player Andy Dodd who has found some unbelievable form after winning a handful of games last season.

### Fine Venner

Ritchie Venner again had a fine season whilst Phil Smith and Paul Elphick had some fine victories but struggled finding consistent form. Next season the Dolphins are hoping for two things, a 2nd team but more importantly a major sponsor to enable them to keep playing at the magnificent Broadbridge Heath Sports Centre.

Stop Press: Dolphins' second team has been accepted in Division 3 (South).

The hotbed of talent lays at Crawley with Alan and Tracy Cole and Scott Greenbrook leading the way, it was Alan and Scott who led Ifield Community College to the England Schools Under-19 title after winning the Under-16 title last year. These two have improved considerably this year and have beaten several county players this season. Surely a third Sussex team in the Senior County Championships would benefit players like these?

### Surprises

There have been some major surprises in recent local league tournaments. Biggest surprise came at the Brighton Closed where Dave Jemmett, formerly of Middlesex defeated the top 3 seeds Andy Walker, Paul Barry and finally Peter Bartram to take the title. On the same day at the Crawley Closed 16 year-old Alan Cole took the men's singles title and his younger sister Tracy the women's crown.

## STAFFORDSHIRE

Jack Chalkley

I REGRET to have to report that we conceded the last match of the County Championship season to Suffolk due to difficulties in raising a team. It is fortunate that it had no effect on any promotion or relegation issue — Suffolk are clear winners and our congratulations to them — but that is beside the point. We were unable to get two women to make up the team and under the circumstances we decided to call it off in good time to avoid inconveniencing Suffolk. We are clearly at fault and without a real excuse and the County will now have to decide whether we will be able to continue in the County Championships with a senior team next year.

I know we are not the only county suffering from a lack of interest at senior level, although I must emphasise that some players are still very keen. Is it because there is too much table tennis, too many competitions and tournaments and so the least 'beneficial' to the players has to suffer. One possible solution would be to give serious consideration to the composition of the teams. To travel half the length and breadth of the country — Northumberland and Suffolk in our case this season — to play one singles match is really quite ridiculous. Bear in mind that we live in the age of the computer ranking list (which, by the way, I regret — it's got a lot to answer for in creating a mad rush to accumulate points) and what can you get from one singles if you are already fairly well up the list. The proposal from Dorset to reduce the team to four players as in the premier division eases the travelling problem but doesn't make the journey any more worthwhile for the girls who still only play one singles. The sooner we change to the standard club side of three players the better, surely — and, perhaps, with separate divisions for women.

Incidentally, it looks as though the 3 player team playing 9 singles and a doubles will be the format for the county league next season. This is what most leagues favour — and no discrimination between the sexes. Final decision will be taken presumably at the AGM which is on Thursday, 30 June.

Despite his recent poor form, Craig Bakewell gave a resolute display to retain his county singles title. Stephen Slater took a closely fought first game on deuce in the final, but Bakewell then took charge and was not really threatened in the remaining two games. With Jill Harris

returning after a gap of four years to challenge Helen Lower for her women's title, a good final was in prospect. And so it was. Undoubtedly the best final for many years. Jill took the first game, Helen the second and the third went first one way and then the other. Someone had to win and Helen was in the lead when 21 points were reached. Jill was partly handicapped by a badly bruised finger but overall it was an excellent performance by Helen against her higher ranked and more experienced opponent. Cadet Julie Bickerton earned a place in the county side for the Premier Weekend by taking both the cadet and junior girl's titles. Another good performance was by Robert Till in the juniors, gaining a surprise victory over Garry Knights in the semi-final and taking Adrian Thorp to three in the final.



Fiona Elliot

### Results

**MS — SF:** Bakewell (Pott) b M. Evans (Pott) 20, 13; S. Slater (Pott) b S. Deakin (Pott) 18, 19.  
**F:** Bakewell b Slater —23, 17, 14.  
**WS — F:** H. Lower (W'ton) b J. Harris (Wal) —15, 11, 19.  
**IS — F:** Slater b A. Thorp (W'ton) 19, 4.  
**JBS — F:** Thorp b R. Till (Wal) 17, —20, 14.  
**JGS — F:** J. Bickerton (Pott) b J. Foxall (Pott) 14, 20.  
**CBS — F:** N. Malkin (Pott) b J. Phillips (Burton) 8, 13.  
**CGS — F:** Bickerton b M. Martin (Burton) 14, —19, 12.  
**VS — F:** M. Pickles (Staff) b J. Beresford (Wal) 9, —18, 12.  
**MD — F:** Evans & J. Hancock (Pott) b G. Hallam & P. Barnett (Pott) 18, —18, 13.  
**WD — F:** Harris & Lower b T. Nigh & L. Sherratt (Staff) 8, 13.  
**XD — F:** A. Isaac (Pott) & Lower b Till & J. Winter Tamw) 10, 18.  
**JD — F:** G. Knights & B. Chell (Burton) b P. Malkin & D. Savage (Pott) 14, —15, 16.  
**Reminder:** Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 30 June, 7.30pm at the County Officers Club, Stafford.

## SURREY

Terry Vance

**John Somerville Memorial Fund** Donations have so far been received from Surrey TTA, Croydon League, Jane Barella, Mr & Mrs Boxall making a total of £166.

### Sutton Trophy

This Junior Trophy has been won by the Reigate & Redhill League.

### Sutton Championships

**Open Singles:** L. Nicholls b D. Carter.

**Open Doubles:** E. Emecz/L. Nicholls b D. & P. Carter.

**Veterans' Singles:** E. Emecz b M. Pearson.

**Restricted Singles:** C. Allder b D. Collyer.

**Consolation Singles:** W. French b R. Jerome.

**Youth Singles:** P. Carter b D. Carter.

Thanks are due to Don Beesley for making the day a success.

Emil Emecz has now won over 50 titles in both the Sutton Championships and the Croydon League.

### Leatherhead & Epsom Championships

**Men's Singles:** W. Holder b G. Green.

**Men's Doubles:** W. Holder/R. Denham b B. Minson/G. Brown.

**Veterans' Singles:** W. Holder b G. Brown.

**Restricted Singles:** R. Bennett b J. Tickner.

### County Championships

The 3 Veteran sides have had a very successful season. The 1st team were undefeated with D. Holman winning all his singles and with Barbara Winn all their mixed doubles. The 2nd also were undefeated. The 3rd was used to blood some of the 'newer' veterans.

The Senior 2nd team lost their last game 7-3 with the Junior 1st team players filling in for the 2nd seniors who failed to arrive.

The Junior 1st team, playing at the same venue as the Senior 2nd, but having to dash across the playground to play in both matches managed to draw after leading comfortably. This result probably cost them promotion.

### Schools Championships

Cumnor House from Croydon won the National Schools title. Hillcross Girls came 3rd in this event and as these girls are due to leave school soon I have been asked to make a special plea for them to continue their table tennis as Surrey are in need of more lady players.

### Coaching

There were 50 novices at the final coaching tournament of the season.

## WORCESTERSHIRE

Dave Roden

MAIN event within the County since my last notes was the County Tournament on 20 March, in which County No 1 Sandra Roden retained her Singles title, but the new Men's Champion is ex-County player Steve Dunning.

Sandra beat surprise finalist Alison Westwood in the final, 16, 8, with some fast attacking table tennis.

Last year's men's champion Kent Walton went out in the quarter-finals to veteran Mervyn Wood, who in turn lost a titanic battle with top seed Jeremy Duffield, —14 in the third game.

In the lower half of the draw, Malcolm Dicks took full advantage of the absence of injured No 2 seed Mark Roden, to win through to the semi-final, where he lost to Steve Dunning.

The final was something of an anti-climax, with Dunning, seeded at 4, winning 17, 8, Duffield still suffering from his battle with Wood.

Duffield was also runner-up in the Men's Doubles, where he and partner Steve Horton lost 21, 14 to Ray Dixon and Paul Garner.

Sandra Roden collected her second title when she partnered County team-mate Mandy Mytton to a 16, 8 win over Debbie Hough and Sue Meredith.



Sandra Roden

Steve Dunning was also a doubles winner when he teamed up with Sue Meredith to win the Mixed, beating Linda Reid and Paul Garner 16, 17.

Roy Norton retained the Veteran Men's Singles with a 13, 7 win over his club-mate John Stafford, who had beaten Mervyn Wood in the semi-finals.

The Veteran Ladies' Champion is Janet Hunt, who avenged her defeat last year by Linda Reid, winning 12, —18, 14.

The Veteran Doubles also featured the same finalists as last year, with Roy Norton and Mervyn Wood reversing last years result, beating Ray Dixon and Roy Underhill 11, 19.

Continued on page 26

# Counties 7

Continued from page 25

Trophies were presented by Mr Chris Moss, manager of the Dudley branch of the Leeds Permanent Building Society.

### Good result

The final round of County Championship matches on 26 March saw the Senior 1st's travel to Bradford to play Yorks 2nds. With Green and Washington unavailable, a 5-5 draw was a good result for the County. Sandra Roden and Mandy Mytton did well to win the three ladies' events, Murray Jukes scored a narrow win over Richard Whiteley, and Jeremy Duffield beat Nick Davies in the final set to earn the draw. (Excellent refreshments after this match — many thanks to the lady responsible!)

The Senior 2nds lost 7-3 to Norfolk, Sue Meredith and Helen Pogmore winning Worcs three sets.

The Veterans lost 6-3 to Cheshire 2nds, Janet Hunt and Mervyn Wood winning their singles, and the Juniors won 9-1 at Hampshire.

The final of the County Club Team Knock-out saw IMI Kidderminster beat Ledbury Lions of the Malvern League, 7-2.

Take a bow Lol Sproston, John Thompson and Charlie Reen.

## YORKSHIRE

Rea Balmford

ONLY one title was retained at the County's Senior Closed Championships at the Batley Sports Centre, with Hull's second seeded Mick Farnill taking a third term of tenure on the Veteran Singles trophy with a final win over top seed Cleeve Judson (Wakefield).

The Men's honours went north to Harrogate with top rated Richard Whiteley taking over the two titles vacated by non-entrant Kevin Beadsley.

In the Singles he moved smoothly through to the final with the loss of only one game — to Lee Hewitt (Hull) in the quarters — and made no mistake in the final, despatching another Humbersider, former Warwickshire defender, Derek Munt, again in straight sets.

Whiteley added the Doubles with team mate Nicky Davies, while the Ladies' honours went to Hull with Ruth Bray, runner-up twelve months ago, taking top singles spot past 11-year-old Sally Marling, and the latter gaining consolation in the Doubles, which she claimed in partnership with sister Samantha.

The Restricted Singles events both went to improving youngsters, Sally taking the Ladies and Mark Stephenson (Halifax) the Mens.

Main criticism of the event must be the apathy of the players — surely England's largest county should be able to produce an entry of more than 73 players!

Result from Bradford League, Division 9 — Hermits 'P' 6 (A. Bowers 3, K. Chapman 2, P. Rook 1), Auto Parts 4.

Nothing special about this, you may say, but look again at 'A. Bowers 3.' This was 71 years young Arthur's 1,000th appearance in the league, and I make no apology for devoting the remainder of this column to one of Yorkshire's great enthusiasts.

Arthur's TT life began pre-war, as a 15-year-old playing with cricketing team mates at the Ebenezer Meths club, Dudley Hill and then, after serving his country, he began to put his sporting career together again in Cairo as the war drew to a close, figuring in representative teams at cricket, football, athletics, tug-of-war and darts — and, of course, TT — before returning to his native Bradford.

### Enthusiasm

Short spells with Castle and Premier Youth Club led to his



Joanne Shaw

joining Hermits in 1950, and he has been there ever since, playing in every division from 1 to 10 and averaging a healthy 61%.

Typical of Arthur is his enthusiasm and dedication, for, as captain of a four man squad for a number of seasons, he has been present, whether playing or not, at 1,071 of the 1,075 league matches which his side have played — the other four clashed with Bradford Management meetings! — a unique record of three 1,000s that may never be equalled.

# Ties . . .

- Bannerettes
- Badges of all types
- Trophies
- T-shirts & sweatshirts
- All Club Insignia



Special commemorative medal struck for the World championships in Birmingham. In presentation box. Ideal for a trophy. £12.00 reduced to £2.50 each. Twelve only left.

Telephone or write for your edition of the Alec Brook catalogue illustrated in full colour.

ADB (LONDON) LTD (DEPT TT)  
49-57 HARROW ROAD  
LONDON W2 1JH  
Tel 01-402 5671  
Telex 24652 Tieman G



## CLIVE OAKMAN Table Tennis



For your Specialist  
Table Tennis Requirements  
All Major Lines in stock

**STIGA - BARRA - WTSP**



Full Equipment Hire  
Service Available  
Excellent Range of  
Secondhand Tables

Write or telephone:

## CLIVE OAKMAN Table Tennis

Unit 2a Bentalls Complex, Heybridge,  
Maldon, Essex, CM9 7NW.

Telephone: (0621) 50550



# Out and about

- CHESTERFIELD
- WHITEHAVEN
- BUCHAREST
- DUNSTABLE

## NEW ETTU DEPUTY PRESIDENT



Bradley Billington, Grove, Market Drayton, the Leeds British League Player of the Month, February 1988. Seventeen year-old Bradley from Chesterfield confirmed his position as the No 1 Junior in the country by winning last year's Leeds English Junior Championships. In 1986 he made his senior debut at the Quadrangular Championships in Scotland and now holds the No 9 position amongst the UK Senior men. Bradley's recent achievements included winning both the English Junior Grand Prix in 1987 and the English Junior National Ranking Trials in 1988. Picture: Ivan Stevens.



Ella Constantinescu (Romania) is the newly-elected deputy president of the ETTU. In 1953 she was the Romanian champion playing in the Bucharest world championships. She is pictured (by Denis George) standing by a poster picture of her as an 18 year-old girl.



Cumbria secured their first victory of the season, 7-3 against Worcestershire 2nd at Whitehaven Sports Centre. Pictured back, left to right, are Roger Stewart (No 3), Stephen Temple (No 2) and John Backhouse (No 1). Front, left to right, are Karen Backhouse (No 2 woman), Julie McLean (No 1 woman and captain) and Lynne Hadfield (No 3 woman), who did not play.



Lisa Lomas, the England No 3 from Dunstable Beds, had a marvellous victory in Paris over Valentina Popova, the former European champion, although Russia won the match against England women. New picture by Mike Loveder.

# The schools at Mansfield

## ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

# Andrew Ball top of the class

by DAVID LOMAS

LEADING schools players from West Yorkshire and Surrey fared well in the Dunlop English Schools Individual Championships which took place at Mansfield Leisure Centre on Saturday 30 April.

Topping the bill was Andrew Ball (Wakefield District College), winner of the Boys' Under-19 event in a close encounter with Matthew Pernet (Esher College) ESTTA Chairman, John Arnold, was justifiably proud when he presented the trophy to Andrew, a former pupil at John's Sandal Endowed CE Middle School, Wakefield.

Girls' Under-19 No 1 seed, Melonie Carey (Bridgwater College) sped to her first ESTTA title and in so doing she became Somerset's first ever winner in the 15 year history of the championships. She defeated Emma Hurling (Herts) who had knocked out No 3 seed Sarah Pengelly (Devon) in the quarter-final and Kristina Cox (Beds) in the semi-final.

Other West Yorkshire winners were from Leeds schools. Katherine Goodall (Archbishop Cranmer CE Middle School) added to her 1986 Girls' Under-11 success in winning the Girls' Under-13 title, following a tough semi-final win over Essex Metropolitan's Linda Radford.

Joanna Roberts (Allerton Grange High School) was the other Leeds winner in the Girls' Under-16 category. Karen Richardson (Greater Manchester) had registered good wins over No 2 seed, Suzanne Lawton, and West Sussex's Tracey Cole before falling to Joanna in the semi-final.



Girls Under-19: Melonie Carey (Somerset) receives congratulations from Bill Turner, Manager of Mansfield Leisure Centre.



Boys' Under-11 (left to right): Andrew Clayton (sf), Darren Blake (1st), Councillor Roger Wix (Chairman, Mansfield District Council), Steven Meddings (2nd), Andrew Wilkinson (sf).



Boys Under-13 (left to right): Ewan Finlayson (sf), Edward Hatley (1st), Mike Watts, ETTA Events Manager, Philip Robson (2nd), Mark Williams (sf).

Grant Solder (Raphael School, Romford) was another No 1 seed to emerge unscathed — in the Boys' Under-16 event — but No 2 seed, Garry Knights (Staffs) went out in the first round to Stephen Horsfield (South Yorkshire) and had to be content with a win in the consolation competition. Surrey had two representatives in the semi-finals in the shape of Paul Carter and Graeme Connelly. Carter scored a good win over Martin Adams (Berks) who had earlier eliminated Alan Cole in the second round.

Surrey's successes came in the Boys' Under-13 and Under-11 events. All four semi-finalists in the Boys' Under-13 event do not appear on the latest Lentec Computer Ranking lists. Philip Robson (Tyne & Wear) went all the way to the final, causing an upset as he defeated Devon's Alex Perry two-straight in the second round and Mark Williams (Middlesex) in the semi-final. Winner was Edward Hatley (St Tarcisius RC Middle School, Camberley). No 2 seed, Steven Barrett (Cornwall) was one of Hatley's victims. The other was Ewan Finlayson (Avon) in the semi-final.

Darren Blake (Cumnor House School, Croydon) confirmed his emerging talent, winning the Boys' Under-11 title without dropping a single game and thus regaining the title he held at the age of nine two years ago — a considerable achievement.

Nicola Deaton (Barlborough Hall School, Chesterfield) was also a predictable winner but she was taken to three games in the Girls' Under-11 event by Lynsey Hayward (Ipplepen Junior School, Newton Abbot), seeded No 2.

All the youngster on view at Mansfield had qualified for the Championships via county schools qualifying competitions. At stake were not only national schools honours but a possible place in the English Schools 35-strong squad to compete in the Leeds Schools International Championships being staged at Stockland Green Leisure Centre, Erdington, Birmingham on July 1-3.

### THE DETAILS

#### Boys' Under-19:

Semi-final: Matthew Pernet (Surrey County) b John Bult (Humberside) 19, 19; Andrew Ball (West Yorkshire) b Andrew Bevan (Cornwall) 12, -19, 15. Final: Ball b Pernet -17, 17, 17.

#### Girls' Under-19:

Semi-final: Melonie Carey (Somerset) b Helen Stephens (Lincolnshire) 18, 19; Emma Hurling (Hertfordshire) b Kristina Cox (Bedfordshire) 21, 12. Final: Carey b Hurling 8, 12.

#### Boys' Under-16:

Semi-final: Grant Solder (Essex Metropolitan) b Paul Carter (Surrey Metropolitan) 15, 9; Howard Whewell (Lancashire) b Graeme Connelly (Surrey County) 17, -17, 19. Final: Solder b Whewell 12, 19.

#### Girls' Under-16:

Semi-final: Joanna Roberts (West Yorkshire) b Karen Richardson (Greater Manchester) -21, 15, 17; Andrea Ambrose (Suffolk) b Caroline Buckley (Bedfordshire) -9, 15, 15. Final: Roberts b Ambrose 16, 9.

#### Boys' Under-13:

Semi-final: Philip Robson (Tyne & Wear) b Mark Williams (Middlesex) 17, 19; Edward Hatley (Surrey County) b Ewan Finlayson (Avon) 15, -20, 17. Final: Hatley b Robson 10, 16.

#### Girls' Under-13:

Semi-final: Katherine Goodall (West Yorkshire) b Linda Radford 8, -16, 17; Sally Marling (Humberside) b Sara Williams (Middlesex) 14, 19. Final: Goodall b Marling 19, 7.

#### Boys' Under-11:

Semi-final: Darren Blake (Surrey Metropolitan) b Andrew Clayton (Derbyshire) 10, 16; Steven Meddings (West Midlands) b Andrew Wilkinson

(Tyne & Wear) 18, 18.

Final: Blake b Meddings 17, 13.

#### Girls' Under-11:

Semi-final: Nicola Deaton (Derbyshire) b Sally Russell (Northamptonshire) 5, 7; Lynsey Hayward (Devon) b Michelle Martin (Staffordshire) -14, 22, 12.

Final: Deaton b Hayward 10, -15, 9.

#### Consolation winners:

Boys' Under-19: Michael Malcolm (Lancashire)

Girls' Under-19: Rosemary Bullock (Suffolk)

Boys' Under-16: Garry Knights (Staffordshire)

Girls' Under-16: Nicola Jones (Hereford & Worcester)

Boys' Under-13: Raymond Powell (Gloucestershire)

Girls' Under-13: Zoe Buchanan (Greater Manchester)

Boys' Under-11: Sam Debenham (Suffolk)

Girls' Under-11: Nicola Duke (Kent County).

### PRESS COMPETITION

First prize winners of the recent Press Cuttings competition organised by the English Schools' Table Tennis Association are: Bredbury Comprehensive (Greater Manchester); Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater (Somerset); Cumnor House, Croydon (Surrey Metropolitan); Gosforth Central (Tyne & Wear). They receive prizes donated by sponsors, Dunlop Slazenger International.

## Referee replies

I FEEL I must take issue with Derek Baddeley regarding his criticism of the scheduling for the Leeds English Open for which I was responsible on behalf of the English Championships Committee.

I was asked by the Marketing and Promotions Committee to produce a Schedule that would provide singles matches on six show courts, that is on the front and back three courts, throughout the greater part of the play on the Friday. This innovation, far removed from the established system, was formulated to ensure that spectators would see far more top class singles than before. A great deal of time and thought was given to the Schedule which was produced to and had the full backing of both the Committees I have mentioned.

The best matches were scheduled for the six show courts but I was put in some difficulty on the day because the anticipated tiered seating for the courts 10 and 11 did not materialise. This unfortunately created the problem of spectators standing in the gangways around those two courts.

### Inaccuracies

Apart from wrongly describing the Schedule as 'the same old system', there are other inaccuracies in Derek Baddeley's letter. The last sixteen of the Men's Singles were not put on all at the same time but the eight matches were put on two at a time at ten minute intervals. The quarter-final matches were similarly staggered at intervals of fifteen minutes.

Turning now to his comments regarding Jiang, the timed match tickets show that there was an interval of 25 minutes between the Mixed Doubles Final and his match with Desmond Douglas and it was a further 30 minutes after the conclusion of that match that he came to the table to play Jorgen Persson.

If you are going to be critical, Derek, then please do try and get your facts right.

### Perfect schedule

In conclusion, I would say there is no such thing as a perfect schedule and there never will be as there are always far too many imponderables. I am satisfied that the Schedule I prepared achieved what it set out to do and perhaps its success can be judged by the fact that I had no complaints either from players or their team captains.

DOUG YOUNG  
Referee — the Leeds English Open

## Mr Shepherd is still astonished

BRIEFLY responding to Tony Chatwin's letter, I must say that I find his explanation as to my non-selection as an umpire during two consecutive seasons hard to understand. He appears to be saying that (a) there was a 60% surplus of applications for the Junior Closed in those two years and that (b) ten county umpires had to be included due to a policy change. Despite these two factors, I note that 27 national and international umpires were invited to Hinckley in 1987 either directly (20) or as reserves (7), of whom at least 15 also received invitations to other national events during the season. Am I missing something, Tony, or is your logic just beyond me?

Having just received the April edition of *Table Tennis News* and seen the editor's footnote to my letter on the subject of Skylet Andrew, I find it astonishing that you, Mr Woodford, should take the point against me that Skylet 'could hardly be expected to turn down an invitation to play in an international open'. This was precisely the point I had been trying to make in my letter!



Skylet Andrew

With regard to John Preat's 'reply' I see that he is the person to whom the editor's footnote should have been addressed, as he is telling us that 'the decision whether to play or not was that of the player'. If that is his answer to my protest then it is clear that he has no concern for the views of the counties.

Mr Preat seizes upon my reference to the Israeli Open as being a minor tournament and claims this to be a mistake of fact. With all due respect to my many Israeli friends I would hardly class their event as a major one on the international circuit.

I am afraid that Mr Preat's style of letter writing has not altered since his days in 'opposition' and if his best shot is to

describe my perfectly justified complaints as an 'unpleasant little letter' then I can see no hope for rational debate in the future.

ALAN SHEPHERD  
Flat 6,  
32 Green Road, Southgate,  
London N14,

## Skylet's blue card

THE blue card incident was funny in two ways to the people watching.

Firstly 'who has seen a blue card before, during a domestic tournament?'

Secondly, because at first the umpire seemed a little bit annoyed. Then afterwards Skylet in his usually humorous way soon changed the umpire round into have a smile.

ANDREA HOLT  
Ramsbottom  
Bury, Lancashire

## Did Desmond meet the Queen? asks Queenie

REGARDING Desmond Douglas, MBE, none of us are perfect but some are a damned sight

better than others! and I still maintain no player of any sport can be banned for being 'unfit to play'.

I am aware of the fact Des does not seek publicity; he is a very modest man (perhaps even shy?) but that's not the point. The fact that *TTN* did not see fit to print his photo in the magazine when he went to 'the Palace' I find quite incredible. The award casts reflection on table tennis as a whole and all who play it. My son spoke to John Preat about this at Brighton — for once, he had no answer!

I've recently had a lovely letter from Don Parker, what an excellent commentary he gave on TV and what a truly super programme.

QUEENIE SMITH  
4 Brooklyn Park  
Withycombe  
Exmouth, Devon  
*Editor's Note: This magazine and the ETTA have tried without success to obtain a photograph taken at Buckingham Palace of the Desmond Douglas MBE investiture. It remains a mystery why we cannot get one but some progress has now been made, hopefully, watch for the October issue!*

## ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION 1988 SUMMER SCHOOL



VENUE:  
NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE, CRYSTAL PALACE

THIS COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED BY  
NATIONAL AND SENIOR ETTA COACHES,  
SUPPORTED BY EXCELLENCE SQUAD  
PLAYERS

COURSE FEE:  
£130.00 for FULL BOARD, TRAINING and VAT

DATES:  
10th/15th JULY 1988

FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND APPLICATION  
FORM PLEASE APPLY TO

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION  
21 Claremont, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF

## Letters mean increasing interest

THREE pages of Mailbox (*TT News*, April) provide further indication of the growing interest in the sport. I am reluctant to take up space which belongs to our readers, but, if I do not comment, they may think I do not note what they write. Pat Snoxell takes me to task for declining membership. The figures are not as high as he states. Numbers have declined by 4.2%, not 4.6% and the leagues which have increased their numbers are higher than he states. If he will ring me, I shall tell him why this is so. The subject is not interesting enough for wider circulation. The decline is less than in some previous years. The trend is quite hopeful. Overnight cures are not available.

We are talking about entry forms which were being sent off in September/October last year. Even I did not expect that membership figures would move upwards after I had been in office for a few months.

Since then we have enjoyed more and much improved television support and many things have been done to make the sport look better and encourage people to take it up. Numerous local leagues have increased their numbers.

### Magic

I have no magic wand which conjures new members from thin air. All my team can do is produce a climate in which the sport can grow. We are trying to reproduce the interest which was created by the World Championships and the short period which followed when membership was going up. That is the role of the magnificent Leeds Euro-Asia and Leeds English Open, the Chinese Tour and much else.

Important as the membership situation is, there are many other activities which play a part in the health of the sport.

I agree with Pat about unity. This is what we have achieved. There are a few who did not want to be elected and that remains their view. Their numbers are small and they are entitled to their opinion.

## Sleeping below?

I have not seen the 'tournament scheduling system' of which Derek Bradely speaks. Perhaps it was sent to my predecessor. Scheduling is a very complex matter. It is ironic that Derek should raise it now, because

thanks to the referee Doug Young, substantial scheduling changes took place at the recent Leeds English Open, which enabled spectators to see far more good matches than ever before. It is inevitable that you miss a lot, if play is on 12 tables. Scheduling is not an English problem, it is a world-wide one. Top class matches, for instance the last eight and last 16 tend to be played together, which I regard as disastrous. As far as I know, we were the only association to attack that particular sacred cow and, if we manage to play the next Open over the full four days, we shall make further progress. I would certainly like to see the ATTP Schedule mentioned. The Leeds Euro-Asia, which obviously Derek did not attend, was a different matter. The closing stages were played on one table and the film shown some weeks later was able to select the best parts. Grandstand, as the name implies, shows what is taking place at that particular time. It is not selective. It is topical. If, in football terms, the result is 0-0, that is hard luck.

Grandstand, above all, requires the Men's Final. It is elementary that we would like a great deal else and other matches. I leave it to Derek to work out who makes these decisions. What is less clear is why he should choose this time to complain, when in every area of TV there have been massive improvements, ie quality, quantity, playing standards, presentation, whilst in days gone by, when things were uniformly awful, he remained silent.

Where was he then? Captain, were thou sleeping down below?

JOHN PREAN

## Let's halt the borrowing

AS we reach the final issue of *TTN* for this season, everyone in this neck of the county of Gloucestershire speaks highly of your editorship. I endorse that; my only regret is that there is far too much borrowing of *TTN* going on, one copy going to six households, I am at a loss to know how this can be overcome.

ALF PEPPARD  
16 Compton Close,  
Taunton, Glos

*Editor's note: Thanks for compliments Alf. On the borrowing, the answer is to constantly upgrade the magazine to professional standards so that it is acceptable on the major bookstalls nationwide. I hope that this season we have moved some way towards that goal.*

## Larkhall and the 'sin bin'

IT IS with considerable restraint I am wording this letter, on the seething attacks on Larkhall TT Club. These denigrations have done untold damage to this 'great', not 'once great' club.

The trouble has been the Leeds British League 'sin bin' — all minor 'offences' attributed to us have been blown up out of all proportion, culminating in what could almost be called a vendetta.

The conception of the 'sin bin' was always questionable, especially in its present format ie 'passing information behind your opponents back' — would it not have been better to discuss assessment forms with your opponents? The last 'sin bin' is as full as the first — so how successful has it been? What it has done is to instigate more bad feeling and lack of trust between players than anything else in the last 20 years.

Yes, we have short-comings, all of which will be irradiated next season! but we are average with most other clubs in almost all respects, except playing conditions, lighting and programmes, which are definitely better than most!

When it comes to cardinal sins, ie 12 hours notice of cancelling a match, grabbing your opponents shirt and threatening violence, one of the team thumping an elderly man, hit balls at the spectators, having the match abandoned because of the uproar, getting the fracas into the national papers! — we have not been involved in anything like this, yet we appear to be the scapegoats, for some innocuous 'sins' like not showing the Schildkröt banner (ignoring the fact we are TSP sponsored).

Had we been involved in the above match *mêlée* we would have been banned from the ETTA forever. Yet Deptford Rams and Ashford were given a clean bill of health — no disciplinary action — nothing, because, I quote 'these two great clubs have settled their differences for the good of table tennis' — what a whitewash. Well, we are thoroughly sick and tired with this continual sniping at us and we would like it to stop.

Considering the amount of damage this smear campaign has done to Larkhall (regarding getting new members) we would like an article printed in the *Table Tennis News* if not totally vindicating us, changing our position as not quite the 100% black sheep we are supposed to be — and that we are a club doing the best

we can with the facilities we have — just like most clubs!

Well, enough is enough, lets have no more of it! Or will we have to start slating teams off — something we have never done (except on one well deserved occasion) God knows there is plenty of scope for it.

GORDON CHAPMAN

Totally disgusted,  
The Larkhall Rat Pack  
(Would you take one home to Mother?)

c/o 25 Killester Gardens  
Worcester Park, Surrey

*Editor's Note: Discipline is the alternative to chaos. The decision to ignore the disturbance at Ashford was appalling. But, I with Gordon Chapman, the 'sin bin' is not one I would support if it came to a vote. Unlike the county championships there is more than glory at stake in the league. Perhaps that is why tempers flare. The League needs to look at its disciplinary problems.*

## Ping-pong keeps popping up — again

I BELIEVE the *Sunday Telegraph* is sister paper to the *Daily Telegraph*. For that reason, I am writing to you about an article that appeared in the *Sunday Telegraph Magazine* of 3 April this year.

Possibly I am too dim to appreciate the writer's sense of humour but, assuming the article was meant to be taken at face value, the following description of our sport, quoted from the first paragraph of the feature 'Shop Front', absolutely amazed me:

'Table tennis, otherwise known as ping-pong, is one of the easiest games to play: the table doesn't take up much space, and anyone, however bad they are, can have fun skipping the ball across the net with the little bats. . . .'

I must say that, having attended this year's English 'Closed', I really enjoyed seeing Cooke and Douglas 'having fun skipping the ball across the net with their little bats'!!

ROGER WOOLVEN-ALLEN  
General Secretary  
Reading & District TTA

*Editor's Note: Every now and again this sort of thing happens. A journalist or a member of the public writes in scornful terms principally through ignorance about 'ping-pong'. I do not think there is much that can be done about it, unless a reader such as Mr Woolven-Allen cares to write to the general news editor.*

More letters page 36

## Home wins for Nigel and Andrea

by GEORGE YATES

LANCASHIRE'S Nigel Eckersley and Andrea Holt claimed the major singles titles at British Aerospace Dynamics, Lostock, nr Bolton on 23 April their final victims in the men's and women's singles being Steve Dorking of Essex and Jill Harris of Staffs.

Top seed in the men's singles was Bradley Billington who fell to Eckersley in the semis as did Tony Taylor, the No 2 seed, to Dorking. But the final between Eckersley and Dorking was inspirational and fully merited a further £20 each on top of their prize money donated by the Bolton League President, David Plowes, for the best final.

Judging this award were the three blue-coated umpires namely Stan Clarke, Jack Evans and Bill Moran and their choice was greeted with acclaim being added to Eckersley's £150 and Dorking's £75.

Also in the memory was Andrea Holt picking up £70 as the women's singles winner and adding a further £20 when she and Joanne Shaw annexed the women's doubles, the men's being won by Dorking and Ian 'Benny' Robertson with a final victory over Paul Giles and Paul Whiting who has made the long journey from Plymouth.

So too had Mike Short who, in the final of the Class 2 mixed singles, had no answer to young Jonathan Taylor. But all was not gloom for the Billingtons when father Maurice got the better of Derek Schofield in the final of the veterans singles. Results:

### Men's Singles

Quarter-finals: B. Billington (Dy) b G. Baker (Sy) 17, 14; N. Eckersley (La) b P. Whiting (Dv) 17, 17; S. Dorking (E) b K. Williams (La) 9, 13; T. Taylor (Ch) b D. Harvey (Gs) 13, 13. Semi-finals: Eckersley b Billington -11, 19, 16; Dorking b Taylor 19, 11. Final: Eckersley b Dorking -20, 17, 16.

### Women's Singles

Quarter-finals: A. Holt (La) b J. Billington (Dy) 7, 11; S. Collier (Bk) b C. Moran (Li) 13, 14; J. Shaw (Y) b C. Hewitt (Sx) 14, 18; J. Harris (St) b S. Roden (St) 24, 9. Semi-finals: Holt b Collier 16, 19; Harris b Shaw 20, 19. Final: Holt b Harris 14, 16.

### Class 2 Mixed Singles:

Semi-finals: J. Taylor (Ch) b S. Richards (Ch) -21, 14, 13; M. Short

(Dv) b G. Clarke (La) -19, 13, 15; Final: Taylor b Short 17, 16.

### Veteran Singles

Semi-finals: M. Billington (Dy) b T. Taylor (Ch) 17, -14, 19; D. Schofield (Ch) b N. Thewlis (La) 10, 19; Final: Billington b Schofield 15, 14.

### Men's Doubles

Semi-finals: Dorking/I. Robertson (Nd) b M. Browne/D. Parmar (Wa) 19, 15; P. Giles/P. Whiting (Dv) b A. Eden/W. Renton (La) 16, 11. Final: Dorking/Robertson b Giles/Whiting 20, 18.

### Women's Doubles

Semi-finals: Holt/Shaw b B. Buoev/P. French (La) 6, 15; Harris/Roden b M. Riddle (La)/E. Short (Dv) 13, 7. Final: Holt/Shaw b Harris/Roden 17, 14.



Nigel Eckersley



Tony Taylor

## Bird songs at eventide

CHARLIE BIRD is very well known by most players from the Kent/Essex/Surrey area, he is 36 years old and has been playing for 15 years, he is pictured here with his first ever trophy which he won in February in winning the consolation final of Waterfield Youth Centres non-league standard KO tournament.



Charlie Bird

There is no keener player to be found in the country, he practices five nights a week and supports county matches and local national league games but has never played a league game, if space could be found in next month's issue it would be greatly appreciated by all players in this area to give Charlie the recognition he so richly deserves

PAUL WHITTAKER

## SLADDEN, 12 WINS FIVE LOCAL TITLES

by PETER LAYZELL

THE 23rd Burnham-on-Crouch championships were held at Tip-tree Sports Centre. The entries were a quarter up on last year with a notable growth in the cadets who seem to be growing from strength to strength with each year. Two names dominated the two days — 12-year-old cadet Chris Sladden, who celebrated his national ranking by winning no fewer than five titles an unprecedented feat, and Chris Jacob who became the new men's singles champion after many years of coming close to the title.

The men's singles came to life in the quarter finals when four times champion Martin Speight was beaten by Simon Woods who was unable to sustain his form losing the semi to Michael Hayes. In the other semi Chris Jacob pipped Peter Ballard and then went on to beat Michael Hayes in a one sided final to take the blue riband event. The women's final was a much closer run affair. Holder Cath Eakin beat Linda Barrow in the first semi and veteran Shirley Carroll beat Marylynn in the second. After a poor start Cath defended her title with a good three set win. In the men's doubles Peter Ballard and Martin Speight beat Chris Jacob and Mark Bannister.

In the ladies' doubles Shirley Carroll teamed up with Marylynn Bawden to gain revenge for the ladies' singles defeat when they beat Cath Eakin and June Crozier. In the mixed doubles singles champion Chris Jacob teamed with Marylynn Bawden to beat Simon Woods and Shirley Carroll.

### The Sladden Show

Now for the Chris Sladden show. He reached the final of the open handicap even with a -10 score against but was beaten by one of our junior reps Jason Clover. Chris then won the mixed open in which the top eight seeds in the singles are excluded by beating top first division star Dave Smith in the semis and then beating Gary Jarvis in the final. He beat Alan Arnold in the final of the restricted cup after beating his own dad in three sets in the semi. With Jason Clover he won the junior boys doubles against Grant Smith and Phillip Chamberlain and then beat Paul Clark in the junior boys singles for his last win he won the cadet singles against Phillip Chamberlain. Not since Dave Newman in the early '70s have we had such a talent at such an age. A name to remember — Chris Sladden!

## Belgian Youth, French in Seoul

### BELGIAN YOUTH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

# Last eight block for England

by IAN MARSHALL

THE quarter-final stage was to be the stumbling block for England in the Belgian Youth Open Championships held at Namur as Bradley Billington and Chris Oldfield fell in the last eight in both singles and doubles.

Both boys gave splendid displays as Billington ousted Wyard of Belgium, with the locals giving their player great encouragement, before accounting for top Polish junior Dziubanski to set up a meeting with top Swede Patrick Torsell. In a superb match, covered by Belgian television, the Englishman lost in a close encounter having led by a game and 19-16 and 20-19 in the second. The impressive Czech Vladimir Mihocko was to end the run of the Swede at the semi-final stage before Czech colleague Peter Korbek proved too strong in the final.

#### Splendid Oldfield

It was to be the splendid Chris Oldfield, who gained in confidence as the tournament progressed, who was to record the shock result as he excelled all expectations to beat third seeded Kayode Kadiri of Sweden in three sets having demolished Doppler of Austria and Morris of Belgium en route. The result against the highly rated Carl Lewis look-alike was a fine win by Oldfield who used his serves to full extent to dominate the sporting man from Stockholm. The deed complete, the next round was to see the fall of the Yorkshireman as leading German Oliver Alke proved too strong with a powerful left-handed attacking game.

#### Superb

A superb effort had been made in the singles and both boys were drained mentally, thus the early stages of the doubles proved more difficult than expected as the Swiss duo of Tu Thien Si and Nosal were beaten in three sets before a night's rest enabled the Englishmen an easier task in disposing of Danes Jacobsen and Persson. Once again the quarter-final was to be the stumbling block as the West German pairing of Joseph Hong and Jochen Lang were victorious in three sets with the Billington-Oldfield duo never at their best.

The team event saw England bow out at the first hurdle beaten 3-2 by West Germany with Bil-

lington beating both Jochen Lang and Torben Wosik in three sets but victory was not to be as Lang overpowered Oldfield and the Yorkshireman never found his true form in the somewhat slow conditions to lose to the talented Wosik in a tense three setter.



Chris Oldfield

Points to note from the weekend were that the event was on Belgian television as had been the European Championships from Paris; a fact that the Europeans found hard to believe was that the event was not televised in England where our Men's team had done so well. Furthermore there were tables on which to practise every day and it seemed that of the twenty tables available only half were ever used at any one time for matches. The Belgians supported their players superbly, especially the Swedes whose sportsmanship and manners set an outstanding example.

### STOP PRESS

#### MANDY

MANDY SAINSBURY, very seriously injured in a car crash is out of hospital and making progress, but it will be sometime before she is back in table tennis. Her mother was killed in the Basingstoke car accident.

# French team have Seoul training camp

by JOHN WOODFORD

WHILST England wait for the news on whether Carl Prean will be awarded one of the wild cards for Seoul to join Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke and Skylet Andrew as table tennis makes its Olympic debut in September, there is news that the French have already had a team in Seoul for training.

Eight players headed by Jean-Philippe Gatien and Patrick Birocheau spent ten days training with the South Korean players. Six hours of table tennis training and practising was the routine. The French party did a tour of the competition sites for the Games and were very impressed.

Before leaving Seoul Gatien said: 'We learned a lot from the highly skilled Korean players. We will be doing our best to be ready for September.'

#### Torch plans

The SLOOC plans to conduct the 1988 Olympic Torch Relay in a unique way with participation by almost 21,000 runners representing 161 nations, and including eleven final torch-bearers of all the previous Games.

To achieve this, the SLOOC plans to recruit a total of 20,500 runners (torch-bearers, escorting runners, and support runners) of which 80 will be Korean residents abroad, and 19 from participants in the International Youth Camp, 50 from the foreign press and 125 special runners from the '88 Torch Relay sponsoring companies.



Seoul: Alan Cooke

In particular, at the cities where the Olympic Torch will make a stop-over or overnight stay, a variety of cultural festivals representing local characteristics plus performances by the invited artistic troupes from various nations will take place. These events will ensure the scope of the Olympic Torch Relay will be in line with the largest Games in Olympic history.

The '88 Olympic Torch will be lit at 11am, August 23, at the temple of Hera in Olympia and then relayed to Athens by torch-bearers and ship covering a 358km-route. On August 25, the Sacred Flame will be transferred to the SLOOC at the Pan-Athenian stadium from where the torch will be carried by air to Cheju Island, Korea.

On August 27, the torch will start its domestic relay from Cheju, travelling through 61 local cities over a total route of 4,163km. The relay will conclude in Seoul on September 17 when the Opening Ceremony of the 1988 Olympics will take place.

#### Broadcasting rights

The SLOOC has up to now signed TV rights contracts with eleven countries including NBC. There are still some contracts which are at the closing stage or under negotiation. All together, they are expected to amount to around 406 million dollars.

The Seoul Games has already set records in Olympic history for TV rights sales and records are also expected in the size of TV audiences and the media delegations.

Any other sporting occasions happening in September and clashing with the Olympics are set for a hard time getting publicity in any segments of the media. Fortunately, table tennis is there in Seoul but will still have to compete with all the other sports with Olympic status.

Table tennis writers, even we members of the AIPS (Association Internationale de la Presse Sportive) will have mighty problems even getting to South Korea.

# How the juniors stand

## THE LENTEC NATIONAL RANKING LIST JUNIORS BOYS AND GIRLS as at 4 April 1988



### TOP FIFTY — in conjunction with the ETTA

#### BOYS

|                                      |      |                                       |     |
|--------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Michael O'Driscoll (Mirfield)     | 1411 | 51. Robert Scott-Birchall (Allestree) | 279 |
| 2. Bradley Billington (Chesterfield) | 1403 | 52. Dale Saunders (Lydney)            | 273 |
| 3. Mathew Syed (Reading)             | 1212 | 53. Neil Charles (Middx)              | 272 |
| 4. Chris Oldfield (Sheffield)        | 1020 | 54. Michael Nisbet (Stockton)         | 269 |
| 5. Leigh Jeffries (Sutton Coldfield) | 1011 | 55. Anthony Lansdown (Margate)        | 263 |
| 6. Neil Bevan (Bude)                 | 1007 | 56. David Hadley (Bristol)            | 262 |
| 7. Neil Pickard (Reepham)            | 933  | 57. Robert Till (Walsall)             | 262 |
| 8. Grant Solder (Barking)            | 907  | 58. Craig Smith (Selby)               | 261 |
| 9. Jonathan Taylor (Denton)          | 898  | 59. James Maciver (Barnsley)          | 261 |
| 10. Mark Ward (Sheffield)            | 878  | 60. James Nicholson (Stockton)        | 255 |
| 11. Adrian Thorpe (Bilston)          | 859  | 61. Jason Tendler (Ilford)            | 253 |
| 12. Thomas Sutler (Neasden)          | 834  | 62. Darren Howarth (Droylsden)        | 244 |
| 13. David Morris (Pontesbury)        | 728  | 63. Paul Smith (Bridgwater)           | 243 |
| 14. Matthew Pernet (Billericay)      | 652  | 64. Philip Szekeres (Enfield)         | 237 |
| 15. Scott Greenbrook (Crawley)       | 564  | 65. Barry Foster (Whickham)           | 234 |
| 16. Michael Auchterlonie (Halifax)   | 530  | 66. Simon Rockall (Crouch End)        | 231 |
| 17. Andrew Eden (Ormskirk)           | 528  | 67. Matthew Boon (Ashford)            | 231 |
| 18. Alan Cole (Crawley)              | 518  | 68. Keiron Dabbs (Daventry)           | 227 |
| 19. Damian Holland (Billericay)      | 516  | 69. Stuart Miller (Stockton)          | 214 |
| 20. Howard Whewell (Rossendale)      | 514  | 70. Ian Windle (St Ives)              | 210 |
| 21. Graeme Connelly (Frimley)        | 507  | 71. David Stedman (Arundel)           | 209 |
| 22. Gary Knights (Barton u/Needwood) | 487  | 72. Benjamin Kellard (Bromley)        | 202 |
| 23. Mark Stevenson (Halifax)         | 448  | 73. Jeremy Krzystiniak (Teddington)   | 194 |
| 24. Wayne Renton (Oldham)            | 446  | 74. Rajinder Singh (Birmingham)       | 194 |
| 25. Jason Bamford (Nottingham)       | 445  | 75. Hywel Green (Bristol)             | 190 |
| 26. Ian Black (St Albans)            | 439  | 76. Nicholas McKoy (Enfield)          | 190 |
| 27. Martin Adams (Ascot)             | 423  | 77. James Patterson (North Walsham)   | 186 |
| 28. Stephen Bettison (Nailsea)       | 401  | 78. Andrew Hawes (Taverham)           | 185 |
| 29. Stephen Baggaley (Milton Keynes) | 396  | 79. Nicholas Bradford (Maidenhead)    | 181 |
| 30. Andrew Houghton (T Wells)        | 394  | 80. Matthew Greenwood (Amersham)      | 177 |
| 31. Peter Bowler (Dunstable)         | 389  | 81. Julian Whiting (Taverham)         | 175 |
| 32. Paul Carter (Coulsden)           | 381  | 82. Jonathan Collins (Wisbech)        | 174 |
| 33. Darryl Sneyd (Oldham)            | 371  | 83. Mark Bawden (Launceston)          | 170 |
| 34. Mark Beaumont (Leighton Buzzard) | 370  | 84. Richard Pratley (Worcester)       | 162 |
| 35. Christopher White (Ippelpen)     | 349  | 85. Paul Bickell (Branscore)          | 160 |
| 36. Paul Wood (Southwell)            | 348  | 86. Mark Wilson (Taverham)            | 157 |
| 37. Stephen Hanks (Burton-on-Trent)  | 331  | 87. Jonathan Cockburn (Taverham)      | 157 |
| 38. Sean Gaylard (Plymouth)          | 319  | 88. Michael Roughley (Washington)     | 156 |
| 39. Stephen Horsfield (Sheffield)    | 304  | 89. Morris Greenberg (New Barnet)     | 155 |
| 40. Gregory Bridgett (Plymouth)      | 302  | 90. Matthew Rushton (St Ives)         | 148 |
| 41. Colin Bowler (Dunstable)         | 297  | 91. Michael Curry (Newcastle)         | 147 |
| 42. Michael Parker (Stockport)       | 290  | 92. Keith Buers (Essex)               | 143 |
| 43. Andrew Bevan (Bude)              | 290  | 93. Neil Simms (Pontefract)           | 141 |
| 44. Ian Collier (Sunderland)         | 289  | 94. Christopher Kinsey (Leicester)    | 138 |
| 45. Jason Williams (Boston)          | 287  | 95. Peter Wilson (Norfolk)            | 137 |
| 46. Graham Cook (Pontefract)         | 284  | 96. Christopher Nicholls (Selby)      | 135 |
| 47. Brian Mileham (Margate)          | 284  | 97. Martin Vickers (Bradford)         | 133 |
| 48. Timothy Pike (Wakefield)         | 281  | 98. Bradley Clutton (Ilford)          | 133 |
| 49. Richard Grant (Nottingham)       | 280  | 99. Lee Robinson (Scunthorpe)         | 131 |
| 50. Ian Bird (Rushden)               | 280  | 100. Simon Holmes (Sheffield)         | 130 |

#### GIRLS

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Andrea Holt (Ramsbottom)        | 1741 |
| 2. Claire Potts (Chester)          | 1335 |
| 3. Deborah Toole (Normanton)       | 1258 |
| 4. Julie Billington (Chesterfield) | 984  |
| 5. Julie Norman (Newbury)          | 978  |
| 6. Joanna Roberts (Leeds)          | 969  |
| 7. Caroline Buckley (Renhold)      | 803  |
| 8. Kerry Hall (Chesterfield)       | 777  |
| 9. Ellen Meddings (Harrogate)      | 752  |
| 10. Nicola McGrath (Preston)       | 613  |
| 11. Andrea Ambrose (Ipswich)       | 605  |
| 12. Kate Gower (Ingatesone)        | 516  |
| 13. Jane Wright (Plymouth)         | 483  |
| 14. Helen Wright (Plymouth)        | 457  |
| 15. Helen Potts (Chester)          | 424  |
| 16. Katherine Goodall (Leeds)      | 417  |
| 17. Alison Gower (Ingatesone)      | 361  |
| 18. Linda Radford (Upminster)      | 357  |
| 19. Maria Thornley (Chorley)       | 345  |
| 20. Karen Perkins (Ipswich)        | 322  |
| 21. Joanne Keighley (Shipley)      | 310  |
| 22. Julie Forster (Loughborough)   | 309  |
| 23. Julie Brion (Aylesbury)        | 305  |
| 24. Helen Stephens (Grantham)      | 300  |
| 25. Susan Lawton (Ormsby)          | 298  |
| 26. Emma Hurling (Berkhamsted)     | 279  |
| 27. Sara Williams (Hillingdon)     | 261  |
| 28. Anne Pashley (Guisborough)     | 249  |
| 29. Maria Williams (Herts, N3)     | 248  |
| 30. Sarah Pengelly (Paignton)      | 246  |
| 31. Dawn Barnett (Banbury)         | 243  |
| 32. Tina Sadler (Yeovil)           | 242  |
| 33. Caroline Seaholme (Watford)    | 234  |
| 34. Nicola Deaton (Chesterfield)   | 234  |
| 35. Tracy Scott-Pawson (B'mouth)   | 228  |
| 36. Rebecca Fisher (Tottenham)     | 220  |
| 37. Tracey Cole (Crawley)          | 204  |
| 38. Sarah Creasey (M. Drayton)     | 200  |
| 39. Karen Richardson (Oldham)      | 195  |
| 40. Sally Marling (Hull)           | 176  |
| 41. Lisa Crick (Maidenhead)        | 175  |
| 42. Elizabeth Creasey (M. Drayton) | 169  |
| 43. Samantha Marling (Hull)        | 166  |
| 44. Alison Ledwith (Birmingham)    | 162  |
| 45. Barbara Smallwood (Formby)     | 134  |
| 46. Anna Watton (Stoke Green)      | 124  |
| 47. Joanne Webber (Bridgwater)     | 119  |
| 48. Sally Johnson (Lincoln)        | 119  |
| 49. Sally Hughes (Banbury)         | 118  |
| 50. Gail Ottolini (M. Drayton)     | 118  |

Please note that this list does not contain group match results for the Derby 2-Star Select, East Midlands Leeds Youth Cup and the London and South East Leeds Youth Cup.

### LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE LEAGUE

Winners and runners-up in the sixteen divisions for the 1987/88 season were:

|                |                |                   |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Men</b>     | <b>Winners</b> | <b>Runners-up</b> |
| Division 1     | Liverpool      | Bolton            |
| Division 2N    | Burnley        | Blackpool         |
| Division 2S    | Liverpool 'A'  | Ellesmere Port    |
| Division 3N    | Southport      | Warrington 'A'    |
| Division 3S    | Farnworth      | Oldham 'A'        |
| Division 4N    | Rochdale       | Rochdale 'A'      |
| Division 4S    | Halton         | Lytham 'A'        |
| <b>Women</b>   |                |                   |
| Division 1     | Preston        | Oldham            |
| Division 2     | Macclesfield   | Ellesmere Port    |
| <b>Juniors</b> |                |                   |
| Division 1     | Barrow         | Oldham            |
| Division 2A    | Hyde           | Oldham 'A'        |
| Division 2B    | Oldham 'B'     | Burnley 'A'       |
| Division 3     | Barrow 'A'     | Oldham 'C'        |

### MIDLAND LEAGUE

#### MEN'S DIVISION I

Birmingham 6 Notts B 4  
Gloucester 8, Wolves A 2

|              |          |          |          |          |            |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
|              | <b>P</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>Pts</b> |
| Gloucester A | 5        | 5        | 0        | 0        | 10         |
| Birmingham   | 3        | 3        | 0        | 0        | 6          |
| Derby        | 4        | 2        | 0        | 2        | 4          |
| Notts A      | 4        | 2        | 0        | 2        | 4          |
| Wolves A     | 6        | 2        | 0        | 4        | 4          |
| Coventry A   | 4        | 1        | 0        | 3        | 2          |
| Notts B      | 6        | 1        | 0        | 5        | 2          |

Andrew Rich (Wolves A) 13

#### DIVISION II

Bath 10, Loughboro' 0  
Chesterfield 3, Glos B 7

|              |          |          |          |          |            |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
|              | <b>P</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>Pts</b> |
| Bath         | 5        | 4        | 0        | 1        | 8          |
| Gloucester B | 4        | 4        | 0        | 0        | 8          |
| Nuneaton     | 4        | 2        | 0        | 2        | 4          |
| Dudley       | 5        | 2        | 0        | 3        | 4          |
| Chesterfield | 4        | 0        | 1        | 3        | 1          |
| Loughboro'   | 4        | 0        | 1        | 3        | 1          |

W. Dawe (Glos B) 10

#### from JOHN BARBER

#### DIVISION III

Stafford 6 Pontesbury 4

|              |          |          |          |          |            |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
|              | <b>P</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>Pts</b> |
| Stafford     | 5        | 4        | 1        | 0        | 9          |
| Lincoln      | 4        | 2        | 0        | 2        | 4          |
| Leicester    | 4        | 2        | 0        | 2        | 4          |
| Leamington A | 3        | 1        | 1        | 1        | 3          |
| Pontesbury   | 4        | 1        | 0        | 3        | 2          |
| Banbury A    | 4        | 0        | 2        | 2        | 2          |

Colin Braxton (Staffs) 13

#### DIVISION IV

Banbury B 3, Cheltenham 7

|            |          |          |          |          |            |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
|            | <b>P</b> | <b>W</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>L</b> | <b>Pts</b> |
| Coventry B | 5        | 5        | 0        | 0        | 10         |
| Leam Spa B | 4        | 3        | 0        | 1        | 6          |
| Bromsgrove | 5        | 2        | 1        | 2        | 5          |
| Cheltenham | 5        | 2        | 1        | 2        | 5          |
| Banbury B  | 5        | 1        | 0        | 4        | 2          |
| Stratford  | 4        | 0        | 0        | 4        | 0          |

# The misery of the rubber ban

by GARRY KNIGHTS (Cadet)

MARCH 26: Eagerly awaiting next weekend's Cadet Top 12 and then the two-day Essex Select. Mention in the press of the problems Carl Prean experienced with Lentec rubber at the Europeans. I don't anticipate any problems however as the Top 12 is a closed tournament; anyway didn't the seniors play to only 11 points at their event earlier in the season?

## Common sense prevailing?

The Essex could be a problem but surely commonsense will prevail and if changes have to be made players will be notified and a certain period of time will elapse. Anyway my coach tells me the Essex is a domestic tournament and is not therefore covered by the ITTF ruling.

27/28/29 March: Off school and final preparation for the two events: three hours of practice on each day and hoping to justify my number 2 ranking in both competitions. More details in the national press about the Lentec problems but no correspondence from either the ETTA office or the tournament referees about any changes domestically.

## Intense competition

30 March: A day off which gives me time to reflect that it does seem odd to have four consecutive days of intense competition for junior players on the tournament calendar; over the entire Easter weekend too! I realise it is very expensive for parents.

31 March: We arrive in Milton Keynes over an hour before the competition is due to commence and have a half-hour practice on the tournament tables.

## Heated exchanges

At 10.20am I go onto court for my first match. The umpire looks at my bat and takes it to the referee. I am told that I cannot compete with a Lentec rubber on one face of my bat. There are heated exchanges as my dad joins in the discussion but officialdom seems relatively unconcerned and as usual prevails. Finally we decide to withdraw from the tournament.

Due to the absence of a junior player I am also eligible for their Top 12 and I decided to play in that using two reverse rubbers. I have a miserable two days losing all my games, not surprising as it is the first time I have used a conventional combination for at least two years.

During the weekend we purchase various long pimple alternatives and attempt the practice with them between games. Such purchases are very expensive and as a result my mum decides not to join us for overnight accommodation over the next couple of days.

2 April: We arrive in Harlow and wait to see what the situation is there. One entrance however there is a note posted which states that Lentec rubbers are illegal for the competition. We decide to stay for the junior tournament but after two rounds, again with two reverse, I lose to someone I am ranked above and have previously beaten. More opportunities to gain ranking points are lost particularly as the No 1 seed in my half of the draw, has withdrawn.

## Alternative rubbers

We were going to stay overnight in Harlow in preparation for the Cadet competition. However it seems sensible to return home a day early and practice with alternative rubbers.

At 6.35pm we prepare to leave and as we do so my dad expresses his disappointment to the tournament organiser about the situation relating to Lentec. To our surprise, as we would not have known had we not spoken to the official, we are told that Lentec rubbers will, after all, be allowed the following day!

We are so frustrated by the events of the past few days that we decide to go home anyway. En route to the car it was thoughtful of Stuart Sneyd to express his regrets on behalf of the association but of little comfort.

## £70 spent on rubber

Down the Cadet ranking list for not competing in two major events, unable to take advantage of a good draw in the juniors, £70 spent on purchasing new rubbers and a large petrol, accommodation and subsistence bill.

PS — Thursday, 7 April: Donald Parker rang to say that Lentec rubbers were reinstated for both domestic and open tournaments.

## SOUTH WEST REGION NEWS

by ALF PEPPARD

### Cadets

Penultimate rounds seven and eight still give no clue as to the 1988 overall winners. Bristol, Swindon and Inter City (Plymouth) are locked together as possible champions with Gloucester and Cambourne favoured outsiders, only April's results will reveal who are to be 'Best in the West'.

### Veterans

2,000 *Dynasty of Ping*.

Ages of veterans competing in the north and south divisions total an amazing 2,000 years.

Grand master is Chas Davies, a veteran of 72 years still playing regularly for his club Weston-super-Mare despite a hip replacement operation just two years ago. Favourites for 88 honours are Swindon, Longwell Green, Global and West Cornwall.

### The Leeds Senior

This newly formed section has proved a great success and produced some cracking table tennis.

Players are happy with the playing format especially the

fairer sex, who have given some of their male counterparts a hard time during competition, Bristol Newcomers head the table with Falmouth Docks in close contention.

### LEAGUE POSITIONS AT 7 APRIL

**The Leeds Senior**  
Bristol Newcomers  
Falmouth Docks  
Keynsham Pioneers  
Bristol Bruisers  
Plymouth A  
Exeter  
Launceston

**Veteran North**  
Swindon  
Longwell Green A  
Four Plus  
Mendip  
Longwell Green B  
Knightstone WSM

**Veteran South**  
Global, Plymouth  
West Cornwall  
Exmouth  
Launceston  
Trelawney  
Truro Choughs

# PLAYRITE'S

**PLAYRITE SPORTS**  
162 Chiltern Drive, Berrylands, Surbiton,  
Surrey KT5 8LS.  
9.00am to 5.30pm Mon-Sat  
Tel: 01-399 7417 (24hr ansaphone)

### ★ NEW SALE LINES ★ NEW SALE LINES ★

|                                    |       |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Yasaka 'Tornado' orange 1.5 or 2.0 | 10.00 |
| Yasaka 'Agathon' red/black 2.0     | 9.00  |
| Yasaka 'Cobra' pip out red 2.0     | £6.00 |
| Butterfly 'Surbek' blade, grip A   | £8.00 |
| Butterfly 'Jonyer' blade, grip A   | £7.00 |
| Butterfly 'English' blade, grip B  | £6.00 |

### 'SUPER SAVERS'

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Srivar         | £14.00 |
| Milford        | £16.00 |
| Vari Spin      | £14.00 |
| Friendship 729 | £11.00 |
| Magic Carbon   | £14.00 |

### BLADES

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| TSP all round | £12.00 |
| Tibhar IVS    | £13.00 |
| Tibhar IVL    | £13.00 |

### BATS

|                                                                                                               |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| All round offensive bat:<br>Surbek blade with Friendship 1.5 black forehand and SPECTOL rev, 1.5 red backhand | £20.00 |
| Defensive bat:<br>English blade with Cutman black 1.5 forehand and Silver Spot pip out red backhand           | £19.00 |
| TSP Anchi bat, red both sides                                                                                 | £4.00  |
| TSP Mistral bat, red both sides                                                                               | £5.00  |
| TSP Rapid bat, red both sides                                                                                 | £5.00  |

### ACCESSORIES

|                                        |       |
|----------------------------------------|-------|
| Stiga round bat case, red or blue      | £1.00 |
| Butterfly two bat wallet, red or navy  | £5.00 |
| TSP nylon holdall, red, black or beige | £5.00 |
| Kingfisher net and post set            | £6.00 |
| Stiga 'Clipper' net only               | £8.00 |

### CLUB AGENTS WANTED

To sell and promote table tennis equipment to teams and club members. Interested and want to know more?  
... Simply send your name and address to 'Playrites' for details. Vacancies in all areas.

**OFFER CLOSES: 31st JULY 1988**

**FAST-FONE: 01-399 7417 SAME DAY DESPATCH!**

## Lack of communication?

IN the March edition of *TT News* (page 4) you seemed to express some concern at the low number of entries received for the Leeds National Championships. I would have thought the cause was fairly obvious! In 1987 when I telephoned for entry forms I was refused them. Apparently entry was limited to top ranked players (top 50 or 64 or thereabouts). It therefore comes as no surprise to me that the entry for 1988 was low as it seems perfectly reasonable for players to have assumed that the same rules would have applied. I do not recall reading anywhere that the restriction had been lifted. Therefore your comment that '29 women is an appalling figure' is correct but how many know that there was no restriction on the entry?

MIKE LOVEDER

## More on invisible services

ALTHOUGH being originally a hard bat circa 1950s player, 'the modern game' I have witnessed at first hand at Cleveland, Brighton and Paris this season, allowing the server to mask the point of contact between bat and ball with his free arm, the receiver then having neither the knowledge of the direction, or spin imparted to the ball, in my view cannot be in the best interests of the sport, from either a playing point of view or in the interests of producing attractive play to bring in both spectators and new recruits to the game.

SYD FRYER  
8 Cleveland Road,  
Hale, Altrincham,  
Cheshire WA15 8AY.

## Increased enquiries in Dulwich

I THOUGHT you would want to know that in recent weeks the enquiries which I have received as League Secretary have increased substantially. The enclosed copy letter is typical of the enquiry and this has no doubt come about due to the recent increased publicity of the sport. Our committee wishes to express its congratulations to the ETTA on making the game come alive once again.

D. J. SMITH  
Secretary Dulwich Table Tennis League,  
2 Stradella Road, Herne Hill,  
London SE24 9HA.

## YORKSHIRE JUNIOR 2-STAR OPEN

# Billingtons' triumph

by REA BALMFORD

THE Yorkshire Junior Open at Halifax was a triumph for the Billington family with Bradley, in his final year as a junior, taking a further tenure on the JBS title and his younger sister Julie, now back to her best form after a year on the sidelines with injury problems, overpowering senior International Andrea Holt in the Girls' event.

Bradley, who beat Michael O'Driscoll in a repeat of last year's final, dropped only one game on his way to the title — to Grant Solder in the quarters — while the Yorkshire boy, in his semi, took out Jonathan Taylor, who himself had removed Andrew Eden, third round winner over fourth seeded Tom Cutler.



Neil Bevan

Seeded 1, Bradley would probably have been the bookies' favourite, but the same cannot be said for Julie, for whom this has been a year of rehabilitation. But the Chesterfield girl, who had shut the door on the higher ranked Debbie Toole and Julie Norman, took complete control of the final and, never allowing the holder to settle into her game, was a deserved winner.

Only holder to retain a title were O'Driscoll/Chris Oldfield, winners over Mark Ward/Adrian Thorp, who had come past Billington/Leigh Jeffries, in the Junior Boys' Doubles, while the

Girls' Doubles honours went to top seeds Toole/Joanna Roberts. They got the better of Samantha and Sally Marling, quarter final winners over Holt/Caroline Buckley.

Neil Bevan came through a Cadet Boys' Singles event in which only Ireland's John Bowe upset the seeding pattern when he ousted Jason Blake; an impressive Maria Thornley claimed the Girls' title past Katie Goodall, who had defeated Ellen Meddings.

### JUNIOR EVENTS

#### Junior Boys' Singles:

Semi-final: Bradley Billington (Dy) b Chris Oldfield (Y) 17, 21; Michael O'Driscoll b Jonathan Taylor (Ch) -19, 13, 10.

Final: Billington b O'Driscoll 17, 16.

#### Junior Girls' Singles:

Final: Julie Billington (Dy) b Andrea Holt (La) 10, 16.

#### Junior Boys' Doubles:

Semi-final: O'Driscoll/Oldfield b Mark Ward (Y)/Adrian Thorp (St) 5, 21.

#### Junior Girls' Doubles:

Final: Joanna Roberts/Debbie Toole (Y) b Samantha Marling/Sally Marling (Y) 19, -15, 19.

### CADET EVENTS

#### Cadet Boys' Singles:

Semi-final: Neil Bevan (Co) b Gary Knights (St) -18, 17, 16; Brian Mileham (K) b John Bowe (IRE) 6, 13. BEvan b Mileham 14, 7.

#### Cadet Girls' Singles:

Final: Maria Thornley (La) b Katie Goodall (Y) 19, 16, 11.

#### Cadet Boys' Doubles:

Final: Bevan/Knights b Martin Adams/Nicholas Bradfield (Bk) 22, 14.

#### Cadet Girls' Doubles:

Final: Goodall/Nicola Meddings (Wa) b Nicola Deaton (Dy)/Sally Marling -15, 16, 15.

### UNDER-12 EVENTS

#### Boys' Singles:

Final: Edward Hatley (Sy) b Andrew Nicholls (Y) -14, 19, 14.

#### Girls' Singles:

Sally Marling b Nicola Deaton 14, 20.

## THE CHELMSFORD CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Men's Singles:** Richard Darnell b Dave Newman -20, 17, 19.

**Ladies' Singles:** Julia Vansertima (née Dowsett; b Alison Gower 16, 11.

**Men's Doubles:** Martin Bawden/Steve Dettmar b Dave Newman/Dave Bowles 23, 17.

**Mixed Doubles:** Steve Dettmar/Julia Vansertima b Andrew Wadling/Kate Gower 20, 18.

**Under-21 Singles:** Richard Darnell b David Cole 15, 15.

**Ladies' Doubles:** Kim Dowsett (née Hayden)/Lisa Hayden b Cathy Eakin/Marilyn Bawden 16, 12.

## SOUTHERN REGION

by BRIAN LAMERTON

WHAT a great day we had in Southampton for the Leeds Youth Cup — from the moment early in the day when referee Mick Strode exclaimed 'Everybody's turned up — that has never happened to me before' to the moment some ten hours later when in the very last set of the day Oxfordshire's Dawn Barnett took her second title with a 22-20 third game victory — local Leeds manager Phil Ahern 'looked in' around 1.30 pm and was still there at 8.30 helping to clear up — financial and practical help — what fantastic sponsors we have!

**Junior Boys' Singles:** Martin Adams (Berks) b Stephen Baggeley 21-13, 18-21, 21-17.

**Junior Girls' Singles:** Dawn Barnett (Oxon) b Julie Brion (Bu) 21-15, 13-21, 22-20.

**Cadet Boys' Singles:** Gavin Yates (Oxon) b Nicky Bradfield (Berks) 21-15, 21-17.

**Cadet Girls' Singles:** Dawn Barnett (Oxon) b Nicola Cracknell (Berks) 21-15, 21-17.

**Boys' Doubles:** Stephen Baggeley/Richard Giblin (Bu) b Carl Hutchinson/Mark Shutler (Hants) 23-21, 21-15.

**Girls' Doubles:** Lisa Crick/Julie Norman (Berks) b Esther Baggeley/Anna Watton (Bu) 21-8, 21-10.

**Class 2 Junior Boys:** Martin Adams (Berks) b Paul Poulter (Oxon) 21-14, 11-21, 21-19.

**Junior Girls:** Lisa Crick (Berks) b Sallay Hughes (Oxon) 21-19, 21-12.

**Cadet Boys:** Daniel Hacker (Hants) b Ben Johnson (Berks) 21-17, 21-8.

**Cadet Girls:** Clare Woodham (Hants) b Michelle Angus (IoW) 21-16, 19-21, 21-15.

Cippenham A are the first winners of the Leeds Southern Regional Men's League — they remain unbeaten with two matches to go and are in an unassailable position. To Frank Earis, Alec Watson and Steve Brindle the credits.

Generation 2 also with a 100% match record to date have landed the ladies league but not, as they had hoped with a nil sets against record — Sarah Turner lost twice in the 3-2 defeat of Cippenham.

| Mens          | P  | W  | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|---------------|----|----|---|----|----|-----|
| Cippenham A   | 10 | 10 | 0 | 71 | 19 | 30  |
| Kingfisher A  | 10 | 8  | 2 | 60 | 30 | 23  |
| Generation II | 8  | 4  | 4 | 36 | 36 | 13  |
| Hursley       | 8  | 4  | 4 | 40 | 32 | 12  |
| Isle of Wight | 10 | 3  | 7 | 33 | 57 | 8   |
| Kingfisher B  | 8  | 2  | 6 | 24 | 48 | 6   |
| Cippenham B   | 10 | 1  | 9 | 24 | 66 | 4   |

| Ladies        | P | W | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Generation II | 7 | 7 | 0 | 31 | 4  | 19  |
| Cippenham     | 7 | 3 | 4 | 18 | 17 | 11  |
| Isle of Wight | 6 | 0 | 6 | 1  | 29 | 0   |

# The new Leeds competition

## St Neots win at home

by NEIL HURFORD

WITH £250 in prize money from the Leeds Building Society, the Eastern Region Club League has had a successful first season. Seven teams from five counties competed in the inaugural competition but the St Neots club, making full use of home advantage, proved unstoppable. Dropping only five sets in six matches they emerged as worthy winners of the £200 first prize. Runners-up Soham, with only one defeat, collected £50. The outstanding individual performance was that of Helen Bardwell (St Neots) who was undefeated throughout the competition.

All the matches took place at the St Neots club and the superb facilities this provides for table tennis undoubtedly contributed to the success of the competition.

Plans are already in hand for next season's competition when it is hoped to expand the size of the competition to ten teams. Any teams in the Eastern Region who are interested in taking part should contact either their

County General Secretary or the League Administrator — Neil Hurford, 23 Parishes Mead, Stevenage, Herts. Tel: Stevenage 362805.



### FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

|               | P | W | L | Pts |
|---------------|---|---|---|-----|
| St Neots      | 6 | 6 | 0 | 18  |
| Soham         | 6 | 5 | 1 | 15  |
| Needle        | 6 | 4 | 2 | 12  |
| British Sugar | 6 | 1 | 5 | 5   |
| Peterborough  | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5   |
| Trimley       | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5   |
| St Ives       | 6 | 1 | 5 | 4   |

## West Midland Regional Club League

### FINAL LEAGUE TABLE 1987/88

| Team         | P  | W  | D | L  | F   | A   | Pts |
|--------------|----|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| West Warwick | 14 | 13 | 0 | 1  | 120 | 20  | 26  |
| Burslem      | 14 | 12 | 0 | 2  | 101 | 39  | 24  |
| Thorns       | 14 | 10 | 0 | 4  | 100 | 40  | 20  |
| Leckie       | 14 | 9  | 1 | 4  | 90  | 50  | 19  |
| Sheffield    | 14 | 3  | 2 | 9  | 38  | 102 | 8   |
| Norton       | 14 | 3  | 1 | 10 | 38  | 102 | 7   |
| Four Pools   | 14 | 2  | 1 | 11 | 39  | 101 | 5   |
| Grove        | 14 | 2  | 1 | 11 | 34  | 106 | 5   |

**Best individual performance:** Dougie Johnson (West Warwick) Played 24 Won 24.

### INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES 1987/88

| Player       | Team | Played | Won | %   |
|--------------|------|--------|-----|-----|
| D. Johnson   | 1    | 24     | 24  | 100 |
| S. Claxton   | 1    | 24     | 23  | 96  |
| J. Riley     | 2    | 26     | 22  | 85  |
| R. Dixon     | 3    | 22     | 18  | 82  |
| S. Roden     | 3    | 26     | 20  | 77  |
| S. Upson     | 1    | 22     | 17  | 77  |
| I. Miller    | 2    | 16     | 12  | 75  |
| J. Hancock   | 2    | 14     | 10  | 71  |
| B. Payton    | 3    | 26     | 18  | 69  |
| M. Roden     | 3    | 26     | 17  | 65  |
| P. Pearce    | 4    | 26     | 17  | 65  |
| K. Baker     | 4    | 26     | 16  | 61  |
| R. Till      | 4    | 18     | 11  | 61  |
| D. Savage    | 2    | 14     | 8   | 57  |
| R. Hoare     | 1    | 16     | 9   | 56  |
| N. Felton    | 5    | 16     | 9   | 56  |
| K. Lawrence  | 5    | 20     | 9   | 45  |
| S. Cull      | 7    | 16     | 7   | 44  |
| P. Baker     | 4    | 18     | 7   | 39  |
| A. Stokes    | 5    | 16     | 6   | 37  |
| S. Davis     | 5    | 16     | 6   | 37  |
| M. McFarland | 7    | 28     | 10  | 36  |
| K. Sefton    | 7    | 20     | 5   | 25  |
| C. Green     | 7    | 26     | 6   | 23  |
| M. Jeffrey   | 8    | 24     | 3   | 12  |
| M. Turner    | 8    | 24     | 2   | 8   |
| I. Hand      | 8    | 24     | 2   | 8   |

**Qualification:** Minimum of 14 sets

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Team 1 West Warwick | Team 5 Sheffield  |
| Team 2 Burslem      | Team 6 Norton     |
| Team 3 Thorns       | Team 7 Four Pools |
| Team 4 Leckie       | Team 8 Grove      |

## LEEDS YOUTH CUP

# The finals

by MIKE WATTS

THIS season, thanks to the generosity of our major sponsors, the Leeds Permanent Building Society, a new event commenced — the Leeds Youth Cup. Organised by the Regional Co-ordinating Committees earlier this year, nine Regional events were staged with the winners of the four main events — Junior Boys and Girls Singles coming together with the top three ranked players in each category for the grand finals.

The final has been arranged for Monday 30 May at the Crystal Palace Sports Centre, Norwood, London SE19, commencing at 11.30am with finals scheduled for 5.15pm. The tournament will commence with group play, with the group winners then contesting semi-finals and finals.

This exciting new venture will now become an essential part of our Junior Development bringing into focus new talent from all over the country. Already over 750 players entered in the first year and our hope is to double this in 1988/89.

### Junior Boys Singles

Bradley Billington (Derby)  
 Matthew Syed (Berks)  
 Michael O'Driscoll (Yorks)  
 Grant Solder (Essex)  
 Neil Bevan (Cornwall)  
 Martin Adams (Berks)  
 Niel Pickard (Norfolk)  
 David Morris (Shropshire)  
 Jason Bamford (Notts)  
 Chris Oldfield (Yorks)  
 Michael Nisbet (Cleveland)  
 Jonathan Taylor (Lancs)

### Junior Girls Singles

Andrea Holt (Lancs)  
 Claire Potts (Cheshire)  
 Debbie Toole (Yorks)  
 Sara Williams (Middx)  
 Jane Wright (Devon)  
 Dawn Barnett (Oxon)  
 Andrea Ambrose (Suffolk)  
 Sarah Creasey (Shropshire)  
 Julie Billington (Derby)  
 Ellen Meddings (Yorks)  
 Anne Pashley (Cleveland)  
 Nicola McGrath (Lancs)

### Cadet Boys Singles

Neil Bevan (Cornwall)  
 Brian Mileham (Kent)  
 Gary Knights (Derby)  
 Jason Blake (Surrey)  
 Jonathan Maggs (Cornwall)  
 Gavin Yates (Oxon)  
 James Patterson (Norfolk)  
 Lee Horton (Worcester)  
 Peter Furneaux (Notts)  
 Martin Vickers (Yorks)  
 Barry Forster (Northumberland)  
 Darren Howarth (Lancs)

### Cadet Girls Singles

Ellen Meddings (Yorks)  
 Helen Wright (Devon)  
 Helen Potts (Cheshire)  
 Sara Williams (Middx)  
 Rachel Boon (Cornwall)  
 Dawn Barnett (Oxon)  
 Sarah Seaholme (Herts)  
 Elizabeth Creasey (Shropshire)  
 Nicola Deaton (Derby)  
 Katie Goodall (Yorks)  
 Caroline Watt (Cumbria)  
 Maria Thornley (Lancs)

## Grimsby closed

THIS was once again dominated by Matt Shearer and Connie Moran, though special congratulations must go to Kath Fisher for winning the Ladies' Singles title for the first time in over 30 years of entering the tournament. Another outstanding result was by Gary Moran and Ian Walker in the Men's Doubles, who defeated Bill Moran and Roger Blow in the final after knocking out long-standing champions Matt Shearer and Brian Allison in the semis.

**Men's Singles:** Final — M. Shearer b J. Lilley 15, 10.

**Ladies' Singles:** Final — K. Fisher v C. Moran 20, -14, 18.

**Men's Veterans:** Final — M. Shearer b B. Allison 17, 15.

**Ladies' Veterans:** Final — C. Moran b K. Fisher 12, 24.

**Men's Doubles:** Final — G. Moran/I. Walker b B. Moran/R. Blow -17, 21, 12.

**Ladies' Doubles:** Final — C. Moran/K. Fisher b J. Smith/G. Sizer 10, 10.

**Mixed Doubles:** Final — M. Shearer/C. Moran b P. Taylor/H. Everett 13, 12.

**Boys' Singles:** Final — W. Noun b J. Cotton 11, 10.

**Girls' Singles:** Final — Samantha Brown b Rachel Heywood 12, 16.

### Scunthorpe closed

**Men's Singles:** Andy Thompson b Dave Skerratt 13, 19.

**Ladies' Singles:** Donna Hornsey b Serena Grey 16, -19, 19.

**Junior Singles:** Johnny Rowson b Lee Robinson 13, 16.

**Open Doubles:** J. Rowson/P. Rowson b T. Cook/S. Barnes 20, -10, 16.

**Draw Doubles:** P. Rowson/B. Sheppard b A. Kelly/D. Midwinter 12, 8.

# Final crossword of the season (Repeated)

Crossword Compiler

Eric Hall invites you

to have a go —

**1st Prize** —  
**Blade** of your choice

Supplied by DSR Leisure,

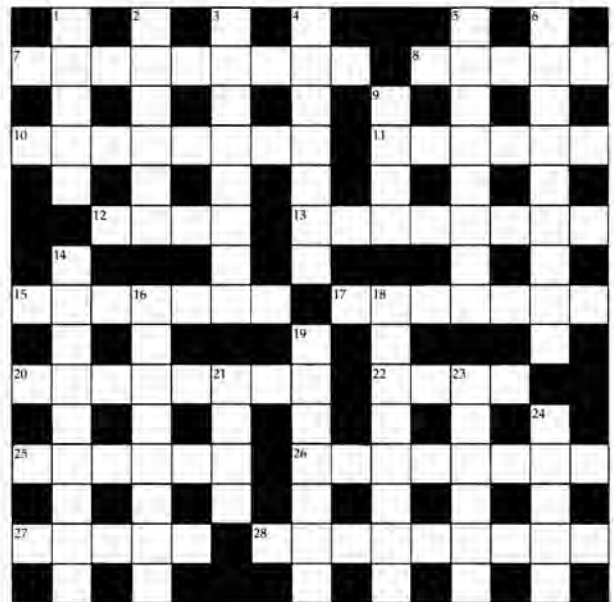
distributor of the complete Stiga

range of table tennis equipment

plus three consolation prizes of professional mini bats supplied by

**CLIVE OAKMAN**  
**Table Tennis**

CROSSWORD No. 11



Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

## CLUES

### ACROSS

- 7. See 10
- 8. Ed comes back chewing gum to find Essex Lady (5)
- 10, 7, 5, 15. Benefactor to change rich Table Tennis money pledged? Use it! (3, 5, 9, 8, 7)
- 11. Crowned Head of Detectives? (6)
- 12. Find Rupert with Miss Derek and the French (4)
- 13. Dig treat arranged for Ian (8)
- 15. See 10
- 17. Illumination inside as one leaves bus (7)
- 20. Is Al a clone of a Sussex Junior? (4, 4)
- 22. Dismiss broken down red light district (4)
- 25. Weapons in Author's words can be mightier than the pen! (6)
- 26. Dark warm mixture of young Northern talent (4, 4)
- 27. Deceitfully supine? (5)
- 28. Wild colt Carey is related to 20 (5, 4)

### DOWN

- 1. Rivulet he found in Hell? (5)
- 2. Distribute alms to bits of coloured glass (6)
- 3. Reset tin deposit gains benefit of joining 10 etc (8)
- 4. Strange conclusion from United Nations, though with normal ending (7)
- 5. See 10
- 6. Make scrambled egg, a great concoction, all considered (9)
- 9. Tony rides into the sunset (4)
- 14. Wally and Rosa combine in moving tables (9)
- 16. Canadian No 1 took mixed ration, and didn't know why! (8)
- 18. Eric ails terribly to find clue for Hampshire Junior! (4, 4)
- 19. Study foreign currency in adjoining country (7)
- 21. Achieve coup with vicious takeover? (4)
- 23. Veteran Coach shows tricks, with without super-star training rota system initially (6)
- 24. Debbie used to reach new heights. Fantastic! (5)

**THIS CROSSWORD IS A REPEAT  
OF THE LAST ISSUE — NEW  
CLOSING DATE — 16 JULY**

### RESULTS OF CROSSWORD No. 10

February issue

Winner: A. L. Seward, 40 Wren Close, Frome, Somerset.

Runners-up: (1) John Hatfield, Mousehole Forge, Malin Bridge, Sheffield S6 5FF.

(2) Sarah Pigram, 56 Chestnut Road, Loggerheads, Market Drayton, Shropshire TF9 4RE.

(3) Michael Nisbet, 4 Abbots Way, Fairfield, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19 7SR.



Entries should be sent to Mr Eric Hall, 38, Littlemoor Crescent, Newbold, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 8QJ.  
Closing Date: 16 JULY. Answers published: OCTOBER.

# Did you draw the winner?

## ETTA LINCOLN LOTTERY RESULTS

- 075223 CUEVE CHARLIE  
138918 SILVER HAZE
- 072751 MISS CUDDLES  
018594 JAZETAS  
066884 NOORA ABU  
081653 CRY FOR THE CLOWN  
192455 LANCE  
077375 SHARBLASK  
018536 GENOBRA  
160512 SINGLE  
030570 JUST A FLUTTER  
110126 BALTHUS
- 058302 STAR OF A GUNNER  
088796 TERMINATOR
- 011245 ALVEDOTE MAGIC  
151363 MY BLDYD  
074409 TRIBUTE TO YOUTH  
030675 TROJAN SONG
- 041447 COINCIDENTAL  
088780 SHARON'S ROYALE
- 014197 HARD AS IRON
- 064584 REGAL AMBITION  
381945 ALL FAIR  
159677 LADY LA PAZ
- 012038 FALLING LEAF  
149151 ELEGANT ISLE  
059177 MIGHTY GLOW  
086408 GRUNDY LANE  
146543 FOUNTAINCOURT  
180301 MISS SARAJANE  
125937 HENRY WILL  
165674 NICORIDGE  
144332 UNPAID MEMBER  
154179 BIRWAS  
042476 KALEIDOPHONE  
139447 CHRISTINA SCHAD  
026012 EMPEROR HOTFOOT  
147544 ALQIRM
- 065602 MOUNT TUMBLEDOWN  
124150 FUSILIER  
189895 PLAGUE O'RATS  
144512 XHAI  
154163 SHEER NECTAR
- 161010 BELOW ZERO
- 057706 ABLE DANCER  
090670 SERGEANT MERYLL
- 133003 SONG N'JEST  
194875 ACONITUM
- 077389 GRUMBLE  
092131 YOUNG SNUGFIT
- 144599 MILAN FAIR  
052761 MISS EMILY  
043457 GURTEEN BOY  
138928 SIR PERCY
- 089975 CONMAY JO  
024052 OUR GINGER  
167773 AIR COMMAND  
035406 SOHAIL  
381697 MALIPIERO  
144219 STAR OF IRELAND  
032182 PINCTADA
- 077161 CHEERFUL TIMES  
042688 RED RIVER BOY  
057991 MOORES METAL  
025605 DUELLING  
015903 SPIGOT SHAFT
- 034339 NAP MAJESTICA  
165005 CASUAL PASS  
159146 CIGAR  
032191 OLYMPIC CHALLENGER  
092261 QUALITAIR FLYER  
096388 CLOUDLESS SKY
- 056150 SILK THREAD  
086302 THE STRAY BULLET
- 061366 NIPPY CHIPPY  
065006 IMPROVISE  
014801 LJS PARROT
- D. Sellers, 79 Antrobus Road, Amesbury, Wilts.  
Miss M. Wagner, Area Education Officer, 'Craig Lea',  
Uplands Road, Darlington DL3 7SW.  
C. Wood, 27 Plumtree, Thorngumbald, Hull.  
J. Jones, 25 Kennedy Avenue, Alford, Lincs.  
K. Newell, 130 Tithe Road, Chatteris, Cambs.  
Mrs B. Minton, 48 Hillside, Egley Road, Woking, Surrey.  
T. Oliver, 15 Staington Place, Eaton Socon, Cambs PE19 3PH.  
Miss C. White, 70 Bremeridge Road, Westbury, Wilts.  
A. Sorby, 80 Lauthorpe Avenue, Skegness, S. Humberside.  
Mr Grant, 165 Scartha Road, Grimby, S. Humberside.  
N. Flanagan, 105 Elm Drive, Stretford, Manchester M32.  
Miss E. Gibb, 15 Hadrian Close, Lillington, Leamington Spa,  
Warwicks.
- Mrs M. May, 19 Brook Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.  
M. McMahon, Command Pay Office, RAMC Worthy Down,  
Winchester, Hants.
- A. L. E. Mord, C. Hoare & Co, 37 Fleet Street, London EC4.  
D. Dawkins, 4 Gleneagles Close, Mickleover, Derby.  
H. Tarr, Lloyds Bank PLC, 38 Market Place, Devizes, Wilts.  
S. Gill, Bowring Schofields Ltd, 13 St Anne Street,  
Manchester M60 8BA.
- P. Firth, 21 Green Lane, Eccleshall, Staffs.  
S. Milligan, Imp Audit Wing, Command Pay Office, RAMC  
Worthy Down, Winchester, Hants.
- J. S. Ennis, C. Hoare & Co, 32 Lowndes Street, London  
SW1X 9HZ.
- K. Livermore, 27 Orchard Estate, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge  
B. Dinkley, c/o A.B.P., Blisworth, Northants.  
A. Surtlee, John Sutcliffe & Son (Grimby) Ltd, Market Street,  
Grimby DN31 1QT.
- J. Witching, 213 Bergholt Road, Colchester, Essex CO4 5AQ.  
J. Stephenson, 57 Cunningham Way, Bilton, Rugby CV22 7JD.  
Mr Lowe, Old Mill House, Bardsea, Ulverston, Cumbria.  
P. Ashmore, Heath Cottage, Shedfield Common, Soton SO3  
2JE.
- Miss S. Nicholson, 216 Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent.  
E. Clarke, Flints, Barmingham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.  
T. Manning, YMCA Penzance, Cornwall.
- M. S. Jones, 37 Brunswick Crescent, Great Sutton, S. Wirral.  
Miss B. Fisher, 32 Westlands Avenue, Tetney, Lincs.  
R. M. Jones, 16 Salisbury Road, Horwich, Bolton BL6 6LN.  
V. S. Harrison, 108 Fillybrooks, Walton, Stone ST15 0DL.  
S. Lyall, 12 Leicester Grove, Darlington, Yorks.  
Miss L. Paton, 106 Dee Road, Tilehurst, Reading.  
F. Tilling, Precision Metal Ltd, Masons Road, Stratford-on-  
Avon, Warwick.
- D. Ash, 291 Cherryhinton Road, Cambridge.  
M. Penaluna, 14 Park View Road, Helston, Cornwall.  
Miss S. Hardy, 27 Millfield Road, Ikleston, Derbys.  
J. Young, Chestnut View, Goxhill, S. Humberside.  
St. Johns Club, Wigan Table Tennis League.  
T. Cook, The Old Post House, Main Street, Cleeve Prior,  
Evesham, Worcs WR11 5LD.
- D. Regan, 171 Schneider Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.  
D. Welch, 36 Orchard Avenue, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh,  
Hants.
- S. Cragg, 41 Woodbrook Road, Abbey Wood, London SE2 0PE.  
N. D. Laws, 14 Eastern Road, Thorpe St Ann, Norwich,  
Norfolk.
- N. Bond, 2 Ham Cottages, The Ham, Westbury, Wilts.  
K. Burgess, Woolwich Equitable Building Society, Bexleyheath,  
Kent DA7 6BP.
- M. Parsons, Budforth Farm, Barrow, S. Humberside.  
R. H. Garland, 'Hylands', 28 Hawkers Lane, Wells, Somerset.  
Miss S. Herritt, 19 Lower Milhouse Lane, Newcastle, Staffs.  
Mrs A. Haines, 28 South Side, Middridge, Nr Darlington, Co  
Durham.
- J. Adams, 13 Ashley Gardens, Waltham Chase, Southampton,  
F. Brewster, 2 Curl Way, Wokingham, Berks.  
Mrs I. Gillett, 41 Holliers Hill, Bexhill, E. Sussex.  
Miss F. Juliane, GSV, 6 Royce Road, Peterborough, Cambs.  
G. Walmesley, 7 Sherwood Avenue, Northampton.  
Miss S. Kent, 5 Chapel Lane, Nettleham, Lincoln.  
J. Ogden, 3 Acklane West, Cheadle Hulme, Stockport,  
Cheshire.
- Miss W. Windley, 6 Hayes Close, Trowbridge,  
Wilts.
- M. G. Lloyd, 38 Badgers Croft, Ecceshall,  
Stafford.
- J. Taylor, 37 Lancashire Road, Millom, Cumbria  
LA18 4AW.
- E. Bullen, Gillette Reading Club.  
Miss K. Thompson, Swiss Bank Corporation, 99  
Gresham Street, London EC2.
- C. Moore, 6 Stamford Close, Market Deeping, Cambs.  
T. Marshall, 174 Sealand Road, Sealand, Chester.  
M. Picking, 79 Thorngay Road, Cleethorpes DN35 0HL.  
B. Bland, 5 Alan Avenue, Failsworth, Manchester.  
Mrs E. Thomas, 57 Sibthorpe Road, Lee, London SE12.  
Mrs M. Bowen, 34 Albright Road, Oldbury, Warley, West  
Midlands.
- H. Hutchinson, 21 King Street, Ulverston, Cumbria.  
M. A. Neame, Flint Cottage, Albert Road, Bishops  
Waltham, Hants SC5 3DL.
- B. Smedley, 2 Balfour Road, London SE25.  
L. Richardson, 43 Centre Drive, Newmarket, Suffolk.  
M. Wild, National Australia Bank Ltd, 6-8 Tokenhouse Yard,  
London EC2R 7AJ).

## KINSELLA STILL IN THE COLD

THE Irish senior table tennis selectors may also have a penchant for shooting themselves in the foot!

Last year, Kevin Keane's omission from the World Championship team sparked off a row which served of little tangible benefit to the Dubliner's retirement at 27 after a decade's international service.

Now it's the exclusion of Martin Kinsella from Ireland's European Championship team which has left the selectors open to flak.

But this time there'll be no public slanging matches. Kinsella has accepted the verdict sanguinely, although he is totally baffled as to how the selectors reached their decision.

### Consistent

On results alone, the 31 year-old Derbyshire-based player was the most consistent of all contenders to join Colin Slevin on the team. But Kinsella was overlooked in favour of Ulster pair Jim Dill and Andrew Dennison, whose results were clearly inferior.

### Cursory scrutiny

Indeed, even a cursory scrutiny of the ranking tournaments this season would bear that out. Kinsella won the Leinster Open and Irish Close and was the only Irish player to reach the semi-finals in the Ulster Open.

## A MOVE BY SIMON HOBSON

SIMON HOBSON formally of Sport Technic International Ltd has formed his own company distributing sports goods to the trade.



Simon Hobson

Gemini Enterprises Ltd have been appointed sole distributors of Banda table tennis products in the UK. The Banda range covers the whole of table tennis market from the hobby end to top quality competition products. The best known player using Banda equipment and clothing is the world No 2 Jan Ove Waldner recently seen winning the Euro-Asia tournament on Channel 4.

Most of the range will be available in the UK including a full range of tables for home and institutional use.

In addition to the agreement with Banda, Gemini is also marketing a small range of sports socks.

Further information is available from: Gemini Enterprises Ltd, 2 Redvers Villas, Witley, Godalming, Surrey GU8 5QR. Tel: 042 879 3269.

## Heart of England Cadet TT League by BRIAN ASTON

AFTER the final session of the league at Kenilworth, Banbury 'A' are the league champions for the second year running with Coventry in second spot.

The Banbury trio of Sally Hughes, Dawn Barnett and Matthew Sims only dropped two games after ten matches. Both Sally and Dawn having 100% records and winning the average prize. Matthew made up for dropping the two league games by winning the singles knock-out competition, defeating Steven Arkell of Coventry in two straight games 21-13 and 21-10. Coventry always looked like beating Leamington for runners-up and so it proved with a 9-1 win over Worcester and a closer 6-4 win over Walsall.

Newcomers Nuneaton finished a creditable fourth followed by

Walsall and Leamington B with the same record of games and points.

An interesting note was that the game between Rugby and Worcester took place with neither side having gained a point and then showing a draw!

Any team interested for the league next season please contact Brian Aston on Leamington Spa 29398.

### FINAL TABLE

|              | P  | W  | D | L | F  | A  | Pts |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Banbury A    | 10 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 98 | 2  | 20  |
| Coventry     | 10 | 8  | 1 | 1 | 62 | 38 | 17  |
| Leamington A | 10 | 7  | 1 | 2 | 68 | 32 | 15  |
| Nuneaton     | 10 | 5  | 1 | 4 | 54 | 46 | 11  |
| Walsall      | 10 | 5  | 1 | 4 | 51 | 49 | 11  |
| Leamington B | 10 | 5  | 1 | 4 | 51 | 49 | 11  |
| Swadincote   | 10 | 5  | 0 | 5 | 44 | 56 | 10  |
| Banbury B    | 10 | 3  | 1 | 6 | 38 | 62 | 7   |
| Evesham      | 10 | 2  | 2 | 6 | 39 | 61 | 6   |
| Rugby        | 10 | 0  | 1 | 9 | 28 | 72 | 1   |
| Worcester    | 10 | 0  | 1 | 9 | 17 | 83 | 1   |

THERE was no change at the top with both Carole Dalrymple and David Hannah retaining their titles as 'Scottish Champions', Carole for the 9th successive year and David for the 8th successive year — equalling Richard Yule's record of 8 wins in 10 years.

Both junior titles had unexpected winners; Lorraine Anderson beat Jennifer Hook in the Girls' Singles final, after Jennifer had beaten Sarah Hurry in the semi-finals, Andrew Bruce won the Boys' Singles final from Euan Walker — reversing the result of their final in the Schools tournament the previous weekend. Jennifer Hook had a further disappointment when exuberant Catherine Symons (Orkney) defeated her in the Cadet Girls final, however top cadet Kevin McKellar won the Cadet Boys title as expected.

#### MEN'S SINGLES:

Semi-finals: David Hannah b Ian Stokes 14, 14; John Broe b Ian McLean 16, 17.

Final: David Hannah b John Broe 13, -24, 15.

#### WOMEN'S SINGLES:

Semi-finals: Carole Dalrymple b Sarah Hurry 10, 20; Janet Smith b Lynn Johnston 18, 19.

Final: Carole Dalrymple b Janet Smith 10, 19.

**JUNIOR BOYS' SINGLES — Final:** Andrew Bruce b Euan Walker 20, 15.

**JUNIOR GIRLS' SINGLES — Final:** Lynn Anderson b Jennifer Hook 12, -13, 16.

**CADET BOYS' SINGLES — Final:** Kevin McKellar b Stewart Crawford 12, 12.

**CADET GIRLS' SINGLES — Final:** Catherine Symons b Jennifer Hook 17, -15, 20.

**MEN'S DOUBLES — Final:** J. Broe/D. Hannah b G. Campbell/S. Fowler 8, 19.

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES — Final:** C. Dalrymple/L. Robb b S. Hurry/C. Symons 16, 19.

**MIXED DOUBLES — Final:** B. Wright/S. Hurry b J. Broe/J. Smith 21, -10, 19.

### 13.3.88: STTA Inter-League, Inverclyde, Largs.

All the competitions were played Corbillon Cup style with each league able to enter two teams. The West of Scotland League emphasised their strength in depth by not only winning the Men's title for the 5th successive year but their B team (I. Stokes and C. Gerrard) were runners-up. Carole Dalrymple paired with Lynn Johnston to take the Women's title for Stirlingshire, also for the 5th successive year. West Dunbartonshire, one of our smallest leagues, won both the Junior Boys and Cadet Boys titles, the latter for the 3rd successive year. Edinburgh unexpectedly won the Junior Girls title by virtue of Jennifer Hook's defeat of Stirlingshire's Sarah Hurry (for the second time during the weekend).

#### Results —

- Men:**  
1. West of Scotland A (B. Wright and D. McLroy)  
2. West of Scotland B  
3. Aberdeen B

## Butterfly Scottish Closed, Inverclyde, Largs.

# David, Carole hold titles

by DENIS GEORGE

#### Women:

1. Stirlingshire (C. Dalrymple and L. Johnston)

2. West of Scotland

3. Edinburgh

#### Junior Boys:

1. West Dunbartonshire (A. Bruce, (C. McKellar and C. Woess)

2. Edinburgh

3. Dundee

#### Junior Girls:

1. Edinburgh A (Claire Hood and J. Hook)

2. Stirlingshire A

3. Stirlingshire B

#### Cadet Boys:

1. West Dunbartonshire (K. McKellar and F. Wallace)

2. Stirlingshire

3. Aberdeen

### Scotrail National League

Greaves Sport (Glasgow Central M) retained the Division 1 title, going through the season without defeat. Morgan Agency (Aberdeen) ran away with Division 2 and expect to do well in the top division next season. The young TSB Alexandria, which include Andrew Bruce and Kevin McKellar in their team, came from behind to win Division 3 and gain promotion.

### European League Division 2

Our final match of the 1987/88 season was played in the Bells Sports Centre, Perth, on Friday 26 February. It was a closely fought contest with Switzerland just getting home by 4-3.

David Hannah b Stefan Renold 15, 10; John Broe l Thierry Miller -18, 15, -13; Carole Dalrymple b Brigitte Hirzel -22, 21, 11; D. McLroy/G. Clancey l S. Renold/T. Miller -14, -12; G. Clancey/J. Smith l S. Renold/B. Hirzel -7, -16; David Hannah b Thierry Miller 17, 17; John Broe l Stefan Renold 18, -14, -13.

This win kept open Swiss hopes of earning promotion which, in fact, they achieved by winning their last match against Norway 4-3 on 12 March.

### 28.2.88: Perth Junior & Cadet Open, Bells Sports Centre, Perth.

After some 8 years the Perth Open was resurrected this year, only for Juniors and Cadets this time — with the expectancy of having a full tournament next season. Play was entirely on the group system, in two stages, which gave the enthusiastic youngsters good value for their entry fees.

#### Final positions —

##### Junior Boys:

- Euan Walker (West of Scotland)
- Raymond Elder (Aberdeen)
- Andrew Bruce (West Dunbartonshire)

# SCOTLAND

BY DENIS GEORGE

## WALES STAY IN 21st PLACE

by NANCY EVANS

THE Welsh party didn't start out with any high expectations. Mark Thomas our No 3, was still in deep trouble with his knee condition, and couldn't play. So Nick Williams, was drafted in, a big step for him, for although he had some promising results of late, he had never before played in this class. But Nick, still wanting some expertise, is never lacking in spirit, and acquitted himself well.

We finished in 21st position in the men's competition, the same as Prague, and we must regard this as a very creditable accomplishment with a weakened side.

Our opening match in Group B, the harder of the two, was against Denmark, who we beat in the World Championships in New Delhi. But this time we went down 2-5, Nigel Tyler winning two against Hauth and Sonnichsen.

Then we lost 2-5 to Norway, again Tyler being the only winner, this time against Frode, although Nigel Thomas put up a good fight against Tom Johansen, the Norwegian No 1. Nick began to feel his feet a bit more.

Then came the usual battle with the Scots. Thomas went down to John Broe, but after Nick had lost to Hannah, Nigel Tyler beat Clancy. Thomas couldn't cope with Hannah at all, but Tyler then beat Broe, so we were 2-3 down. Then came Nick's moment of glory — he completely outplayed Clancy, so we were three all. Tyler played one of his best ever games, beating Hannah two straight. So Thomas faced Clancy, with the score 4-3 to us, and Clancy already been beaten by Williams. But Thomas played one of his worst games, allowing the Scottish No 3 to dictate, and the subsequent reverse levelled the overall score. Nick Williams made a valiant effort to beat John Broe, took the first game, but lost 17 in the third, for us to be beaten when we were in a winning position!

We lost 1-5 to Finland, for whom Ikonen is still a reliable winner. Tyler did take him to 20-22, and beat Pasi, but we had no more success.

#### Superiority

Turkey, who have been too strong for us in European League, continued that superiority with a 5-1 defeat, again only Nigel Tyler beating Ozcelik in our sole success.

So we finished at the bottom of the group in the first stage. Our first opponents in the second stage across group play was Greece, and we won 5-3, Nigel

Tyler beating Krikidis, Hatzis and Christis, and Thomas beating Hatzis and Krikidis.

In their first play-off, Scotland beat Luxembourg 5-2, so we faced the Scots again for 21st or 22nd place. For some reason, Hannah was not picked, and we won 5-2, with Tyler again picking up three games against McLean, Clancy and Broe, Thomas beating Clancy, whom he had so badly lost to in the first match, and Nick Williams with a good win over Ian McClean.

#### Above Scotland

So our final position was 21st, above Scotland, Luxembourg, Greece, Spain, Ireland, Portugal, Iceland, Malta and Guernsey.

Our women's team, with Justine Thomas, our No 1 junior, coming in for the unavailable Heidi Cotter. We finished in 26th place, with only Malta above us, but we should have done better.

We lost 1-3 to Austria in our first match, Lesley Tyler beating Gerlinde Kaul, and Justine going down to Wiltsche. We lost the doubles and Lesley went down narrowly to Wiltsche.

#### Justine beaten

Next came Belgium, with Lesley again starting with a win against Els Billen. Justine was well beaten by the experienced Bogaerts, and after the latter and Billen crushing the Welsh pair in doubles, Bogaerts easily beat Lesley.

We should certainly have beaten Portugal. Lesley opened with a win over Margarida Lopes, and then Justine narrowly lost in the third to the other Lopes — Kuisa. The doubles went too easily Portugal's way, and then Lesley surprisingly lost to Luisa Lopes.

We did beat Ireland 3-2, and this was a real team effort, because Lesley beat Nora McEvoy, but lost to Jennifer Reid. We lost the doubles, but Justine who had gone down to Reid, beat McEvoy to win the decider in fine style.

Greece beat us 3-0, with no respectable scores by either Welsh girl.

## In Europe next season

### EUROPEAN LEAGUE — SEASON 1988/89

#### DIVISION ONE FIXTURES

Week ending Saturday

|             |             |   |             |
|-------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| 15 October  | Hungary     | v | Switzerland |
|             | ENGLAND     | v | Finland     |
|             | Turkey      | v | Belgium     |
|             | Austria     | v | Italy       |
| 12 November | Switzerland | v | ENGLAND     |
|             | Belgium     | v | Hungary     |
|             | Italy       | v | Finland     |
|             | Austria     | v | Turkey      |
| 17 December | Belgium     | v | Switzerland |
|             | ENGLAND     | v | Italy       |
|             | Austria     | v | Hungary     |
|             | Finland     | v | Turkey      |
| 21 January  | Turkey      | v | Switzerland |
|             | Finland     | v | Austria     |
|             | Italy       | v | Hungary     |
|             | ENGLAND     | v | Belgium     |
| 28 January  | Italy       | v | Finland     |
|             | Hungary     | v | Turkey      |
|             | Austria     | v | ENGLAND     |
|             | Belgium     | v | Italy       |
| 18 February | Italy       | v | Switzerland |
|             | Belgium     | v | Austria     |
|             | ENGLAND     | v | Turkey      |
|             | Hungary     | v | Finland     |
| 11 March    | Switzerland | v | Austria     |
|             | Turkey      | v | Italy       |
|             | Finland     | v | Belgium     |
|             | Hungary     | v | ENGLAND     |

## A BRAND NEW TABLE FOR £80?

An initial payment of £80 followed by three identical annual payments will have a brand new top quality table from a leading manufacturer delivered to your door

or you can pay £250 (inc VAT & delivery) for outright purchase

Sports Council grant aid of up to 50% of the cost may be available to help your club.



Details from:  
ENGLAND TABLE TENNIS  
ASSOCIATION  
21 Claremont, Hastings  
East Sussex TN34 1HF

## FOR SALE

AT

UNDER HALF PRICE

**FOUR JAQUES WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIP TABLES**

**£350 each O.N.O.**

ALSO

**25 JAQUES SURROUNDS. FOUR  
STIGA NET-POST SETS. OFFERS**

PLUS

**STIGA ROBOT MACHINE**

**£750.00**

Contact: Malcolm Hickey  
Acorn Farm, Mayfield  
Sussex TN20 6UT  
Tel: (0435) 872522

### **YOUR FAVOURITE ARMCHAIR ON THE ENGLAND TEAM BENCH**

It is now possible to obtain 1st Generation VHS copies of the England Team playing in major events.

*TAPES AVAILABLE: (all 3 hours long)*

1. EURO/ASIA (The first day's play featuring the English players and including Carl Prean beating the World No 1).
2. ENGLISH OPEN (Highlights from mainly team events).
3. THE OLYMPIC TRIALS (See Alan Cooke qualify).

PRICE: £11 (per tape) inc p&p  
(cheques payable to Mr S. Fryer)

INFORMATION: For further information or to place an order please contact:

**Mr S. Fryer,  
8 Cleveland Road,  
Hale, Altrincham,  
Cheshire WA15 8AY.  
Tel: 061-980 8110**