

GOLDEN GEMMA

● GEMMA SCHWARTZ WINS BOTH U18 & U21 WOMENS SINGLES

● WOOLWICH JUNIOR BRITISH LEAGUE

INSIDE...

● WORLD & COMMONWEALTH CHAMPIONSHIPS



Table Tennis

NEWS



ISSUE 231
MAY/JUNE 1995

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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

CAPTAIN'S LOG

It was medals galore in Singapore! With England winning 21 medals, two of which were gold when Carl Prean and Andrew Eden won the Mens Doubles in the Commonwealth Championships. See John Woodford's report on pages 8 and 9.

Unfortunately we didn't win any medals at the World Championships in China, but we did better than expected. Full report on pages 14 and 15 by Richard Habgood and John Woodford, also see Alan Ransome's 'From the Chair' on pages 5 and 6.

Congratulations to Stiga Fellowes Cranleigh on winning both the Boys and Girls Premier Divisions of the Woolwich Junior British League, at the concluding weekend in Andover. Read Brian Lamerton's analysis on pages 16 and 17.

May/June issue of Table Tennis News normally concludes the season's activities, and I usually wish readers of this magazine a pleasant rest during the summer months, but not this year as June sees the Women battling for honours in the British League weekend at Stourbridge, the Seniors competing in the National Team Finals in Grantham, whilst the England Juniors travel to Cherbourg to play in the French Junior Open.

Amongst many other tournaments in July we see the very first European Veteran Championships being held in Austria, whilst our juniors will be battling with Europe's best, in the European Youth Championships in Holland.

So it looks like being a busy summer for some of us, which means September's issue of Table Tennis News will be full of interesting reports and articles, so don't forget to renew your subscription.

John FA Wood



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The ETTA would like to thank the following companies for the support they give to English Table Tennis.



SINGAPORE to CHERBOURG

English umpires are becoming worldwide jet-setters of table tennis from Singapore to Cherbourg.

Pictured below are two of England's finest travellers, Geoff Scruton (right) who has just

returned from umpiring in Singapore at the Commonwealth Championships, whilst Dave Edwards (left) is suitably attired to umpire at the Junior French Open in June at Cherbourg.



returned from umpiring in Singapore at the Commonwealth Championships, whilst Dave Edwards (left) is suitably attired to umpire at the Junior French Open in June at Cherbourg.

FOREIGN COIN APPEAL

The British Table Tennis Association for people with disabilities (BTTAD) have recently opened an appeal for the collection of coins and notes. Any coins and notes be they foreign or British old or new will be equally

acceptable, they will be sold and the proceeds will be used for coaching, training and helping with the expense of sending players to compete at foreign tournaments and so bring a higher standard of play for our disabled players. If you or any players or people you know have recently been overseas for holidays or business, or if you know someone who has and they have any coins or notes could you please ask them to donate them to the appeal. Anyone who can help can send them to the following persons who are listed below and remember that any amount however large or small will help our players to play their best and beat the rest. Thank you. Phone (01203) 678632,

Geoff Taylor, 75 Glendower Ave, Coventry, CV5 8BD or phone (0181) 301 0595, Bob Churchill, 5 Marne Avenue, Welling, Kent, DA16 2EZ.

MIKE RETURNS

Mike Watts who was the ETTA Events Manager from 1979 to 1989, said on his return to the post after a 6 year sabbatical, "When I walked into the office at Hastings on my wife Hilda's birthday, on 20th March 1995, it was like I had never left. Within

Mike Watts is back after a 6 year sabbatical.



10 minutes refresher course with the Events Secretary Vanda Jones, whom I recruited in 1988, it was business as usual."

The National U15/U18/U21 Championships at Bridlington in May, was Mike's first major tournament since returning to full time employment with the ETTA.

CALLING ALL COACHES

The ITTF are constantly in need of English speaking coaches to conduct Olympic Solidarity courses in various parts of the world.

All travel and hospitality costs are paid and pocket money of up to US \$50 per day is given.

Some courses are for coaching coaches and some for players and vary from 7 to 14 days.

Any qualified coach who is interested in gaining some experience abroad should contact Albert Shipley, Secretary-General of the ITTF, on 01424 721414.

FRENCH PYE

Norfolk's top junior Leeroy Pye is about to receive a spot of French leave when he joins the Etetat club, near LeHarve, in August for one year.

NEW TOURNAMENT

A new tournament for Juniors and Seniors, the Clare Pengelly Memorial 1 Star, will take place at the Torbay Leisure Centre in Devon on 23rd/24th September 1995. Further details and entry forms from Brian Pengelly, 19 Davies Avenue, Paignton, TQ4 7AN. Tel: 01803 845011.

PARTNERS

Terry Young and Nicola Deaton formed a new partnership of the future in Singapore in the Mixed Doubles.

Playing together for the first time they reached the quarter finals of the Commonwealth Championships.

NICE GESTURE

Carl Prean told Andrew Eden that he could keep the Commonwealth Men's Doubles trophies, instead of sharing them.

A very nice gesture from a super star to a rising star.

BON CHANCE DESMOND

Following his success in China, living legend Desmond Douglas MBE is leaving BFL Grove to play for French 1st division club Rouen, for the next two seasons. After many years service, BFL Grove, although disappointed, wish him every success. Desmond has signed a contract looking after the next two years of his life, doing the best for himself and his family.



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For further details contact your Regional Development Officer or ETTA at Hastings

CHINESE TABLE TENNIS
TOOK A MIGHTY LEAP
FORWARD AS THE HOME
PLAYERS DOMINATED THE
43RD WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE
NORTHERN CHINESE CITY
OF TIANJIN. HOURS OF
TELEVISION PICTURES
DELIGHTED MILLIONS OF
CHINESE SUPPORTERS
BOTH AT HOME AND
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

**WRITES ALAN
RANSOME.**

CHINESE LEAP FORWARD

The championships took on the air of an Olympic Games. The city of Tianjin built a massive new indoor stadium especially to stage the Championships. This included a No. 1 hall, similar to the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham, and a No. 2 hall which resembled an Exhibition hall at the NEC, plus a 20 table practice hall, a luxury Press Centre and hotel.

In addition to the new facilities, the Organising Committee had a budget in excess of 13 million US dollars, approximately £9M, to stage the Championships, part of which was used to provide flags, banners and posters that could be seen everywhere from the Airport in Beijing to Tianjin some 100 miles distant and throughout the city of Tianjin. It appeared as if everyone knew that the Championship was happening and were encouraged by the authorities to be part of it.

The Chinese Government gave the event massive support, the President of China, Jiang Zemin, attended the Opening Ceremony, whilst Li Peng, the Prime Minister, attended the last day of the finals and Closing Ceremony, together with Juan Antonio Samaranch, the President of the IOC.

The Organising Committee deserved an Oscar for the magnificent Opening Ceremony, which included a

cast of 3,000 participants and was seen live on television throughout China. The Closing Ceremony was equally impressive.

On the table, the Chinese women were totally

victory could well have been as a result of the playing order that the Chinese Captain, Cai Zhenhua, selected when he pitched Ding Song, the Chen Xinhua type new player on the Chinese team, against Peter Karlsson in the vital third set.

The Chinese men dominated the singles and Kong Linghui, who toured England last New Year, was a worthy winner. Most of the top Europeans were beaten in close matches in the last 16. One of the biggest incidents in the Championships was the disqualification of the Korean, Kim Taek Soo, for using banned substances in gluing up his bat.

After two prior warnings, Kim was found to have used an illegal bat in his quarter final victory against Wang Tao and was disqualified despite an appeal by the Korean Association.

Surrounding the whole World Championships are a mass of meetings of the ITTF, Continental Associations, regional groupings and various committees. The most

important are the ITTF Biennial General Meeting and the meetings of the Council and Executive Board Committee. At the Council meeting, the widest reaching decision was the removal of the ban on liquid glues and the decision to follow the stance taken by the ETTA last January of introducing testing and disciplinary procedures for offenders. It was this testing and these disciplinary procedures that provided the framework for the Kim disqualification. The ITTF will now carry out regular testing at all world title events and Olympic Games, and Continental Federations are expected to follow suit. It is likely that there will be extensive testing at the forthcoming European Youth Championships in the Netherlands in July and comprehensive testing at the World Team Cup in Atlanta in August.

Whilst the glue decision promoted by ETTU was successful, Europe's attempts to change the World over to the European League system of 7 sets for team matches did not receive the necessary majority, although the motion to play the Women's matches in the Corbillon Cup on the same system as the Men's Swaythling Cup 5 sets system did succeed.



ALAN RANSOME

dominant, Deng Yaping retaining the Women's singles crown and playing an important part in winning the Corbillon Cup. China's men also swept the board, but their victory in the final of the Swaythling Cup against the holders, Sweden, by 3 sets to 2 was not overwhelming. Jan Ove Waldner played magnificently to win both his singles and the Chinese

Behind the scenes in Tianjin, the first week of the Championships was taken up with extensive lobbying in the election of the new President of the ITTF, following the death last December of Ichiro Ogimura. Supported by the French-speaking Francophone group, Canada's Adham Sharara was nominated for the President's position, to stand against the former Deputy President Lollo Hammarlund of Sweden. In dramatic style, Sharara withdrew his nomination a few minutes prior to the election after the BGM agreed to increase the size of the ITTF Executive Committee to six places. Hammarlund was elected unopposed as the new President, with China's Xu Yinsheng as Deputy President, Germany's Hans Giescoke re-elected Treasurer. Adham Sharara was then elected as one of the three new Executive Vice Presidents, together with George Segun of Nigeria and Yap Yong of Malaysia.

Whilst lifting the glue ban succeeded, the assault on the "magic serves", although gaining a majority vote, did not receive sufficient votes to carry the rule change. However, I will not be surprised to see a rule allowing only service in front of the body brought in in twelve months time, so effectively outlawing the hidden "magic serves".

England's nominations enjoyed one of their best returns on the ITTF committees. Colin Clemett was re-elected as the ITTF Rules Committee Chairman, Tony Chatwin was elected to the Technical Committee for the first time, Jill Parker was re-elected to the Ranking Committee and Donald Parker to the Sport Science Committee. I retained my position on the ITTF Council and Calendar Committee and was elected for the first time to the Standing Orders Committee.

The England players had a mixed event on the table. Both teams retained their

positions in the top division of the World Championships which is vital for the next championships in Manchester. The women finished the Championship improving to 10th place, and in particular Andrea Holt produced some very good table tennis. The men struggled and eventually finished 13th. The England team was weakened by Matthew Syed being unable to attend due to his final exams at Oxford. A second setback was an injury to Carl Prean at the outset of the team event. The inclusion of Desmond Douglas proved very important and Des produced some extremely good performances. With Prean recovered, the men avoided relegation by beating Poland 3-0 in the final group match. Chen Xinhua, Carl Prean and Desmond Douglas all did well in the singles to reach the last 32 stage.

Returning to China, Chen Xinhua was treated by the Chinese fans like a real super star. Everywhere he went reporters, TV crews and adoring fans followed him for interviews, photographs and autographs. It was almost like the return of Gary Linnekar.

The Championships overall was one of extremes and one that will stay long in the memory of all participants.

A few days prior to the World Championships, the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships were played in very hot and humid conditions in the Badminton Hall in Singapore.

There was a total contrast between the two events. The England teams did well, both winning Silver medals in the team events, whilst Carl Prean and Andrew Eden won the Gold medal in the Men's Doubles. Hong Kong produced a very strong team of both men and women and took both team and singles Gold medals. In particular Chai Po Wa their No. 1 girl retained her Women's singles title as well as being unbeaten in the team event.

The Commonwealth Table

Tennis Championships were recognised for the first time by the Commonwealth Games Council and their representative and Legal Adviser, Mr Sharad Rao, attended part of the event and presented the medals given by the Commonwealth Games Council for the team events.

It has been confirmed that Manchester are the only

One of the main points on the Agenda will be the request from the Selection Department for part of the VAT refund recently gained by the Association to be allocated to assist our very top young players to bridge the gap between the junior and senior international ranks. Whilst our teams did reasonably well in both Singapore and Tianjin, there



CHEN XINHUA

serious contender for the Commonwealth Games in 2002 and that table tennis will be included in the full Games for the first time then. In Singapore, Manchester were represented by Lis Phelan and Peter Knowles. They gave presentations to the Commonwealth BGM regarding the inclusion of table tennis in 2002 and the World Championships in Manchester in 1997.

Manchester were also represented in Tianjin by Lis Phelan who received the ITTF Flag at the end of the Closing Ceremony. The flag will be raised in Manchester in the near future until the 1997 World Championships are held in the City. The 1997 World Championships in Manchester were well promoted in Tianjin by Lis and the English delegates, Richard Habgood and Jose Ransome as well as the team members themselves.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next important event in the ETTA official calendar is the Annual General Meeting which is to be held at the NIA in Birmingham on 24 June.

is a definite need for fresh talent to be brought into our national teams. Our men's team, for example, with an average age of 32, was the oldest in the top category of the team events in Tianjin and it is vital that funds are made available to bring the younger players along.

I would like to close my final report for the season by thanking all my colleagues on the Management Committee for their continued work and support and our staff at the Hastings office and in the field for their continued commitment to the interests of our sport and their good work in helping to carry our programmes to fruition.

But perhaps the biggest "Thank You" for 1995 should go to the teams of voluntary officials throughout the country who have taken on the development initiatives created by the Association under the Focus Sport programme and are undertaking fresh activities such as facility development and the Woolwich Junior Leagues which will in due course, reverse the trend of declining membership.

Alan Ransome, Chairman

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Alan Ransome, Chairman

ENGLAND WIN MEDALS 21

The conditions caused by the high temperatures were appalling. At night the temperature was never below 90 degrees and 96 during the day. Humidity was so high that at one time Alan Cooke had seven shirts and eight towels all soaking with perspiration and no means of drying them before the next match.

Above all, surely, it was unwise to place this event so near the equator in a hall without air conditioning. There were electric fans in the hall but they were totally inadequate. Even spectators needed to carry hand towels to wipe away the sweat.

Imagine the plight of the European players, not accustomed to such heat. Towelling down was allowed and drinks (almost) any time during the matches.

England men suffered most at the hands of one man - Chan Kong Wa, 33, a coach at the Mulheim club in Germany, an excellent striker of the ball who proved just too strong for England's top pair Carl Prean and Alan Cooke. Chan's intimate knowledge of the Prean tactics acquired in Germany must have been a deciding factor.

Chan Kong Wa prevented England's men winning the team event final by stopping Prean. He struck again in the men's singles final rounds defeating Prean in the semi-finals and Alan Cooke in the final. At the end of the men's singles final Cooke admitted "He was the hardest hitter on the day, he is a good player".

DOUBLE GOLD

The brightest spots for England came in the men's doubles, when Carl Prean and Andrew Eden (one comment from the crowd - the Awkward Squad) did

ENGLAND COLLECTED A TOTAL OF 21 MEDALS AT THE END OF THE EIGHT DAYS IN SINGAPORE INCLUDING TWO GOLD, BUT AT THE END IT WAS A TOURNAMENT OF TRIUMPH FOR HONGKONG, WHO HAVE ONLY ONE YEAR LEFT BEFORE THEY BECOME PART OF CHINA
WRITES JOHN WOODFORD IN SINGAPORE.



England's Team silver medalists (left to right) Andrew Eden, Denis Neale (Coach), Bradley Billington, Terry Young, Carl Prean and Alan Cooke.

Pictures by
Dennis George.

extremely well to beat the top HongKong pair and bring down the Nigerians Adeyemo and Toriola in the final 21-11, 18-21, 21-11.

Eden, with his breezy showmanship and awkward style showed signs of becoming an excellent doubles player as he also reached the final of the mixed doubles with Andrea Holt before going down to the HongKong pair Lo Chuen Tsung and Chai Po Wa 21-14, 21-13.

Lisa Lomas was in good form for most of the tournament, until she like all the other players met

Hong Kong's Womens Team gold medalists (left to right) Chan Tan Lui, Chang Siu Ying (Coach), Tong Kun and Chai Po Wa.



the China-born HongKongers. Her patient game, full of 20 shot rallies, very often found her opponents exhausted after an hour at the table for one best-of-three encounter.

Lisa qualified for a bronze reaching the semi-finals, skilfully

dismissing the local favourite China-born Tan Fern playing for Singapore, but in the penultimate round, Lisa was defeated by Chai Po Wa the world No. 3 who won all three titles, women's singles, women's doubles and mixed doubles.

That was making hay while the equatorial sun blazed down (mixed with thundery rain) as Hong Kong approaches its exit from the world scene in 1997.

DEATON'S GEM

Nicola Deaton, 18, the England squad star teenager pulled off one gem of a victory over the Welsh No. 1 and Welsh National champion Natasha Williams before losing to powerful Canadian Barbara Chui. Terry Young, 16, disappointed himself by losing to the Australian Dennis Makeling, but Young is "young", full of promise with time on his side - he looks an excellent candidate to land a

place in the England senior squad, providing that he does not get impatient.

England had three women in the last eight of the singles - Lisa, Andrea and Alison Gordon; only Lisa got through. There were gritting and fighting shows from both Alison and Andrea as they lost in the quarters.

I could write another 500 words on the shortcomings of the organisation in Singapore, there were many loopholes including a lack of presentation expertise, but, the Singapore officials were willing and helpful and there was no militant arrogance seen at many other tournaments.

Final Placings: Women: 1 HongKong. 2 England. 3 Singapore. 4 Australia. 5 Canada. 6 Malaysia. 7 India. 8 Wales. 9 New Zealand. 10 Sri Lanka. 11 Scotland. 12 Mauritius.
Final Placings: Men: 1 HongKong. 2 England. 3 Canada. 4 India. 5 Scotland. 6 Malaysia. 7 Australia. 8 New Zealand. 9 Singapore. 10 Northern Ireland. 11 Wales. 12 Sri Lanka. 13 Cyprus.

RESULTS

Men's singles

Semi-finals: Chan Kong Wa bt C Preat 6-21,21-12, 21-14,21-18.
A Cooke bt Lo Chuen Tsung (HongKong) 19-21, 21-19, 16-21,21-17, 21-11. Final: Chan bt Cooke 16-21,21-11,21-19,21-16.

Women's singles

Semi-finals: Chai Po Wa (HongKong) bt L Lomas (England) 21-9, 21-19,21-17. Jing Jun Hong (Singapore) bt Chan Tan Lui (HongKong) 21-11,13-21,21-18,21-19. Final: Chai bt Jing 21-14,21-12,23-21.

Men's doubles final:

C Preat/A Eden (England) bt F Adeyemo/S Toriola (Nigeria) 21-11,18-21,21-11.

Women's doubles final:

Chai Pa Wa/Chan Tan Lui bt Jing Jun Hong/Tan Fern (Singapore) 21-18,9-21,21-11.

Mixed doubles final:

Lo/Chai bt A Eden/A Holt 21-14,21-13.

Men's team final:

England 3, HongKong 4. C Preat lost to Chan Kong Wa 16-21,21-15,19-21. A Cooke bt Chan Chi Ming 21-16, 21-8. A Eden lost to Lo Chuen Tsung 13-21,17-21. Cooke bt Lo 21-19,16-21,22-20. Eden lost to Chan 16-21,14-21. Preat/Cooke lost to Lo/Chan 19-21,15-21.

Women's team final:

England 1, HongKong 4. A Holt bt Tong Kun 21-18,21-14. A Gordon lost to Chai Po Wa 9-21,15-21. L Lomas lost to Chan Tan Lui 21-23, 10-21. Holt lost to Chai Po Wa 19-21,14-21. Gordon lost to Chan Tan Lui 14-21,16-21.

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BELGIUM *clinich*

JOOLA SUPER DIVISION MENS TITLE

World No 1 Jean-Michel Saive and his brother Philippe were Belgium's heroes, winning all four games between them.

DETAILED RESULTS

Jean-Michel Saive bt Steffen Fetzner 21-10, 21-18. Andras Podpinka lost to Jorg Roskopf 15-21, 11-21. Philippe Saive bt Peter Franz 21-14, 21-18. Saive/Saive bt Fetzner/Roskopf 7-21, 21-8, 21-15. Jean-Michel Saive bt Jorg Roskopf 21-16, 21-9. Levallois UTT and Statistika Metalloglobus Budapest- 1995 European Club Champions. France's pride the Levallois UTT

IN A THRILLING THIRD AND FINAL DECIDING MATCH BELGIUM HAVE TROUNCED GERMANY 4 GAMES TO 1 TO WIN THE SUPER DIVISION MEN'S TITLE FOR THE FIRST TIME WRITES **RICHARD HABGOOD.**

Club have run out easy winners of the third and final leg of the European Club Cup.

Winners of the first leg by 4 games to 3 over Belgian Champions Royal Villette Charleroi, the second and return leg was taken by Charleroi by 4 games to 2.

What then was anticipated to be a keenly fought decider, proved not to be, with Levallois UTT running out easy 4-0 winners.

In the Women's competition the

German ladies of TSG Dulmen lost both their matches to Statistika Metalloglobus Budapest (Hungary) by 3-4 and 0-4 respectively.

TSG Dulmen defeated England's BFL Grove at the semi final stage by 4 games to 3.

FINAL LEAGUE RANKINGS

MEN:

1. Belgium.
2. Germany.
3. England/France.
5. Austria/Sweden.
7. Poland.
8. Denmark.

WOMEN:

1. Hungary.
2. Germany.
3. Netherlands/Sweden.
5. England/Romania.
7. Belgium.
8. Poland.

Date of Course: **3rd & 4th June 1995**
Venue: Lynnsport and Leisure Park, Kings Lynn, Norfolk
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course:
ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher/Level 2
Contact: Mr Roger Partridge, Borough of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk, Valentine Road, Hunstanton, Norfolk, PE36 5EZ.
Tel: (01485) 532 516

Date of Course:
2nd, 3rd & 4th June 1995
Venue: Lilleshall National Sports Centre
ETTA Tutor: Dave Berriman
NCF Tutor: Tim Holder
Level of Course: Coach Education Weekend, **Level 3** combined with National Coaching Foundation **Level 2** Courses
Contact: The Coaching Administrator, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3JD.
Tel: (01772) 715 216

Date of Course:
9th, 10th & 11th June 1995
Venue: The Milton Keynes Table Tennis Centre
ETTA Tutor: Donald Parker
NCF Tutor: Tim Holder
Level of Course: Coach Education Weekend, **Level 3** combined with National Coaching Foundation **Level 2**

ETTA COACH EDUCATION COURSES

Courses
Contact: The Coaching Administrator, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3JD.
Tel: (01772) 715 216

Date of Course: **8th & 9th July 1995**
Venue: Sudbury Sports Centre
Tutor: TBA

Level of Course: **ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher Level 2**
Contact: Kris Matthews, Sports Activities Officer, Babergh District Council, Central Administration Department, Corks Lane, Hadleigh, Suffolk, IP7 6SJ.
Tel: (01473) 822 801

Date of Course: **15th & 16th July 1995**
Venue: TBA Bedfordshire
Tutor: TBA

Level of Course:
ETTA Sports Leader/Teacher/Level 2
Contact: Sandra Collins, Easter Region TT Development Officer, Braintree District Council, Community and Leisure Services Department, Causeway House Braintree, Essex, CM7 6HB.
Tel: (01376) 552 525 Ext 2342

Date of Course:
28th, 29th & 30th July 1995
Venue: Britannia Dome, Ipswich
ETTA Tutor: Gail McCulloch

NCF Tutor: Tim Holder
Level of Course: Coach Education Weekend **Level 3** combined with National Coaching Foundation **Level 2** Courses
Contact: The Coaching Administrator, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, Lancs, PR2 3JD.
Tel: (01772) 715 216

Date of Course:
28th, 29th & 30th July 1995
Venue: TBA Ipswich
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course: **ETTA Level 3**
Contact: Adam Baker, Sport 2000 Co-Ordinator, Ipswich Borough Council, Civic Centre, Civic Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 2EE.
Tel: (01473) 263 505

Date of Course: **29th & 30th July 1995**
Venue: TBA Southend
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course:
ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher/Level 2
Contact: Gary Shepherd, Sports Development Officer, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea, Essex, SS2 6ER.
Tel: (01702) 355 612

Date of Course:
12th & 13th August 1995
Venue: Cheshunt TTC, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course:
ETTA Sport Leader/Teacher/Level 2
Contact: Jan Ainge, Broxbourne Borough Council, Youth Development Officer, Leisure Services Department, Bishops College, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, EN8 9XF.

Date of Course: **2nd September 1995**
Venue: Latton Bush Centre, Harlow
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course: n/a (Disability Awareness Training)
Contact: Erica Roast, BSAD, C/O Peterborough City Council, Norwich Union House, 24 Church Street, Peterborough, Cambs, PE1 1HG.
Tel: (01733) 317 260

Date of Course: **3rd September 1995**
Venue: Latton Bush Centre, Harlow
Tutor: TBA
Level of Course: n/a (Taster Day for Disabled People)
Contact: Erica Roast, BSAD, C/O Peterborough City Council, Norwich Union House, 24 Church Street, Peterborough, Cambs, PE1 1HG.
Tel: (01733) 317 260

ENGLAND & SAUDI ARABIA

Table Tennis Partners in Progress

IT WAS WITH A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF NERVOUS APPREHENSION FOR WHAT LAY AHEAD, THAT FLIGHT BA133, WITH TWELVE MEMBERS OF THE ETTA ON BOARD, TOOK OFF FROM LONDON, HEATHROW TOWARDS JEDDAH, ON THE WEST COAST OF SAUDI ARABIA **WRITES CLIVE R. H. JAMES.**

Some six days later however, it was an ebullient ETTA party that took the early morning flight home, not wanting to leave.

There are insufficient words to describe the courteous and tremendously hospitable manner that the Saudi Table Tennis Federation (STTF) extended towards everyone on the trip. But that was just one part.

From a Memorandum of Understanding signed between our two Governments, England were invited to participate in five days of practice and training with the Saudi National Squad.

British Aerospace (BAe) acted as facilitators responsible for all our travel costs, the STTF met our accommodation, local transport and food costs. Bass Beers Worldwide (Barbican) provided equipment and leisure clothing, Tamasu Butterfly Europa GmbH our playing kit, and the Saudi Arabian General Presidency of Youth Welfare opened all doors!

Even our President of the Board of Trade who began his trip to Jeddah at the same time as ourselves would not have received better hospitality than we received.

Britain and Saudi Arabia - Partners in Progress was the big exhibition event in Jeddah during our stay, Saudi Arabia is a key market for British exports, and we were there to fly the flag.

England's team comprised Scott (Our Man) Friday, Gareth (Headphones) Herbert, Steve (Barry Fry) Meddings, Terry (Room Service) Young all from

the junior ranks together with Darren (Womble) Blake, Grant (Banana Man) Solder, Jonathon (Bobby) Taylor, Chris (The Sheffield Eagle) Oldfield and Andrew (Boris) Eden from the senior list.

Don (Bamber Gascoigne) Parker and Luke (Chris Evans) Smith oversaw the training and practice sessions, which included at least one session, often two, per day.

Why the nicknames?

The party had good spirit throughout and the many different characteristics of each person gave your scribe licence to make jest, for after all, I was the court jester!

It is warm in Jeddah (circa 30C) in March. Thankfully there is a breeze from the west, but when you are confronted with fully air conditioned hotels, restaurants, public buildings, and indoor facilities, the heat is not too serious a problem to overcome.

Play throughout the week was at the impressive Sports City, in Jeddah, a magnificent complex that boasts an Olympic quality sports hall and separate swimming and diving complex, an athletics and football stadium (for 30,000 people) and adjacent hostel accommodation for visiting sporting personnel.

However, we enjoyed the luxury of Al Salam Ramada Hotel on the Makkah Road some 10-15 minutes away, despite the STTF squad utilising the hotel.

Our hosts from the STTF were Mr Feud A Akbar (Council Member), Mr Salih Alhammadi (National Team Manager) and Ferene Timar the ex Hungarian international, who is now the STTF coach.

Other important notables should not exclude Keith Hutton BAe's excellent Customer Relations Officer who looked after our every need becoming a true friend upon more than one occasion!

And so we touched down at the Airport in Jeddah. Your scribe was escorted from the tarmac straight through Immigration and Customs and on by chauffeur driven car to our Hotel; the rest

of the party followed by bus sometime later.

But where was my baggage? "No problem, this is Saudi Arabia, it is quite safe." Which it was.

On the first morning a short visit to the Dar Ak-Fikr Schools, followed by a demonstration, proved most enjoyable before our first visit to the Sports City.

A radio interview (the first of many) proved most interesting for Bamber and myself. But this was eclipsed by the first of two piano recitals (that followed our training sessions) that we all had to endure!

Jeddah, at midnight, is a City that is still alive.

And so were we when we returned back to the Sports City for a 3 hour training session in the morning, before overcoming the STTF by 16 games to 11 in the first of our unofficial matches later that afternoon.

Football that evening at the Sports City featured the Clubs from Jeddah and Riyadh. It was a 1-1 draw of good standard,



Mr Salih Alhammadi, the Saudi Arabian National Team Manager.

played in good spirit with questionable goal keeping the crucial factor denying the home team victory. But Boris made his mark with the visiting supporters whilst Bamber and I had to contend with a live TV interview.

McDonalds followed the match. Where were we?

It was off to another school the following morning; the

Continental School and its children fully appreciated the exhibitive skill of Headphones and Our Man, but were in uproar with the antics of Banana Man and Boris, who with some polish could go far. Bamber's voice disappeared with all the questions; a brief visit to a local beach complex preceded a further 2-3 hour training session before yet another piano recital at the British Consulate General.

Another joint training session first thing the next morning was followed by more matches in the early evening; this time England overcame the STTF by 15 games to 4, with each player reporting better form from the benefit of good daily practise.

That evening we did not anticipate the welcome extended to us at the King Fahad Coastal City, a sports and Recreation Centre, unequalled in Saudi Arabia.

We were honoured by the presence of Mr Saed Jaman, the Manager (Western Region) of the General Presidency of Youth Welfare. Security was paramount to all other forms experienced thus far, and again there was the usual battery of photographers recording our every movement.

What can only be described as a banquet of supreme elegance was yet another treat laid on for us.

Mr Saed our host, was accompanied by Mr Khalid A Al-Jalajil, the Manger of the King Fahad Coastal City and another STTF Council Member Mr Amr Khalid Hafez.

Speeches flowed between us before the presentation of gifts; an incredible experience enjoyed by us all.

Hung-over from the previous nights revelry we lost our farewell football game the next morning. Boris's questionable goal keeping the deciding factor. Ma Salam Saudi Arabia, Shukran.

A 1,000 thank yous are not enough.

The STTF visited England for another joint training camp immediately prior to the 43rd World Championships in China.

PENIEL *take* 5

Also holding on to championships which they won twelve months ago were Croydon High in the G19 and, at the other end of the age scale, Disley County Primary in the G11. A major point was emphasised by both ESTTA Chairman John Blackband when he opened the National Finals - "every team comes to this unique tournament as champions" and by President John Arnold in introducing the presentation of awards "each team rightly takes an award as the champions of their own region, coming through undefeated to this event".

The 'know how' of Vince Avery, who has been there or thereabouts near the top of the national ranking lists throughout his junior career, came through his four outings undefeated, as did David Coleman in the Boys under 19 competition, ensuring his side a safe passage. But the real battle was for second spot where Kings (Grantham) shaded it despite an inspired display by Peter Thomas for third placed Bideford College.

And what a thriller the parallel Girls competition produced - 3-4 down in the final match, Croydon needed a draw to take the honours ahead of Grove (Market Drayton) and the court exploded when Seema Desai edged home - 20,19,19 against Helen Kerr to complete a four game maximum for the day and edge the holders to a second tenure of the title.

Peniel, the Girls team selected to represent England in the forthcoming World Schools get-together in Israel in early April, had a comfortable passage to the G16 title, dropping only one game en route - what a good win for Parkview's Catherine Corkhill, who got the better of Tracy Davies - but it was a different story with the boys.

The 6-2 success over Parkview looks pretty convincing, but who is to know what would have happened had the opening clash in this match gone the other way?

Ben Linnecar was at 20 all in the decider against Tristran Swan and it was anybody's game - as it was at 30 all before the tall Essex

THE 1994/5 FINALS OF THE ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE VERY MUCH A TAKE-OVER FOR THE SOUTH AND EAST REGION WITH PENIEL ACADEMY, HOLDERS OF THREE TITLES, RETAINING THE TWO U16 TROPHIES, HANDING OVER THE B11 TO KINGS COLLEGE JUNIOR, WIMBLEDON AND PICKING UP THE HONOURS IN BOTH U13 EVENTS AND THE B19

WRITES REA BALMFORD.

boy finally got the verdict 32-30 and, confidence boosted, Peniel sailed home 6-2 to reclaim the crown they won for the first time last year.

Both U13 events went the way of Peniel, but in contrasting manner as the Boys swept to the title with the loss of only one game, but the girls were taken the full distance by title holders

as if we are going to lose both matches, but we have played right through from early stages and thoroughly enjoyed the experience".

Good to hear comments like this from the parents of school players, for this is what school sport is all about - participation, enjoyment and sportsmanship.

I stood in as match manager for

Famous Five record breakers, Hannah Yardy, Tim Cleminson, Alex Yardy, Kevin Lim and Tracy Davies, representing the five triumphant Peniel Teams.



Parkview before Amy Linnecar got the better of Nicola Garrett to ease the southern side ahead and Hannah Cleminson clinched the win as she beat Catherine Farish.

Back to the boys and a word of praise for Philip Lowe at No. 1 for newcomers Wortley High (Leeds). He won three out of four in two defeats and, still with the Leeds side, it was pleasing when, in conversation with one of the Leeds party, to be told "We look

the G11 confrontation between holders Disley and Peniel and was privileged to see some quality table tennis which saw the holders go through 7-1 in a match which was closer than the scoreline would indicate.

This lined Disley up for the final confrontation with Holmead Junior from Bristol - always a tough proposition - and once again the 8-0 scoreline in favour of Disley hardly did the

losers justice. But there was no denying the right of the Stockport girls to retain the title - the first G11 (or Mixed) title to be retained by a girls team since the introduction of the competition.

And a tailpiece on Kirsty Caldwell, unbeaten in the Team Championship at any level over the past two years and 1994 winner of the Girls Best Performance Award 12 months back - she came back from 18-20 in her final game to win, showing all that fighting spirit that makes the difference between a good and a great player. We shall look forward to seeing more of her - who knows, possibly at International level!

A new name went on the B11 trophy in Kings College Junior, Wimbledon who, with No. 2 Ben Jones unbeaten, came past Redlands Junior (Worksop) to take the title for the first time.

And this season's 'Best Performance' awards - probably one of the most difficult decisions of the season for the officials who have to make it, with so many worthy candidates to choose from.

Both went to Under 16 players with Christopher Butt from Wildern School, Southampton taking the Boys and Anna Cheesman (Peniel) the Girls.

Results

Boys. Under 19: 1 Peniel Academy; 2 Kings School, Grantham; 3 Bideford College, Devon. Under 16: 1 Peniel Academy; 2 Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness; 3 Wildern School, Southampton. Under 13: 1 Peniel Academy; 2 Chiltern Trinity, Bridgwater; 3 Wortley High, Leeds. Under 11: 1 Kings College Junior, Wimbledon; 2 Redlands Primary, Worksop; 3 Woodfield Junior, Wolverhampton.

Girls. Under 19: 1 Croydon High; 2 Grove, Market Drayton; 3 Kesteven & Grantham Girls. Under 16: 1 Peniel Academy; 2 Highfields, Wolverhampton; 3 Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness. Under 13: 1 Peniel Academy; 2 Parkview, Barrow-in-Furness; 3 Chiltern Trinity, Bridgwater. Under 11: 1 Disley County Primary, Stockport; 2 Holmead Junior, Bristol; 3 Peniel Academy.

CHINESE *take-out* OPPOSITION

KONG LINGHUI, 20, THE YOUNG STAR OF THE CHINESE TOUR OF ENGLAND LAST CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR WON THE WORLD MENS SINGLES TITLE IN TIANJIN ON MAY 14, AS FORECAST IN ENGLAND FIVE MONTHS AGO

WRITES JOHN WOODFORD.

In a lack-lustre final he defeated Liu Guoliang 17-21, 21-16, 15-21, 21-14, 21-10, to complete a clean sweep by China of seven events. With 10,000 Chinese spectators most days, that was hardly surprising.

Once again we had major shocks - here are four - Ma Wenge, the Chinese No. 2, losing to Luojan Blazozzyk of Poland 3-0; Jan-Ove Waldner the No. 3 seed sent to an early shower 3-2 by Lui Guoliang in the fourth round; World champion Jean-Philippe Gatin the world champion stripped of his laurels by Kong; Jorgen Persson up-ended by Ding Song after having a match-point against the man thought would win it on the days to follow; Jorg Roskopf the pride of Deutschland humbled 3-2 by Vladimir Samsonov who is the most improved young player in Europe and now appearing at No. 2 for Dusseldorf.

So, the Chinese coaches were in the luxurious position of having in both mens and womens singles semi-finals, all Chinese players. Deng Yaping won the womens singles, 3-2 in the final against Qiao Hong true to seeding.

ENGLAND'S MEN REACH LAST 32

England's best moments came when Desmond Douglas, Alan Cooke and Chen Xinhua all reached the third round of the mens singles, the last survivors.

One of the finest moments in the illustrious career of Desmond Douglas came when Des, 40 next month, beat the World No 11 Liu Guo-Liang, 21-12, 14-21, 21-11, the Chinese ace who later lost in the mens singles final to Kong Linghui, the man who toured England and was correctly

forecast as the player being groomed to win in Tianjin.

In the earlier rounds of the mens singles, Des had a stroke of good fortune when Wang Hao was upset by Vladimir Dvorak (Ukraine). This gave the Birmingham professional a new target and again he delivered the goods 18, -18, 18, 14 over the Ukraine No. 1 another of Des's best wins of his career. Eventually, when bidding for the last 16, Des went under 12, 19, 11 to Peter Karlsson but what a run for a man who will be, if he wishes a veteran next season.

Desmond is showing great reluctance to make any further come-backs, despite his successes in China. He said in China "I came out here expecting to play in two or perhaps three matches, instead I played in every match except one, mainly due to the Carl Prean knee injury; but I am pleased with the results, to beat the Chinese youngster and then the Dutchman Bakker twice was pleasing. But that is it for me at this level. Please do not ask me to play in Manchester or Bratislava, although I might be able to help on the promotion side for Manchester."

IN DOUBT

Chen Xinhua, whose future in the sport is in doubt played well for England to reach the third round. He then lost 3-0 to Vladimir Samsonov (Belarus) who devastated European junior tournaments for two years around 1992-3. This young man, 19, is now over 6ft tall and towering above his opponents in more senses than one; now he play No. 2 for Dusseldorf and looks set to be their No. 1 - he beat the present No. 1 Jorg Roskopf 3-2 in the fourth round! That made Chen's efforts quite sound.

SHREWD CHOICE

Denis Neale did an excellent job captaining the England men in both China and Singapore. His choice of Desmond Douglas for the trip was one open to criticism, but the critics were silenced, Des performed magnificently.

In hindsight of course, the problem with the mens team in China, was simply one injury and all the weight of the tasks falls on the shoulders of the other three. This is exactly what happened; in a short while all the men,

Douglas, Cooke, Chen Xinhua were all exhausted.

After the team event, Carl Prean's injury improved daily. He was able to raise his game to world class, beating a qualifier, Qian Qianli (Austria) in five games and being a game and 12-7 up against Ma Wenge, before losing at 11 in the fourth as the Chinese No. 2 found his ideal range - crosscourt forehand topspin and that was the end for Carl.

Alan Cooke, the man who will play for England through thick and thin injured or fit - he was rarely if ever declined the England shirt, was unlucky enough to draw the seeded Kim Taek Soo and lose 14, 19, 15 in the first round of the mens singles.

EXPELLED

Two days later Kim was found in the Quarter-Finals to be using an illegal substance on his bat - three times over the legal limit - and was expelled from the tournament after beating chunky Wang Tao the second seed. Wang was re-instated but appeared to have lost interest losing 16, -15, 18, 16 to the losing finalist Luo Guoliang. Wang said after the glue expulsion "I do not want to play again.", but you can be sure that the Chinese coaches wanted him to take his second chance.

LISA INJURY

To give you some idea how strong the standard of play was in Tianjin, Elena Timina, Russia's vicious chopper, late of the BFL Grove club was brought down by Tu Youg (Switzerland) in Round 1 of the womens singles.

But her successor at Grove, Tong Feiming had a tremendous run with a massive and commendable win against the German No. 1 Nicole Struse 19, 16, -20, -21, 22 in Round 4; in the quarters however, Feimings bid for the semi-finals was halted by the second seed Qiao Hong 21-8 in the fourth game. Feiming now wears the shirt of Chinese Taipei, a fact that may bring relief to some people. She is by far the strongest woman player in Britain, but her future here seems uncertain.

Lisa suffered from an injury right through the tour, even in Singapore, despite regular treatment from physio Luke Smith, who did a great job on the

tour, being required frequently to massage aching and injured muscles. It seems that only a complete summer's rest will be the cure for the Luton defender... not good news for freelance snapper and TTN editor John Wood who filled many a back page in the Luton papers with splash photos on Lisa Lomas at her peak.

Lisa went down to Tatiana Kostramina a qualifier from Belarus, the defender who beat her at Birmingham in the European Championships. Although I asked Lisa why she decided to go on hitting and losing and the answer was that she did not fancy taking her to expedite. Lisa, like many others found the whole tour too much of a physical burden. When you feel tired, even with ace captain Don Parker on the bench, it is not easy to summon the energy to go for expedite.

Andrea Holt, the England champion had her hopes "Buried" in the second round after the closest game of the whole tournament. She went under 29-27 in the fifth to the Australian-Chinese Kathy Kwok, but the reward would only have been a third round tie with Geng Lijuan.

Alison Gordon and Nicky Deaton, both lost in the qualifying rounds. Alison's mind was more in her forthcoming marriage to Joan Broe - hence a phone call to Scotland costing £60; after that faxes! Nicky Deaton never looked outclassed throughout the tour and for my money is a certain bet to form a permanent part of the future England womens squad, when Ali Gordon and Lisa retire - both events may not be far away.

TIANJIN FINALS

MS: Semi-finals: Kong Linghui bt Ding Song 12, 18, 18. Lui Guoliang bt Wang Tao 16, -15, 18, 16. Final: Kong bt Lui -17, 16, -15, 14, 10.
WS: Final: Deng Yaping bt Qiao Hong 14, -17, -17, 14, 14.
MD: Final: Wang Tao/Lui Lin bt Z Primorac (Croatia)/V Samsonov (Belarus) -18, 15, 14, 17.
WD: Final: Deng Yaping/Qiao Hong bt Idu Wei/Qiao Yun Ping 18, 16, -18, 19.
XD: Final: Wang Tao/Idu Wei bt Kong Linghui/Deng Yaping 22, 18, 19.

MAGNIFICENT WALDNER

CHINA WON BOTH THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TEAM COMPETITIONS IN TIANJIN.

ROARED ON BY THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC OF FLAG WAVING CROWDS CHINA OVERCAME KOREA 3-0 TO WIN THE CORBILLON (WOMEN'S TEAM) CUP AND SWEDEN 3-2 FOR THE SWAYTHLING (MEN'S TEAM) CUP
WRITES RICHARD HABGOOD.

For China it was victory number 11 in both events; the women successfully defending their title, and for the men, regaining their crown for the first time since 1987.

In the women's team event, eventual champion Deng Yaping was China's leading star being undefeated throughout. She, and Qiao Hong, who lost China's only rubber to Romania's Emilia Ciosu, were comfortable winners, and it was therefore no surprise to anyone that these two players, at No 1 and 2 in the world, dominated the whole proceedings.

However, it was a different story in the men's team competition.

Sweden, defending champions, and looking for their third successive defence of the Cup, pushed China all the way.

Both reached the second stage of the competition comfortably enough, by winning all seven of their first stage group matches.

But at this point Germany pushed Sweden to 2 games all before Jorgen Persson got the better of Stefan Fetzner 19, -16, 13 to win the match and set up a

semi final encounter with France. France were beaten 3-1, with



Waldner's -24, 15, 17 victory over '93 World Champion, Jean Philippe Gatién, the highlight.

In the other half China reached their semi final with a 3-0 win over Japan before having a titanic struggle with Korea, to reach the final.

China won 3-2 with world No 2 Wang Tao beating Kim Taek Soo 14, 18 in the decider. Ma Wenge lost both games for China.

And so the "shoot out at the OK Coral" began. Europe versus Asia, the very best that was on offer.

Jan Ove Waldner was magnificent winning the first against Wang Tao 19 in the third. Ma Wenge, as usual, got the better of Jorgen Persson 18 in the third. Ding Song put China 2-1 up with a comprehensive 14, 11 victory over Peter Karlsson. Then back came "Waldi" to square the match with a thrilling -13, 12, 17 victory over Ma Wenge, before Wang Tao clinched the Cup for China, with a 14, 13 victory over Persson.

The 10,000 plus crowd went wild, Wang Tao was in tears, and all of China celebrated long into the night!

For Sweden there was no hiding place.

Beyond the finals, there were play offs for every team position.

Leading teams with their 1993 position in brackets were as follows:

Men: 1 (2) China. 2 (1) Sweden. 3

(4) Korea. 4 (7) France. 5 (3) Germany. 6 (8) Japan. 7 (-) Yugoslavia. 8 (6) Belgium. 9 (9) Austria. 10 (15) Italy. 13 (12) England 48 (44) Ireland. 49 (45) Wales. 60 (56) Scotland.

Women: 1 (1) China. 2 (2) Korea. 3 (4) Hong Kong. 4 (9) Romania. 5 (12) Sweden. 6 (6) Germany. 7 (11) Hungary. 8 (7) Japan. 9 (5) Russia. 10. (13) England. 49 (46) Wales. 61 (60) Ireland. 62 (53) Scotland.

As can be seen England had mixed fortunes.

It was our women's team that

did the better of the two.

Andrea Holt, Lisa Lomas, Alison Gordon and Nicola Deaton lifted England to their highest position for six years.

Not so for the men who, in the final analysis, dropped a place to 13th, their lowest position for at least 30 years.

With relegation, from the top flight (16 teams), staring us in the face, following the defeat by Hong Kong, the frank exchange of views that followed that match, brought the much needed victory against Poland, to avoid the drop.

In the end Commonwealth Champions Hong Kong were relegated, eventually finishing 20th.

It is the first stage matches that count for almost everything in respect of the Swaythling Cup. Positions 9-16 are for pride and a place in the top 10 thereby guaranteeing an invitation to the World Team Cup.

Chen Xinhua, Alan Cooke, and Desmond Douglas bore the brunt of the serious work. Carl Preen, after the Hong Kong match, played his part.

RESULTS ANALYSIS

Summary of England's individual performances (some odd balls noted in the match notes (not for 1/2) in case of competition).

MEN	Match	Chen	Douglas	Cooke	Preen	Points
W	F	F	F	F	F	F
1	Belgium	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-1	
2	Holland	3-2	2-0	1-1	0-1	
3	China	1-3	1-1	0-1	0-1	
4	Austria	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-1	
5	Germany	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-1	
6	Hong Kong	2-3	1-1	0-2	1-0	
7	Poland	3-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	
8	Poland	1-3	0-1	0-1	1-1	
9	Denmark	3-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	
10	Denmark	3-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	
		16-20	5-4	3-8	4-6	4-2

WOMEN	Match	Holt	Lomas	Gordon	Deaton	Points
W	F	F	F	F	F	F
1	Germany	1-1	0-1	0-1		
2	Lithuania	3-0	1-0	1-0		
3	Korea	0-3	0-1	0-1		
4	Taipei	1-3	0-1	1-1		
5	Hong Kong	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-1	
6	USA	3-1	2-0	0-1		
7	Hungary	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-1	
8	Belgium	3-1	2-0	0-1		
9	Holland	3-1	1-1	1-0		
10	Russia	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-1	
		13-21	5-4	3-6	0-3	0-3

Under the Joola Trophy arrangement of 4 points for a victory in the 1st stage leading up to 14 points for a win in the final, and down to 2 points for a win in the play off to

10th position the best individual performances in the team events were as follows:

MEN	FA	PTS
1 J O Waldner (Swe)	13-1	87
2 Yoo Eui (Kor)	10-5	58
3 J Banskof (Cze)	11-2	56
4 Wang Tao (Chi)	10-6	54
5 Wang Tao (Chi)	9-2	52
6 Yang W (Hkg)	12-5	47
7 Ma Wenge (Chi)	7-3	42
8 J M Sava (Bel)	8-2	36
9 K Matsushita (Jpn)	8-7	36
10 P P Gallien (Fra)	7-6	36

WOMEN	FA	PTS
1 Deng Y (Chi)	10-0	66
2 Chai PW (Hkg)	11-2	56
3 E Ciosu (Rom)	9-4	50
4 Qiao H (Chi)	8-1	48
5 A Svensson (Swe)	7-3	44
6 Park HJ (Kor)	8-3	42
7 Park KA (Kor)	7-1	38
8 Y Sato (Jpn)	7-6	38
9 Chan TL (Hkg)	7-4	36
10 N Struse (Ger)	7-5	32

England's players recorded the following points tally with this system of marking: 1 Andrea Holt (6-4) 24 pts. 2 Chen Xinhua (5-4) 18 pts. Alan Cooke (4-0) 12 pts. 4 Lisa Lomas (3-5) 12 pts. 3 (Wenond) Douglas (3-5) 14 pts. 6 Carl Preen (4-2) 10 pts.

Jan Ove Waldner (82 points) won the most valuable team player award securing the 5000 DM first prize donated by Joola.

STIGA FELLOWES CRANLEIGH *win* WOOLWICH TROPHIES

STIGA FELLOWES
CRANLEIGH, LED BY THEIR
EFFERVESCENT COACH
SKYLET ANDREW PULLED
OFF A UNIQUE DOUBLE
WHEN THE SECOND
SEASON OF THE LEAGUE
WAS CONCLUDED AT
ANDOVER LEISURE CENTRE,
WINNING BOTH BOYS
AND GIRLS PREMIER
DIVISION TITLES **WRITES**
BRIAN LAMERTON.

The boys, who selected from a squad of Stephen Lampkin, Jason Sugrue, Stephen Joslin and Reagan Nettleingham, the former two unbeaten at Andover with 6 and 8 wins respectively, had until the final match trailed to Irish Boys. The Irish, shorn of their No. 1 Ger Boyle, on senior duty at the Worlds had perhaps surprisingly stayed ahead until the final match but then soon found themselves 4 sets to love down against Fellowes, albeit three of them going to the third game and when Joslin defeated Vincent Meaney, Fellowes were home and dry based on the results of the two matches between them - a win apiece but an overall 7-5 sets advantage. Champions Kingfisher who were without Terry Young, returning from the Commonwealth Games, just held onto their Premier place but when last did you see Grove at the bottom of any division, and a Grove "A" team at that! I doubt if you will be able to get any odds on their return next season. Such was the competition that no ever present player in this division went through unbeaten, David Purdy (Linda Farrow) and Michael James (Derwent) with 8 from 10 being the best returns.

The Girls Premier was even closer; Fellowes Cranleigh and BFL Grove repeating their 3 sets all draw from the first weekend and on countback it was also level on games, it therefore being

points that eventually carried the winners through. In this match Shelley Ruocco, Glenda Ashison and Michelle Haynes won a set apiece for the ultimate winners with Debbie Pestka's brace for BFL not quite enough. Again no player was unbeaten, Groves Lindsey Thornton together with Ruocco and Ashison all winning 8 from 10. Outstanding individual performance which contributed to her Woolwich Player of the Weekend Award was by Clare Newns who defeated both Ruocco and Ashison as her Canons Girls team held the champions to a draw. Sadly Newns who won 7 out of 10 was unable to stop Canons sliding back into division 1. Division 1 Spicers Girls were Woolwich Girls team of the Weekend, represented by Sara Lane, Anna McNamara and

winning an individual maximum, Verity Cleminson (19 from 20) just missing out and good supporting roles from Helen Lincoln and Anna Cheeseman. Irish Girls who lost only 7 sets throughout the weekend (5 to Peniel) return to the Premier division as a result of a surprisingly 6-love scoreline from their match with Dumfries. For the Irish Andrea Glover, 9 from 10, Brioni Lane and Michelle McGreevey 7 each played unchanged.

Peniel Boys drew 3 of their 5 matches but that with runners up Launceston, who they had previously beaten 4-2 was good enough to give them the title. For Peniel who also were awarded the Woolwich Boys team award Vince Avery (a maximum from both weekends), and Ben Linnecar played every match

Friday achieved the best average of this divisions ever present, 90% Andover, 85% overall. Tom Orlik's brace was Bristol's winning factor in their final drawn match with Milton Keynes: Graham Long who won twice in their first encounter remained at the top of the

WOOLWICH JUNIOR BRITISH LEAGUE FINAL ROUND LEAGUE TABLES															
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BOYS PREMIER								BOYS DIVISION 2B							
Stiga Fellowes Cran	10	8	1	1	45	15	17	Bristol	10	8	2	0	44	16	18
Irish Boys	10	8	1	1	42	18	17	Milton Keynes	10	8	1	1	48	12	17
Derwent	10	5	2	3	34	26	12	Amity Generation II	10	6	0	4	31	29	12
Kingfisher A	10	3	2	5	25	35	8	Progress	10	4	1	5	26	34	9
Linda Farrow	10	1	2	7	19	41	4	De Vere Britannia	10	2	0	8	19	41	4
BFL Grove A	10	1	0	9	15	45	2	Sedgefield	10	0	0	10	12	48	0
BOYS DIVISION 1								GIRLS PREMIER							
Peniel	10	7	3	0	43	17	17	Stiga Fellowes Cran	10	6	4	0	42	18	16
Launceston	10	6	1	1	49	11	17	BFL Grove A	10	6	4	0	41	19	16
Briar Humberide	10	2	5	3	28	32	9	Gonerby	10	5	1	4	32	28	11
Edmiston Eagles	10	1	5	4	20	40	7	De Vere Britannia	10	3	4	3	33	27	10
Robson Dunk Folks	10	1	3	6	20	40	5	Canons Girls	10	2	2	6	25	35	6
Edmiston	10	0	5	5	20	40	3	Launceston	10	0	1	9	7	53	1
BOYS DIVISION 2A								GIRLS DIVISION 1							
Lennox House	10	9	1	0	49	11	19	Peniel	10	10	0	0	52	8	20
BFL Grove B	10	6	1	3	33	27	11	Irish Girls	10	6	1	3	40	20	13
Rejects	10	2	5	3	29	31	9	Dumfries	10	6	1	3	35	25	13
Kingfisher B	10	3	2	5	22	38	8	Spicer Girls	10	3	2	5	25	35	8
Seosidax	10	2	3	5	23	33	7	BFL Grove B	10	3	0	7	17	43	6
Ellenborough	10	1	2	7	20	40	4	Kingfisher	10	0	0	10	11	49	0

Victoria Lampkin. Another club doing the double were Peniel, newcomers this season but who will undoubtedly make their mark in the next seasons Premier set up. Peniel Girls, the only team out of the total 36 to return a maximum performance had Tracey Davies

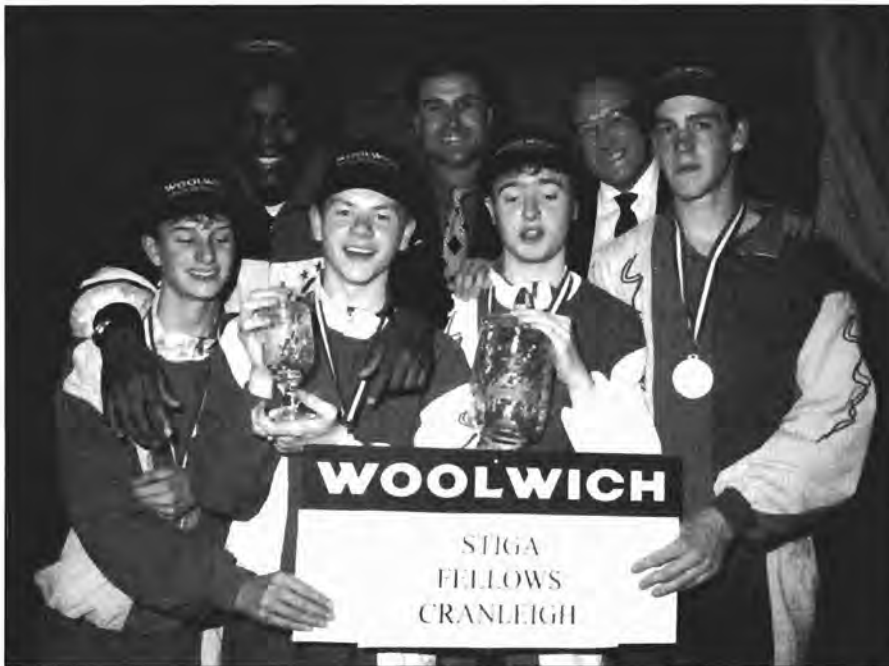
with third place shared by Sam Cleminson & David Coleman. Lennox House and Bristol move up from the two second divisions; Lennox (Kevin Doyle, Robert Abbots, Harry McCarney & Martin Sims) dropped but one point - to Rejects who drew 4 of their 5 matches. Rejects Scott

PLAYER OF THE WEEKEND



Claire Newns, 16, was the youngest player to win the Player of the Weekend award for her outstanding individual performances including superb victories over both Glenda Ashison 21-14 in the 3rd, and a two straight win over Shelley Ruocco 16 and 18 in the same match, when Claire's team Canon Girls drew 3-3 with Stiga Fellowes Cranleigh in the Woolwich Girls Premier.

divisional averages. Bristol's squad was completed by Leigh Iles and Brian Smith whilst MK who cruelly dipped out had Gareth Thomas and Jake Yeates, both every present with an 80% average supported by Mark Cole and Lawrence Fo. The preceding evening had seen the tables in use by the Andover Woolwich Junior League for an extensive coaching



Stiga Fellows Cranleigh, winners of the Boys Team Event (left to right) Reagan Nettleingham, Skylet Andrew, Jason Sugrue, Woolwich's Marketing Manager Chris Byrom, Steven Joslin, ETTA's Deputy Chairman Tony Chatwin and Steven Lampkin.

ALISON SMITH

Alison Smith from Maidstone in Kent, plays for Camers Girls in the Girls Premier, is the Kent Closed Junior Champion after beating Angie Bristow 11-10, 11 in the final in April.



Sixteen year old Alison started playing 6 years ago, and her ambition is to reach the top in her last year as a junior. Her coach Malcolm Francis said "Alison got her just deserts in winning the Kent Championships, proving many peoples belief that she is the best junior girl in the county." Alison beat Zoe Fisher of Gonerby in her opening game of the Premier Division of the Woolwich Junior British League, on Saturday at Andover Leisure Centre.

session and the completion of their season and the completion of their seasons league matches following which the trophy was presented to a team representing Farleigh Rise School.

A new venue for this type of event Andover and Test Valley Borough Council expressed themselves well pleased with the presentation, auguring well for a return. Mayor, Councillor Robert Gardiner set the proceedings going on Saturday and when Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ian Carr visited on Sunday he had to drag himself away to his next appointment. The Woolwich, now established as firm and very good

Stiga Fellows Cranleigh, winners of the Girls Team Event (left to right) Sarah Steadman, Tony Chatwin, Glenda Ashison, Chris Byrom, Michele Haynes and Shelley Ruocco.



Having fun at the Woolwich Junior British League at Andover Leisure Centre are Woolwich's Jane Adams, Marketing Services Contoller, Matthew Marsh and Cheryl Wilkes, Marketing Services Administrator.

friends were with us throughout in the persons of Roger Ham, Chris Byrom and Jane Adams, senior executives of Head Office Marketing department. Presentation duties were shared by Chris Byrom and ETTA Deputy Chairman Tony Chatwin, everybody very carefully handling the magnificent, and now highly coveted, cut glass trophies.

Pictures by John Wood

IT WILL COME AS NO SURPRISE TO READ THAT BFL GROVE OF MARKET DRAYTON SWEEP THE BOARD IN THE PREMIER AND FIRST DIVISIONS OF THE FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE. THE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WAS SEWN UP LONG BEFORE THE SEASON ENDED AND THE PREMIER DIVISION SIDE ONCE AGAIN WERE INVINCIBLE, WINNING EVERY MATCH. BECAUSE OF INTERNATIONAL CALLS THEIR SECOND AND THIRD TEAMS WERE SEVERELY WEAKENED FOR THEIR FINAL MATCHES BUT STILL DID ENOUGH TO CLAIM THE TITLES IN DIVISION 1 NORTH AND 1 SOUTH

WRITES AUBREY DRAPKIN.

Team Peniel were once again runners up in the Premier Division and newly promoted Drumchapel Glasgow were highly delighted to take third spot. At the other end of the table poor Vymura were unable to register a single point and DML White Hart Launceston failed to get out of the second relegation spot.

With Grove second and third teams ineligible for promotion, Premier Division places for next season were claimed by Ruston Marconi Lincoln in the North who finished one point ahead of West Warwickshire. In the South, Linda Farrow of Euston go up finishing level on points with Grove thirds and three points ahead of third placed OLOP of Reading.

City of Leeds went through the season unbeaten in division 2 North although they were held to a draw on five occasions and they finished two points clear of Sedgefield's thirds. Barclays Bank won division 2 South East, only losing their unbeaten record after they had 'tied up the division'. A late burst by Pillingier Air Croydon meant that they took the runners up spot and finished only one point behind the Bank.

There was success for the Welshmen in division 2 South West where the Pontypool based

BFL GROVE SWEEP *the* BOARD

side, Bribar Colley Hyundai stayed unbeaten throughout to finish two points clear of Cheltenham Saracens.

It is pleasing to see that two clubs in their first season in the Friendly Hotels British League came out on top in two of the third divisions. In the East, Progress of Willesden only had their colours lowered once as they swept to a three point advantage over Crusaders of Lincoln. Nice to see Crusaders finishing so high after a few seasons at the foot of the third division North.

The other new club to taste success at the first time of asking was the Sheffield based Abbeydale who took the title in 3 North by a single point from Drumchapel Glasgow second team. The vital match was the second last one when the two teams met in Sheffield. The home



ETA Deputy Chairman Tony Chatwin (left) presents the Premier Division Trophy to a jubilant BFL Grove. Pictured (left to right) Tony Chatwin, Ian Marshall, Alan Cooke and Des Douglas.

side trailed 0-4 at the half way stage but rallied to tie the match at 4-4. This proved to be the vital point that gave them the title.

In the third division South, Horsham Angels third team remained unbeaten and finished four points clear of Norwich Todd Foxwood.

There was drama on the final day in division 3 Midland where Leckie and Launceston thirds went into their final matches equal on points but Leckie knowing that any sort of victory would give them the title because of their superior sets difference. OLOP were breathing down the necks of the leading two, only a single point behind.

When the results came through Launceston had won 7-1, OLOP had won 8-0 but Leckie had been held to a 4-4 draw by Vymura

thirds. This appeared to give the title to Launceston but their joy was short-lived when it was discovered that the Vymura team had played out of ranking order and their result became 5-3 in favour of Leckie.

The season ended in chaos for yours truly thanks to a postal strike in the

Newcastle and North Tyneside region which severely delayed the receipt of result sheets. I only hope that there are no more results to be amended when the final batch arrive!

Finally, congratulations to all the winners and to the rest, better luck next season.



FRIENDLY HOTELS BRITISH LEAGUE FINAL PLACINGS

Premier	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BFL Grove	14	14	-	-	175	21	28
Team Peniel	14	11	-	3	119	77	22
D Glasgow	14	9	1	4	111	85	19
Horsham Angels	14	8	1	5	110	86	17
P Plus St Neots	14	5	1	8	85	111	11
Sedgefield Dist	14	4	1	9	82	114	9
DML Launceston	14	2	2	10	68	128	6
Vymura Int	14	-	-	14	34	162	-
Division One North							
BFL Grove II	14	12	-	2	88	27	24
RM Lincoln	14	9	3	2	71	41	21
Olton & West Warwicks	14	9	2	3	69	43	20
Vymura Int II	14	6	4	4	58	54	16
Sedgefield II	14	5	3	6	58	54	13
Uxbridge (Burlton)	14	3	4	7	43	69	10
Briar Humberstone	14	3	-	11	35	77	6
Leicester Lions	14	-	2	12	29	83	2
Division One South							
BFL Grove III	14	11	1	2	79	33	23
Linda Farrow (Euston)	14	11	1	2	76	36	23
OLOP (Reading)	14	9	2	3	71	41	20
Edison (Haringey)	14	9	1	4	75	37	19
Horsham Angles II	14	3	4	7	43	69	10
BSG Brentwood	14	2	4	8	41	71	8
Milton Keynes	14	2	4	8	38	74	8
Byng Hall	14	-	1	13	25	87	1
Division Two North							
City of Leeds	12	7	5	-	64	32	19
Sedgefield III	12	7	3	2	62	34	17
BFL Grove Colts	12	5	4	3	49	47	14
Moorland Seaside	12	5	2	5	49	47	12
Derwent	12	3	5	4	45	51	11
Peterborough	12	3	-	9	36	60	6
Uxbridge II	12	1	3	8	31	65	5
Division Two South East							
Barclays Bank	12	9	1	2	56	40	19
PA Croydon	12	7	4	1	63	33	18
BSG Brentwood II	12	4	3	5	51	45	11
PT Fellows Cranleigh	12	4	3	5	45	51	11
Linda Farrow II	12	4	3	5	42	54	11
Ashford (Kent)	12	3	2	7	44	52	8
Team Peniel II	12	2	2	8	35	61	6
Division Two South West							
Briar Colley Hyundai	14	12	2	-	89	23	26
Cheltenham	14	12	-	2	81	31	24
DML Launceston II	14	7	2	5	66	46	16
Kingshurst Briar	14	6	1	7	62	50	13
Jolliffe Poole	14	4	3	7	48	64	11
Gridfine St Neots	14	4	2	8	43	69	10
Hawthorn Dragons	14	3	1	10	36	76	7
Amity Generation Fareham	14	2	1	11	23	89	5
Division Three East							
Progress	14	13	-	1	90	22	26
Crusaders Lincoln	14	11	1	2	79	33	23
PT Fellows Cran II	14	7	4	3	68	44	18
Brent Juniors	14	8	2	4	67	45	18
Britannia Ipswich	14	5	2	7	57	55	12
Byng Hall II	14	5	1	8	51	61	11
Rejects	14	1	-	13	19	93	2
Peterborough II	14	1	-	13	17	95	2
Division Three Midland							
Leckie (Walsall)	14	10	2	2	75	37	22
DML Launceston III	14	10	2	2	72	40	22
OLOP II	14	10	1	3	72	40	21
Nottingham League	14	9	-	5	67	45	18
PD Newport	14	6	3	5	58	54	15
Vymura Int III	14	3	1	10	44	68	7
Bromsgrove	14	3	-	11	33	79	6
BFL Grove Colts II	14	-	1	13	27	85	1
Division Three North							
Abbeylea	14	10	4	-	77	35	24
D Glasgow II	14	10	3	1	77	35	23
BFL Grove IV	14	7	2	5	64	48	16
City of Leeds II	14	5	4	5	59	53	14
AALCO Leeds	14	6	-	8	55	57	12
Sedgefield IV	14	3	2	9	40	72	8
CWS Manchester	14	3	2	9	39	73	8
Moorland Seaside II	14	3	1	10	37	75	7
Division Three South							
Horsham III	14	11	3	-	84	28	25
Norwich TF	14	9	3	2	78	34	21
Barnets League	14	9	1	4	68	44	19
Rejects II	14	8	1	5	58	54	17
GS Larkhall	14	7	2	5	60	52	16
Ellenborough	14	2	2	10	39	73	6
Adeyfield	14	1	3	10	37	75	5
Linda Farrow III	14	-	3	11	24	88	3

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SUPER- SCHWARTZ

Double Triumph

GEMMA SCHWARTZ FROM BERKSHIRE PULLED OFF A FANTASTIC DOUBLE VICTORY, WINNING BOTH THE WOMEN'S UNDER 18 AND 21 SINGLES TROPHIES IN THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE SPA ROYAL HALL, BRIDLINGTON **WRITES**

JOHN WOOD.

Beating Sally Marling, last season's winner, in the Under 18 final and Shelley Ruocco in the Under 21 final, whilst former National Junior Champion Alex Perry took the Men's Under 21 title, beating Steven Shaw. Schwartz started off in style on Saturday with an emphatic victory over European Youth Bronze medallist Sally Marling beating her with topspin power 21-17 and 21-18, in an all action final.

After a close first game, Schwartz took a ten lead in the second powering her way to 14-4, before Yorkshire's Marling got her game together and pulled back to within one point at 14-15, but could not hold a vibrant Schwartz who went on to take the Women's Under 18 crown 21-18.

Schwartz, who is from the Kingfisher Club in Berkshire, had to wait just 24 hours to taste success again, when at only 17 she went on to become the Under 21 Women's Singles Champion when she beat Essex junior star Shelley Ruocco 21-14, 21-12.

In the semi-finals of the Under 18, Schwartz beat Ruocco 21-17, 21-10, whilst Marling beat the National Junior Champion Glenda Ashison 21-17, 21-17.



New U21 Singles champions Gemma Schwartz (left) and Alex Perry.



This season's U18 Singles champions Terry Young (left) and Gemma Schwartz obtaining the double.

The semi-final of the Under 21 saw Schwartz defeat England Cadet Lindsey Thornton 21-17, 21-18, whilst the other semi saw Ruocco sensationally defeat the winner of the Under 21 title for the past two years, Kate Goodall from Yorkshire, 13-21, 21-16, 22-20 in a battle that had the seaside audience on their feet!

PERRY POWER

Devon's Alex Perry took the Under 21 Men's Singles trophy, after a terrific battle with Derbyshire's Steven Shaw, winning 16-21, 21-19 and 21-10.

The first game saw Shaw take the sting out of Perry's tail with some blistering topspin attacks, which saw the former National



Two Yorkshire lasses, Zoe Fisher and Sally Marling celebrating their Girls U18 doubles success.

LOUISE DURRANT

Table Tennis World Champion
Former World No. 1
World Champion and 1992 Olympic Gold Medalist
Dorset Masters Award



She is coached by Neil Houghton at Redlands Junior School, Worksop. In these National Championships she reached the second round of the Girl's Under 15, where she lost to Debbie Pestka. Earlier she beat Gillian Spragg two straight, with style.

Under 18 Champion take the first 21-16.

Perry slowed the game in the second and used more tactics which saw both players looking for openings as the man from Devon edged it 21-19.

But in the third there was only one winner as Perry powered his way to victory 21-10.

Perry's opponent in the semi-finals was new National Under 18 Champion Terry Young, whom he defeated with his greater experience 21-15, 21-16. The other semi saw Shaw narrowly beat Ben Johnson from Berkshire, 21-19, 21-19.

YOUNG MASTER

This year's Under 18 Men's Singles Champion is Terry Young who overpowered Reagan Nettleingham from Essex, 21-16, 21-18, in the final.

Young had a tough game in the semi-finals where he faced

Northumberland's Andrew Wilkinson, finally winning 21-10, 20-22, 21-16, whilst unseeded Nettleingham sensationally beat Vince Avery from Peniel, 21-19, 19-21, 21-16, in the other semi.

Nettleingham had another great win when he caused a major upset by beating Berkshire's Ben Johnson in Round Three, 23-21, 19-21, 22-20, in the battle of the tournament.

THOMPSON & DAVIES NEW U15 CHAMPIONS

This season saw two new names on the Under 15 Boys' and Girls' trophies, Christian Thompson from Kent on the Boys' and Tracy Davies from Peniel in Essex on the Girls'.

Thompson took the National Boys' Under 15 title when he overpowered Michael Isherwood from Derbyshire 21-12, 21-9, in a final that the boy from Kent

dominated.

Thompson beat Darren Ashall from Yorkshire 21-12, 21-9 in the semi-final, whilst Isherwood defeated Jason Sugrue 15-21, 21-14, 21-16.

Davies is the National Girls' Under 15 Champion following her titanic Saturday night battle with Lindsey Thornton, which ended in victory for the girl from Essex, 18-21, 21-16, 21-19.

Davies and Thornton who are both members of the England squad, showed their true fighting spirits in this tremendous encounter which saw Davies' edge home by two points.

In the semi-finals Davies beat her Peniel mate Verity Cleminson 21-12, 21-16, whilst Thornton defeated Debbie Pestka 21-16, 21-17.

YOUNG & PYE ARE DOUBLE DOUBLES CHAMPIONS

Terry Young and Leeroy Pye have created a record in these championships by winning both the National Men's Doubles trophies, in the Under 18 and Under 21 events.

In the Under 18 final they defeated Christian Thompson and Ben Johnson 21-7, 18-21, 21-14, whilst in the Under 21 final they beat the Thompson brothers from Kent Christian and Spencer, 21-19, 21-15.

The Under 21 Women's Doubles trophy was won by the pairing of Shelley Ruocco and Glenda Ashison when they had a narrow victory over Claire Newns from Cleveland and Caroline Bentley of Yorkshire 13-21, 21-10, 22-20, actually saving

two match points in the third.

The same pair, Ruocco and Ashison lost in the final of the Women's Under 18 Doubles, losing to the Yorkshire starlets Sally Marling and Zoe Fisher two straight, 15-21, 18-21.

This was a victory that brought joy to the local partisan supporters, this being the only trophy win of these championships for Yorkshire.

ETTA NATIONAL UNDER 15/18/21 CHAMPIONSHIPS FINALS

Boys' Under 15 Singles:
C Thompson bt M Isherwood - 15,14,16.

Girls' Under 15 Singles:
T Davies bt L Thornton -18,16,19.

Men's Under 18 Singles:
T Young bt R Nettleingham 16,18.

Women's Under 18 Singles:
G Schwartz bt S Marling 17,18.

Men's Under 21 Singles:
A Perry bt S Shaw -16,19,10.

Women's Under 21 Singles:
G Schwartz bt S Ruocco 14,12.

Men's Under 18 Doubles:
T Young/L Pye bt C Thompson/B Johnson 7,18,14.

Women's Under 18 Doubles:
S Marling/Z Fisher bt S Ruocco/G Ashison 16,18.

Men's Under 21 Doubles:
T Young/L Pye bt C & S Thompson 19,15.

Women's Under 21 Doubles:
S Ruocco/G Ashison bt C Newns/C Bentley -13,10,20.

Left: Christian Thompson U15 Boys Singles champion and (right) Tracy Davies U15 Girls Singles champion displaying their new trophies and medals.



EASTERN promise

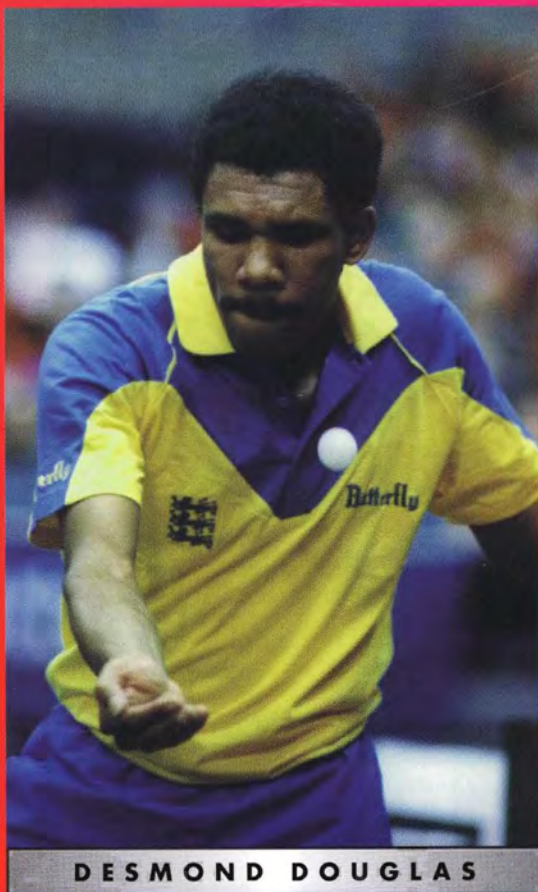


CARL PREAN



ANDREW EDEN

**ENGLAND STARS OF THE
WORLD & COMMONWEALTH
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



DESMOND DOUGLAS



ANDREA HOLT

PENIEL *on* BLUE PETER

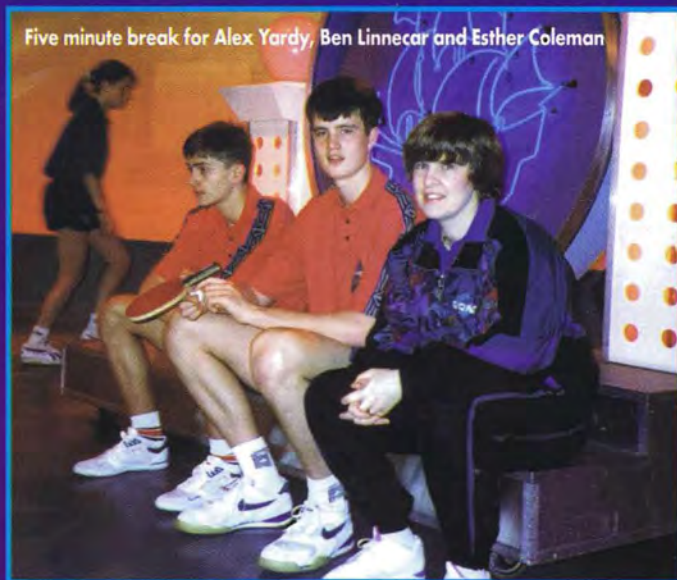
Peniel with Blue Peter presenters Tim Vincent, Stuart Mills and Diane-Louise Jordan.



Anna Cheesman was awarded Player of the Tournament at the English Schools' Team Championships



Five minute break for Alex Yardy, Ben Linnecar and Esther Coleman



Having played Table Tennis for so many years, Peniel Academy were amazed to hear that the BBC Blue Peter programme, having heard of their success at the English Schools Championships at Grantham, was going to feature table tennis.

Peniel were excited and nervous when they reached the television centre wondering which celebrities they would bump into!

The producer showed them to a dressing room, leading them through a maze of corridors and stairways. Peniel waited there until the floor manager was ready before taking them into the studio.

The studio was surprisingly quite small although they managed to fit in five table tennis tables. The whole production had been carefully preplanned and scripted. The producer and presenters soon realised that they weren't playing 'ping pong' but a truly professional sport.

Nicky Jarvis coached the Blue Peter hosts but they probably won't be playing on the TT circuit next year!

After two rehearsals Peniel were glad to take part in a venture which hopefully encouraged other children to have a go at table tennis.

TAYLOR TAKES HONOURS



The idea of Banded events is to produce the most evenly matched confrontations and this was certainly the case in the Mens Band B final where the deceptive seemingly-languid style of Nicky McKay (Middlesex) took the title with a never-say-die win over stylish defender Phil Payne (Somerset). A game and 11-18 down he staged a remarkable recovery to take the match into a third set, which he just won -16,20,19. Robert Young (Notts) was another to enjoy a good day with an excellent run into the semi-final, whilst other interesting results included wins for Christian Thompson (Kent) over Selwyn Campbell (Surrey) and for Jason Sugrue (Middlesex)

THE BAND A TITLES BOTH WENT TO THE NUMBER TWO SEEDS AT THE ESSEX 2 STAR SENIOR OPEN TOURNAMENT AT HARLOW LEISURE CENTRE WITH JOHNNATHAN TAYLOR BEATING PENIEL'S ANDREW EDEN 18,17 IN THE MENS FINAL AND HELEN LOWER (STAFFORDSHIRE) GETTING THE BETTER OF LINDA RADFORD (ESSEX) 17, 7 TO TAKE THE LADIES TITLE. THE TOURNAMENT ATTRACTED 186 ENTRIES - NOT BAD FOR AN EASTER WEEKEND

WRITES STEVE KERNS.

over Ian Musk (Bucks).

The Mens Band C competition was won by the error-free play of Hertfordshire's 20 year-old Craig Millwood - happy to defend as well as attack his consistent approach paid dividends. After escaping -8, 24, 20 against Surrey prospect Howard Quartey in the first round he enjoyed two-straight successes against Dave

Randall (Surrey), Cecil Davies (Notts), Phil Causer (Yorks) and Chris Brewer (Norfolk), and in the final he score an outstanding win over Grove's combination bat-exponent Miki Sinanin 21,-17,13. Sinanin had seen off Essex hopes of a victory with a quarter-final success over Steve Joslin and a semi-final win over James Wickens.

Brian Alison (Lincs) celebrated his birthday in the best possible way by beating Paul Beck (Kent) 15,11 to take the Veterans title. Beck had previously been stretched to overcome Surrey's Gordon Chapman 9,-22,19 after expedite.

In the U21 Ladies event Glenda Ashison (Surrey) beat perennial rival Shelley Ruocco 16,-

but the local plaudits went to Reagan Nettleingham who beat Jason Sugrue and then had a superb semi-final win over Ian Musk 18,-14,17.

The Doubles events produced arguably the best finals of the weekend and Helen Lower/Linda Radford had to retrieve a 2-10 deficit in the third leg to beat Shelley Ruocco/Glenda Ashison -20,17,21 in the ladies final, whilst excellent team-work and understanding meant the Mens Doubles title went to Sussex's Adrian Moore and Richie Venner against Johnathan Taylor and David Morris.

Full Results were as follows:

Mens Band A Semi-Finals - Andrew Eden bt Richie Venner 10,12. Johnathon Taylor bt Phil Payne 14,20. Mens Band A Final - Johnathon Taylor bt Andrew Eden 18,17. Ladies Singles Band A - Helen Lower bt Linda Radford 17,7. Mens Singles Band B - Nicky McKay bt Phil Payne -16,20,19. Mens Singles Band C - Craig Millwood bt Miki Sinanin 21,-17,13. Womens Band B Singles - Sheila King bt Yukiko Gresswell 14,-17,8. U21 Mens Singles - Cris Sladden bt Reagan Nettleingham 17,17. U21 Ladies Singles - Glenda Ashison bt Shelley Ruocco 16,-18,15. U21 Mens Band B Singles - Harry McCarney bt Adam Brewer 20,-15,19. Women's Doubles - Helen Lower/Linda Radford bt Shelley Ruocco/Glenda Ashison 20,-17,21. Mens Doubles - Richie Venner/Adrian Moore bt Johnathon Taylor/David Morris - 16,19,16. Veterans Singles - Brian Alison (Lincs) bt Paul Beck (Kent) 15,11.

18,15 to win the final, but Shelley too can also be well pleased having beaten top-seeded Gemma Schwartz (Berkshire) as well as Claire Marshall (Shropshire) to get there. The U21s Mens event went to top-seed Cris Sladden (Essex)





ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Due to resignation of present incumbent, the ETТА seeks a

SOUTHERN
Regional Table Tennis Development Officer
(Full Time 2 YEAR fixed term contract)

In conjunction with ETТА/Sports Council "Focus Sport" initiative, the main thrust of the post will be to plan and coordinate the implementation of the South West Development Plan for Table Tennis.

Salary £15,000 (all hours worked post).
Office base - Reading

The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:

- Proven organising/administrative ability (preferably in sport)
- Effective communication and negotiating skills
- High level of self-motivation and ability to motivate others
- Experience of sports development
- Understanding of table tennis
- Full driving licence

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS 23rd June 1995

Job description and application form available from:

Doreen Nightingale
English Table Tennis Association
Queensbury House, Havelock Road,
Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF
Tel: 01424 722525 Fax: 01424 422103

Striving for equal opportunities, this post is funded by the Sports Council (Southern Region) and the English Table Tennis Association



BFL GROVE

halfway

LEADERS

THE WOMEN'S BRITISH LEAGUE BROKE NEW GROUND WHEN THEY BEGAN THIS SEASON'S CAMPAIGN IN LANCASTER. SALT AYRE SPORTS CENTRE NOT YET 3 YEARS OLD AND WITH FURTHER PHASES PLANNED ALREADY HAVE AN ABOVE AVERAGE SIZE SPORTS HALL AND OTHER FACILITIES THE ENVY OF MANY AND THERE WAS NO DOUBT ABOUT THE WARMTH OF WELCOME WHEN PROCEEDINGS WERE SET ON THEIR WAY BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER COUNCILLOR MRS JEAN YATES - A WARMTH WHICH CONTINUED INTO THE SECOND DAY WHEN THE DEPUTY MAYOR, COUNCILLOR MRS EILEEN BLAMIRE PRESENTED THE AWARDS **WRITES BRIAN LAMERTON.**

BFL Grove who continue to support the league so strongly by entering 3 teams are of course half way leaders in the Premier division conceding but 2 sets out of 30, 1 to injury and 1 by default. Calling upon Lisa Lomas, Tong Feiming, Alison Gordon and Nicola Deaton nothing else was expected but full credit to those opponents who managed a third game (Gemma Schwartz v Alison; Helen Newbound v Alison and Nicola and Linda Radford against Alison before her retirement). The anticipated battle for second place between Hull Sandhill and South Kesteven did not materialise, Sally Marling, Linda Radford and Schwartz seeing the Sovereigns off by 5 sets to 1. Sovereigns who also went down to both Grove sides are only two points off the bottom and a great relegation scrap is promised for Stourbridge in June.

Irish, Scottish and Welsh Ladies found themselves together in division 1 with the Welsh defeating the Irish by 5 sets to 1 to take the half way lead. The

Welsh played unchanged with Natasha Williams taking a maximum from 10 sets, Bethan Daunton 7 and Judith Saunders 5.

The Irish, whose leading player was Jennifer Thompson with 8 from 10 did what only the Irish could, losing to the top and bottom (Scottish Ladies 2-4) and defeating the 3 in the middle!

Gonerby, promoted from last season's third division have gone straight to the top of division 2 led by Sarah Jane Smith who took 8 from 8 and well supported by Julie Askem, 7 from 8, Michelle Haynes, 6 from 8 and Nicola Massingham 3 from 6. Gonerby's one point dropped was to Pavilion Ladies for whom Rosemary Rainton won a brace. This division was the most keenly contested with Hull Sandhill 2 v Robert Claire 1 going the full distance; Pavilion Ladies v Fullarians and Robert Claire, and Fullarians v Hull Sandhill all going to the third game on 5 occasions. "Team of the weekend" also came from Division 2; the cut glass going to Fullarians, newly sponsored by

Pinewood Studios; their squad being Marta Pilchova, Lisa Crick and Sarah and Caroline Seaholme. It is understood that this was the last appearance in the event for Marta who won 8 from 10, before returning to her native country.

Seasiders from Blackpool will be pleased that they were "persuaded" to provide the only Lancashire based team on the league's first appearance in that county as they swept to the top of Division 3, losing only to Sedgfield for whom "Woman of the weekend" Karen Newby won twice. Brenda Buohey and Clare News both won 7 out of 8 for Seasiders whose squad was completed by Sylvia Graham and Tamar Connolly. Sedgfield's Caron Guthrie leads the individual averages with a maximum from 8. With the reduction in team entries this division will complete an "all play all" on the first day of the second weekend and then divide into top and bottom groups of 4.

A further presentation in the form of a piece of crystal

WOMEN'S BRITISH LEAGUE						
Division Report After Fifth Round, end of first weekend						
	P	W	D	L	F	A/Pts
Premier Division						
BFL Grove I	5	5	0	0	28	210
Hull Sandhill I	5	4	0	1	22	88
S Kesteven Sov's I	5	2	0	3	15	4
Horsham TTC	5	1	1	3	8	22
BFL Grove II	5	1	1	3	10	20
Graham Spicer	5	1	0	4	7	23
First Division						
Welsh Ladies	5	4	1	0	22	8
Irish Ladies	5	3	0	2	16	14
Olvetri Brbar	5	2	2	1	17	13
Bristol	5	2	1	2	17	13
S Kesteven Sov's II	5	1	0	4	9	21
Scottish Ladies	5	1	0	4	9	21
Second Division						
Gonerby	5	4	1	0	24	6
Pavilion Ladies	5	3	2	0	21	9
Fullarians	5	1	3	1	15	15
Robert Claire I	5	2	1	2	13	17
Hull Sandhill II	5	1	1	3	12	18
The Oaks	5	0	0	5	5	25
Third Division						
Blackpool Seasiders	5	4	0	1	21	9
Team Juice	5	3	1	1	17	13
Sedgfield	5	3	1	1	17	13
BFL Grove III	5	2	1	2	15	15
Norton Ladies	5	2	1	2	17	13
Robert Claire II	5	1	2	2	13	17
Worcester Ladies	5	2	0	3	11	19
Dumfries	5	0	0	5	9	21

engraved "For Being Special" was made to Dorothy (Dot) Macfarlane, a long serving hard working member of the small administration team that makes this event "tick".

When it was finally over the hall was cleared in the quickest time ever; John Miller was almost able to bring his van into the hall in order to load up the Butterfly sponsored equipment and the assistance from the centre staff was as it had been from the beginning; First Class. Many faced a 200 plus mile journey home, a journey which we would happily repeat.



FACILITIES STRATEGY

The English Table Tennis Association are developing a FACILITIES STRATEGY aimed at guiding appropriate facility development for Table Tennis into the next century. A draft has been produced and is available for consultation. Copies are available to all ETTA members. Comments are welcomed and should be channelled through affiliated local leagues via either the Voluntary League Development Officer or the Hon. Secretary.

DRAFT FACILITIES STRATEGY AVAILABLE
FROM: E.T.T.A. ☎01424 722525

After the 5 hour flight from Heathrow, the four English teams (2 National, 2 schools) 4 NPC's, Head of Delegation (John Blackband) and 3 adults finally arrived in Tel Aviv at 11.00 pm. (Our umpire, Pat Archdale, ESTTA President, John Arnold and his wife had travelled separately.) Tired and exhausted, everyone was disappointed with the standard of accommodation which we sarcastically nicknamed "The Palace". Unfortunately, although several countries complained, it did not improve during the course of our stay.

On the first day (Wednesday 5th April) there was no matchplay but the English teams practised in both the morning and afternoon.

On Thursday, the team event commenced with all 4 teams playing at least 2 countries on the first tournament day. The National girls and boys teams played in one large group; whilst the school's girls (Peniel Academy) and school's boys (Bedford Modern) team competition each consisted of several separate groups. On Friday the team event continued and the strength of the foreign opposition was becoming apparent.

On Saturday (the Jewish Sabbath) everyone went on a trip to Jerusalem and the Dead Sea. After an early start we arrived at the Old City of Jerusalem at 10.00 am. We saw many religious monuments and buildings, of

BRONZE *in* ISRAEL

**ENGLAND WON THREE BRONZE MEDALS IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS FEDERATION (ISF) WORLD SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS, WHICH WERE HELD IN ISRAEL FROM 4TH TO THE 11TH APRIL 1995
WRITES GLENDA ASHISON.**

which The Wailing Wall and the Holy Sepulchre were amongst the best known.

We then went on to the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth (a further 1 1/2 hours by coach). Because the Dead Sea contains the highest sea salt content (32%) of any sea in the world, it was possible to float on the water's surface with literally no effort. However, 1/2 hour was enough for most of us as the salty water made any small cuts and anything else (ask David Purdy) very painful!

The team event finals were played on Sunday. The final placings of the English teams were as follows: National Boys (T Young, S Meddings, M James, D Purdy) 3rd. National Girls (G Ashison, C Newns, R Sparkes, N

Massingham) 3rd. Peniel Academy (T Davies, V Cleminson, H Lincoln, A Cheeseman) 3rd. Bedford Modern (R Dynes, G Babcock, A Hunt, A Pearson) 7th.

A special mention must be made of Terry Young who was outstanding in his match against Yanier Sharon, the Israeli No. 1 and No. 1 seed for the singles tournament. Terry managed to put England into a 1-0 lead with an unexpected win over the Israeli boy (18,-17,19). This eventually led to a 3-1 victory over the eventual winners Israel and we were the only country to beat them throughout the team event.

The singles and doubles events were played on Monday and Tuesday. The format was groups

of 3 or 4 with 2 qualifying for the competition proper. The first round was somewhat of a disappointment to England as 4 girls had to play each other (C Newns, V Cleminson, G Ashison and T Davies).

In the doubles event, 2 English pairs reached the quarter finals (Girls: G Ashison/R Sparkes, Boys: D Purdy/M James). In the singles the last English boy was D Purdy (who lost in the 2nd round) whilst in the girls, G Ashison and R Sparkes reached the quarter finals where both bowed out to Chinese players.

Overall, the tournament was successful in providing many English players with international experience and many matches. Also, the 3 bronze medals were a great improvement on the last World Schools Championships (no medals were won in Birmingham in 1993).

Throughout the stay in Israel, there was never a moment to be bored as there was always some sort of entertainment to be involved in. I think most of our players would agree that the folklore evening was one of the funniest and most memorable events of the tournament with the English coaches and adults performing "Old MacDonald had a farm" - (outstanding performances from Nicky Jarvis and Bob Wood (pigs), Gail McCulloch and Mrs Worrell (dogs) and John Arnold (chicken)) and the players singing 'Grease Lightning' and 'Summer Lovin' from the Grease film track.

However, the early mornings (waking up between 5.30-6.00 am) and late nights (returning to the "Palace" between 11.30-12.00 pm) did begin to tell on many of the players. Nevertheless, by the end of the week everyone had thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the players would like to thank all the coaches, the organisers and the ESTTA officials for making the tournament possible.

The ESTTA are grateful to Jarvis Sports (clothing), Dunlop Sports (holdalls) and Isostar (drink) for their assistance.

The ESTTA now offers the opportunity for international experience at U12 (British Primary), U14, U16, U19 (Home International) and U17 (World Schools). With the ISF event now established as a bi-annual event, there is every reason to be affiliated to the ESTTA. (The next ISF event is likely to be in Belgium in 1997 with Russia showing an interest for 1999.)



England's successful medal winners in Israel.

YORKS *are* CHAMPS!

YORKSHIRE TOOK THE JUNIOR PREMIER CHAMPIONSHIP BY THE NARROW MARGIN OF JUST ONE GAME ADVANTAGE, AFTER FINISHING LEVEL WITH ESSEX ON POINTS, AFTER THE ESSEX TEAM SURPRISINGLY DROPPED A POINT TO KENT AFTER THEY HAD DEFEATED YORKSHIRE WRITES DOUG MOSS.

JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION

The 16 matches in the final series to decide the championship were played at Victoria Club, Crewe.

Essex was the team of the weekend with 3 wins and 1 drawn match. Among their wins was the defeat of Yorkshire, the previously unbeaten and leading team. Stephen Joslin and Shelley Ruocco (E) won their 4 events, in straight sets, and Nikki Kennard and Reagan Nettlingham each had a win.

However, in the final series of matches, Essex dropped a point to Kent. This was a surprise as Kent had met Yorkshire earlier in the day and, in a match in which 7 events went to a decider, they were beaten 7-3. In the match



SHELLEY RUOCCO

versus Essex the Kent team had 3 wins at 16,18,19 in deciding games! With Essex having dropped a point in the first series they finished on level points with Yorks. But Yorkshire took the Junior Premier Championship by

a 1 set advantage (Y 48-22, E 47-33).

Surrey, who were unbeaten in the first series had to meet Essex and Yorkshire. Without the services of Glenda Ashison they picked up only 1 point in this final series. The Kent team, who started the weekend programme with just 1 point, improved considerably. With the same team Kent had 2 wins and 1 drawn match against some of the stronger opposition. Glamorgan played very well to get 3 wins and take 3rd place. They were very well served by Ryan Jenkins and Bethan Daunton, who each lost only 1 match during the whole programme. The Middlesex team also improved to win 5 points in the final series and avoid relegation. Current champions, Berkshire, without the services of Terry Young, lost to Middlesex and also finished with 5 points but with an inferior sets average and are for relegation. Cheshire failed to get a point and are the other team relegated.

Shelley Ruocco (Essex) was the only player with 100% success over the season!

RESULTS

K	7	CH	3	BK	3	MI	7
SY	5	MI	5	SY	2	E	8
BK	2	GN	8	CH	4	GN	6
E	6	Y	4	K	3	Y	7
MI	4	K	6	GN	7	SY	3
Y	8	SY	2	Y	9	BK	1
GN	3	E	7	MI	7	CH	3
CH	4	BK	6	E	5	K	5

FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yorkshire	7	6	0	1	48	22	12
Essex	7	5	2	0	47	23	12
Glamorgan	7	4	1	2	39	31	9
Surrey	7	3	1	3	31	39	7
Kent	7	2	2	3	34	36	6
Middlesex	7	2	1	4	33	37	5
Berkshire	7	2	1	4	27	43	5
Cheshire	7	0	0	7	21	49	0

The County Championships programme of over 700 matches has been completed. The champions of all the Divisions have been decided and also the fate of teams who will gain promotion or suffer relegation.

Match results and comments on the final round are:-

SENIOR DIV 2A:

CV	7	LI2	3.	CV	8	LE2	2.
CU	6	CH	4.	WA2	9	CW	1.
NG	9	ST3	1.	NG	5	ST2	5.

There were vital matches with the clash of the Notts and Staffs teams. Notts had a convincing 9-1 win over Staffs 3rd team and they needed a win over Staffs 2nds to win the championship. There was certainly an exciting finish with

in third games! Cleveland had a somewhat "easier ride" against Leics 2nds with an 8-2 win. Cheshire, at least contenders for promotion, were surprisingly beaten 6-4 by bottom of the table Cumbria. It was no surprise that the Cheshire ladies - Doreen Schofield and Clare Newns - won their four events but the men of Cumbria - Stephen Dixon, Stephen Temple and Philip Clarkson - had 100% success! The match between Dixon and Dean Appleton (Ch) ended -20, 20, 24! This effort saved Cumbria from relegation! The Clwyd team was a player short on their visit to Coventry and Warwick 2nds got a 9-1 win.

SENIOR DIVISION 2B

GS 7 DO 3. CO 8 SO 2. WO2 1 DV3 9

Glos's win over Dorset secured the championship of the Division. Brian Garroway was in good form for Dorset with wins over Darren Griffin and Graham Slack. Cornwall's excellent 8-2 win over Somerset moved them 2 places up the table and clinched the runners-up spot. Gary Wilson, and Martin and Cara Rowe, were undefeated. Worcs 2nds suffered a heavy 9-1 defeat at the hands of Devon 3rds. Joanne Hill got the one win for Worcs with the 17 and 17 defeat of Dana Kratochvila.

JUNIOR DIVISION 1A

LA 4 CW 6. NK2 3 DY 7.

Clwyd did well on their visit to Lincs to get a 6-4 win and thereby avoid relegation. Adam Robertson and Delwyth Davies (Cw) won their four events. Norfolk 2nds lost 3-7 to Derbys. The match was closer than the score might suggest as Derbys won events at 25 and 19 in deciding games.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2A

OX 1 WA1 9. WA1 10 LA2 0.

LA2 9 LE 1. NP3 3 WA2 7. BD 6 LI 4. LE 2 BD 8. WA2 6 OX 4. LE 6 NP 4. Warwicks 1st team remained unbeaten after a 10-0 win over nearest rivals Lincs 2nds and 9-1 win over Oxon. Warwicks dropped only 9 events over the season and became worthy champions. Ryan Stockham (Wa) got 100% wins over the season.

ROLL OF HONOUR

ETTA County Championships

Season 1994/5

(Champions in Bold

Relegated in Light)

SENIORS

Premier Division: **Middlesex**
Derbyshire & Lancashire
Division 1A: **Cambridgeshire**
Lancashire 2nd & Worcestershire
Division 1B: **Sussex 1st**
Sussex 2nd & Surrey 2nd
Division 2A: **Staffordshire 2nd**
Division 2B: **Gloucestershire**
Division 2C: **Hertfordshire 1st**
Division 2D: **Hampshire 1st**

JUNIORS

Premier Division: **Yorkshire**
Berkshire & Cheshire
Division 1A: **Yorkshire 2nd**
Clwyd & Norfolk 2nd
Division 1B: **Sussex 1st**
Avon & Devonshire 2nd
Division 2A: **Warwickshire 1st**
Division 2B: **Essex 2nd**
Division 2C: **Glamorgan 2nd**
Division 2D: **Surrey 2nd**

VETERANS

Premier Division: **Dorset**
Sussex & Hampshire
Division 1A: **Hertfordshire**
Cheshire 2nd & Oxfordshire
Division 1B: **Kent 2nd**
Berkshire & Somerset
Div 2A: **N'hamptonshire 1st**
Clwyd
Division 2B: **Norfolk 1st**
Buckinghamshire 2nd
Division 2C: **Sussex 2nd**
Sussex 3rd
Division 2D: **Devonshire 1st**
Devonshire 2nd
Division 3A: **Yorkshire 2nd**
Division 3B: **Hampshire 3rd**
Division 3C: **Oxfordshire 2nd**

Notts leading 5-4. But Julian Wootton (St) beat Tim Sheppard - 22, 19, 16 to secure a point for Staffs 2nds and clinch the championship. Cleveland ended their first season with two good wins. The 7-3 defeat of Lincs 2nds was a hard fought match with 7 events going to a decider and three of those ending after deuce

Lancs 2nds got a 9-1 win over bottom of the table Leics - although 7 events went to a decider. Lancs hold on to runners-up spot. Warwick 2nds concluded a satisfactory season with wins over Oxon and Northants. The Beds boys - Rob Dynes, Graham Babcock and Adrian Hunt - won their six events against Lincs for the win. Beds also had an 8-2 win over Leics to steer well clear of relegation. A match with all events decided in straight games resulted in a 6-4 win for Lincs over Northants.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2B

E2 9 HE2 1. E3 4 HE1 6. HE1 5 SK2 5. Essex 2nds had a comprehensive 9-1 win over Herts 2nds to remain unbeaten and win the championship. Richard Murrell got the one Herts win with the 16 in the third defeat of Sean Jehan. Herts 1st team visited Barnet TTC. The match score stood at 4-4 against Essex 3rd team. At that stage Michelle Budden and Tim Seaholme (He) had two straight wins to clinch a 6-4 win. Suffolk 2nds visited Barnet TTC and secured a point from a draw with Herts 1st team. Gavin Bloomfield and Emma Walters got wins at 23 and 20 in deciding games for Suffolk to take the runners-up spot.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2C

GN2 6 WI 4. WO 5 SO 5. CO 6 GS 4. CO 4 HR 6. DO 8 DV3 2. Glam 2nds concluded their season unbeaten after the 6-4 win over Wilts. They win the championship and promotion. But the Wilts No1 players Tim O'Mahoney and Debbie King won their four events and proved themselves the top players in this division. Somerset surprised Worcs. by achieving a draw. It was down to their boys Andrew Rumary, Michael Ong and Chris Sayers who won 5 of their 6 event. The Worcs girls Stephanie Price and Laura Vaughan won their matches in straight games. Worcs hold on to the runners-up spot. Cornwall recieved the Glos and Herefords teams and both results proved some surprise. Cornwall had a 6-4 win over third place Glos. Kevin Worth and Graham Worth (Co) won their 4 events. There followed the match with lowly Herefords, who played well to get a 6-4 win, their second win of the season. Leanne Neads (Hr) won both her matches. Dorset also got their second success of the season with

a 8-2 win over Devon 3rds.

JUNIOR DIVISION 2D:

BU2 1 SY2 9. WA2 8 SX3 2. MI2 5 BK2 5. SY3 6 K3 4. Surrey 2nds completed their season unbeaten after the 9-1 defeat of Bucks 2nds. The Surrey team win the championship and promotion. Anna MacNamara and Sarah Lane got 100% wins over the season. Hants 2nds took the runners-up spot with an 8-1 win over Sussex 3rds. The 2 bottom of the Table teams - Middlesex 2nds and Berks 2nds - met and a draw resulted. There was a close contest between Surrey 3rds and Kent 3rds with 6 events going to a decider. Surrey won 6-4, Michael Chan won his 2 matches for Surrey as did Kent No 1 Antony Lickfold.

VETERAN DIV 1B:

E3 2 K2 7. SY1 7 BU 2. SY2 5 BK1 4. E2 5 SO 4. With a 7-2 win over Essex 3, Kent 2nds completed their season unbeaten and win the championship. Surrey 1st team beat Bucks 7-2. Their only loss of the season was against Kent 2nds. Surrey 2nds v Berks 1st team was a hard fought match with 5 events decided narrowly in 3rd games. Surrey 2nds led 4-1 but Berks fought back but finally lost 4-5. Essex 2nds had a narrow 5-4 win over bottom of the table Somerset. Brian Reeves (So) won both singles and the doubles with Graham Green.

VETERAN DIV 2A:

NPI 5 LA2 4. WA2 9 CW 0. There was an exciting climax to this division. The top 2 teams - Lancs 2nds and Northants 1st team - were on equal points at the top of the table with the Lancs team having a slightly better sets average. The match was at Northampton and Lancs started very well with a 2-nil lead. Northants then took the next 4 events and went on to win 5-4 to take the championship. Keith Jones and Margaret Maltby won 4 events for Northants and Margaret Maltby ended the season with 100% wins in singles and mixed doubles (with Keith Jones). Warwick 2nds and Clwyd, who were at the foot of the table, met for their final match which Warwicks won 9-nil.

VETERAN DIV 2B:

BD1 0 NK1 9. BU2 3 HE2 6. CA 8 BD2 1. F4 7 HU 2. Top team Norfolk finished on a high note to beat nearest rivals - Bedfordts 1 - 9-nil - and all in straight games. Chris Brewer

achieved 100% singles wins over the season and the Norfolk team lost only 1 of the 14 doubles events played. Bottom team Bucks 2nds put up a good fight against Herts 2nds but went down 3-6. And fellow strugglers Beds 2nd won only the mixed doubles against Cambs. Essex 4th team went into a 5-nil lead against Hunts and finished with a 7-2 scoreline. All events were decided in straight games.

VETERAN DIV 2C:

K3 1 SX2 8. SX3 2 SY3 7. BK2 0 K3 9. Sussex 2nds completed a successful season remaining unbeaten after their 8-1 win over Kent 4th team. They win the championship and promotion. Sussex 2nds had a very good all round performance from Andy Meads, Gerry Batt-Rawden, John Millward and Barbara Bayford. Surrey 3rd team, which included 10 players over the season, clinched the runners-up spot after a 7-2 defeat of the Sussex 3rd team. Kent 3rd team concluded with a 9-nil win over Berks 2nds. Two events were won at 19 in deciding games.

VETERAN DIV 2D:

AV 6 WI 3. DV2 3 HA2 6. Hants 2nds, in beating Devon 2nds 6-3, went through the season dropping just 2 points. This was against the Devon 1st team who win the championship. Devon 2nds, who failed to get a point, finished at the other end of the table. Avon got a 6-3 win over Wilts. Bob Murray, Avon captain, played in and won both doubles events. Gary Baldwin (Av) lost only once during the season.

VETERAN DIV 3A:

NK2 2 Y2 7. ST 7 HE4 2. CH3 5 SK 4. BD3 5 NP3 4. Yorks 2nds are undisputed champions after their 7-2 win over near rivals Norfolk 2nds. The Yorks team had a remarkable season winning all their matches and dropping just 5 events over the 7 matches! With Norfolk 2nds defeat, Staffs clinched the runners-up spot after a 7-2 win over Herts 4. Martin Pickles (St) won his 2 singles and the mens doubles with John Taylor. Two mid-table teams met and so a 5-4 result was not surprising when Cheshire 3rds beat Suffolk. The 2 bottom teams met - Beds 3rds and Northants 3rds. Seven events went to a decider and the Beds team won 5-4. Alex Murdoch (Bd) won both his singles matches and the mixed doubles with Val Murdoch.

VETERAN DIV 3B:

WI2 5 HA3 4. DO3 5 SX4 4. HE3 6 BK4 3. WI4 2 HA4 7. Hants 3rd team, without the services of Ray Lush, lost their first match of the season 4-5 when they visited the Wilts 2nd team. Tony Mileham (Wi) was involved in 3 of the wins and also inflicted the first defeat of Graham Lynch. Herts 3rd team beat Berks 4th team 6-3 and also lost only 1 match this season. Tony Teff (He) won both his singles and the men's doubles with Alan Lamprell. Pam Spooner (Bk) ended Sue Felstead's winning run with a 15 and 18 win. Two mid-table teams - Dorset 3rd and Sussex 4th - met in a close contest with Dorset achieving a 5-4 win. Chris Baker was involved in 3 of the Sussex team's wins. Wilts 4th team failed to get a point after their 7-2 defeat by Hants 4th team. Roy Cary and Ben Sage each got a win for Wilts.

VETERAN DIV 3C:

SO2 4 OX2 5. BK3 5 HE5 4. DV3 6 WI3 3. H4 2 DV4 7. Oxon 2nds concluded their season with a 5-4 win over Somerset 2nds to remain unbeaten, win the championship and promotion. It was certainly a hard fought match with Oxon's Nigel Taylor beating Andy Seward at 20 in the 3rd game and Neil Hurford (Ox) getting home 17 in a deciding game against Alan Maidment. George Philpott (So) played well to win both his singles events and the mens doubles, with Alan Maidment, 18,-19,19, Andy Seward (So) beat Neil Hurford for the other Somerset win. There was another remarkable match when Berks 3rds met Herts 5th team. The visitors (Herts) went into a 4-nil lead and, at that stage, Colin Dyke, Brian Halliday (Bk) won the mens doubles -9,21,20! Berks then won the next 3 events to level at 4-4, and in the excitement Brian Halliday beat Alan Phipps at 20 in a deciding game for a 5-4 win to clinch the runners-up spot. Devon 3 received Wilts 3 and, with 5 wins for Phil Reeves and Roger Annis, got a 6-3 win. Wilts won the final event when John Nash beat Peter Nicholson -19, 21, 21! Devon 4th team visited Herefords and won 7-2. Neville Meredith/Nim Hodges (Hr) won the men's doubles and Carol Milnes (Hr) won her singles to go through the season with just 1 loss.

ETTA COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL TABLES 94/95

Compiled by Leslie Smith

SENIORS

Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesex	7	5	2	0	47	23	12
Leicestershire	7	3	3	1	37	33	9
Berkshire	7	3	2	2	40	30	8 (95-69)
Essex	7	3	2	2	40	30	8 (89-75)
Devonshire	7	2	3	2	34	36	7
Staffordshire	7	2	2	3	38	32	6
Derbyshire	7	2	1	4	28	42	5
Lancashire	7	0	1	6	16	54	1

Division 1A

Cambridgeshire	7	6	0	1	48	22	12
Yorkshire	7	5	1	1	43	27	11
Warwickshire	7	4	1	2	37	33	9
Suffolk	7	3	1	3	37	33	7
Northumberland	7	2	2	3	33	37	6
Buckinghamshire	7	2	1	4	34	36	5
Lancashire 2nd	7	1	2	4	24	46	4
Worcestershire	7	0	2	5	24	46	2

Division 1B

Sussex 1st	7	6	1	0	53	17	13
Kent	7	5	1	1	45	25	11
Surrey 1st	7	5	0	2	42	28	10
Middlesex 2nd	7	3	0	4	33	37	6
Avon	7	3	0	4	28	42	6
Devonshire 2nd	7	2	1	4	32	38	5
Sussex 2nd	7	1	2	4	28	42	4
Surrey 2nd	7	0	1	6	19	51	1

Division 2A

Staffordshire 2nd	9	7	1	1	67	23	15
Nottinghamshire	9	6	2	1	67	23	14
Cheshire	9	6	0	3	56	34	12 (127-83)
Warwickshire 2nd	9	5	2	2	56	34	12 (127-85)
Cleveland	9	5	2	2	48	42	12
Leicestershire 2nd	9	3	1	5	36	54	7
Cumbria	9	1	3	5	32	58	5
Clwyd	9	2	1	6	28	62	5
Lincolnshire 2nd	9	2	0	7	35	55	4
Staffordshire 3rd	9	1	2	6	25	65	4

Division 2B

Gloucestershire	8	7	0	1	51	29	14
Cornwall	8	6	0	2	56	24	12
Wiltshire 1st	8	5	1	2	53	27	11
Somerset	8	5	1	2	46	34	11
Devonshire 3rd	8	5	0	3	49	21	10
Worcestershire 2nd	8	3	0	5	37	43	6
Dorset	8	1	0	7	27	43	2
Cornwall 2nd	8	1	0	7	17	63	2
Wiltshire 2nd	8	1	0	7	14	66	2

Note Dorset v Devonshire 3rd Match Void.

Division 2C

Hertfordshire 1st	9	8	1	0	78	12	17
Essex 2nd	9	8	0	1	73	17	16
Lincolnshire 1st	9	6	2	1	65	25	14
Northamptonshire	9	5	2	2	48	42	12
Bedfordshire	9	4	2	3	37	53	10
Suffolk 2nd	9	3	1	5	41	49	7
Hertfordshire 3rd	9	2	1	6	34	56	5
Huntingdonshire	9	2	1	6	31	59	5
Kent 3rd	9	1	1	7	26	64	3
Norfolk	9	0	1	8	17	73	1

Division 2D

Hampshire 1st	7	6	0	1	51	19	12
Kent 2nd	7	6	0	1	50	20	12
Sussex 3rd	7	5	0	2	50	20	10
Hampshire 2nd	7	2	1	4	33	37	5
Essex 3rd	7	2	1	4	32	38	5
Hertfordshire 2nd	7	1	3	3	29	41	5
Buckinghamshire 2nd	7	1	2	4	21	49	4
Oxfordshire	7	1	1	5	14	56	3

JUNIORS

Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yorkshire	7	6	0	1	48	22	12
Essex	7	5	2	0	47	23	12
Glamorgan	7	4	1	2	39	31	9
Surrey	7	3	1	3	31	39	7
Kent	7	2	2	3	34	36	6
Middlesex	7	2	1	4	33	37	5
Berkshire	7	2	1	4	27	43	5
Cheshire	7	0	0	7	21	49	0

Division 1A

Premier Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yorkshire 2nd	7	6	1	0	50	20	13
Derbyshire	7	4	2	1	39	31	10
Norfolk 1st	7	4	1	2	42	28	9
Suffolk	7	4	0	3	33	37	8
Lancashire	7	2	2	3	40	30	6
Nottinghamshire	7	2	0	5	31	39	4
Clwyd	7	1	2	4	30	40	4
Norfolk 2nd	7	1	0	6	15	55	2

Division 1B

Sussex 1st	7	7	0	0	60	10	14
Buckinghamshire	7	6	0	1	51	19	12
Hampshire	7	3	2	2	36	34	8
Devonshire	7	3	1	3	40	30	7
Kent 2nd	7	2	2	3	30	40	6
Sussex 2nd	7	1	3	3	33	37	5
Avon	7	1	2	4	24	46	4
Devonshire 2nd	7	0	0	7	6	64	0

Division 2A

Warwickshire 1st	7	7	0	0	61	9	14
Lancashire 2nd	7	5	1	1	45	25	11
Lincolnshire	7	4	2	1	38	31	10
Warwickshire 2nd	7	4	1	2	33	37	9
Bedfordshire	7	2	0	5	30	39	4
Northamptonshire	7	1	2	4	25	45	4
Oxfordshire	7	0	2	5	25	45	2
Leicestershire	7	0	2	5	22	48	2

Division 2B

Essex 2nd	5	3	2	0	36	14	8
Suffolk 2nd	5	2	3	0	28	22	7
Hertfordshire 1st	5	2	2	1	26	24	6
Huntingdonshire	5	1	2	2	18	32	4
Essex 3rd	5	1	1	3	19	31	3
Hertfordshire 2nd	5	1	0	4	23	27	2

Note Norfolk 3rd have withdrawn, their record has been deleted.

Division 2C

Glamorgan 2nd	8	8	0	0	64	16	16
Worcestershire	8	6	1	1	58	22	13
Gloucestershire	8	5	0	3	47	33	10
Wiltshire	8	5	0	3	41	39	10
Somerset	8	3	2	3	45	35	8
Cornwall	8	3	0	5	33	47	6
Dorset	8	2	1	5	30	50	5
Herefordshire	8	2	0	6	22	58	4
Devonshire 3rd	8	0	0	8	20	60	0

Division 2D

Surrey 2nd	7	7	0	0	58	12	14
Hampshire 2nd	7	5	1	1	44	26	11
Sussex 3rd	7	3	2	2	35	35	8
Surrey 3rd	7	3	2	2	34	36	8
Kent 3rd	7	3	1	3	36	34	7
Buckinghamshire 2nd	7	2	2	3	32	38	6
Middlesex 2nd	7	0	1	6	23	47	1
Berkshire 2nd	7	0	1	6	18	52	1

VETERANS

Premier Division	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Dorset	7	5	2	40	23	10 (90-63)
Lancashire	7	5	2	40	23	10 (89-63)
Yorkshire	7	5	2	36	27	10
Cheshire	7	4	3	36	27	8
Kent	7	3	4	32	31	6
Essex	7	3	4	30	33	6
Sussex	7	3	4	25	38	6
Hampshire	7	0	7	13	50	0

Division 1A

Hertfordshire	7	7	0	43	20	14
Leicestershire	7	6	1	37	26	12
Lincolnshire	7	5	2	40	23	10
Worcestershire	7	3	4	32	31	6
Warwickshire	7	3	4	30	33	6
Northumberland	7	3	4	29	34	6
Cheshire 2nd	7	1	6	26	37	2
Oxfordshire	7	0	7	15	48	0

Division 1B

Kent 2nd	7	7	0	46	17	14
Surrey 1st	7	6	1	46	17	12
Essex 2nd	7	4	3	33	30	8
Surrey 2nd	7	4	3	30	33	8
Buckinghamshire	7	2	5	28	35	4
Essex 3rd	7	2	5	24	39	4 (63-89)
Berkshire	7	2	5	24	39	4 (63-90)
Somerset	7	1	6	21	42	2

Division 2A

Northamptonshire 1st	6	6	0	39	15	12
Lancashire 2nd	6	5	1	41	13	10
Warwickshire 2nd	6	4	2	32	21	8
Nottinghamshire	6	3	3	23	31	6
Northamptonshire 2nd	6	2	4	22	32	4
Warwickshire 3rd	6	1	5	20	34	2
Clwyd	6	0	6	11	43	0

Division 2B

Norfolk 1st	7	7	0	56	7	14
Hertfordshire 2nd	7	5	2	41	22	10
Bedfordshire 1st	7	5	2	29	34	10
Cambridgeshire	7	4	3	37	26	8
Essex 4th	7	4	3	36	27	8
Huntingdonshire	7	1	6	23	40	2
Bedfordshire 2nd	7	1	6			

Story of Table Tennis- The first 100 years

One can appreciate the incredible wisdom and foresight of guiding figures like the Hon Ivor Montagu who were responsible, for example, for defining at international level all participants as players, rather than as professionals or amateurs, and in insisting that member associations must conduct 'the sport in their territory in such a way as to enable participation by their inhabitants without distinction of colour, race or creed'. Pen pictures are skilfully crafted of many of the administrative and playing greats

THE PUBLICATION OF THIS BOOK HAS REALISED A PAINSTAKING LABOUR OF LOVE BY THAT GENTLEMAN PLAYER AND OFFICIAL RON CRAYDEN, AND HE HAS DONE THE GAME OF TABLE TENNIS AN IMMENSE SERVICE. DETAILED AND COMPACT BUT BEAUTIFULLY WRITTEN, IT COVERS AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF GROUND, CHARTING THE HISTORY OF THE SPORT FROM ITS BEGINNINGS AT THE END OF THE LAST CENTURY TO THE PING PONG CRAZE AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS, AND FROM THE REVIVAL AND CODIFICATION IN THE 1920'S INTO THE WORLDWIDE SPORT OF TODAY. A REFERENCE INDEX WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPRACTICAL WITHOUT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING ITS SIZE

WRITES KEN MUHR.

Surbek? And was it really as far back as 1971 that long pimples and twiddling (combined with foot stomping during service) were introduced (by Liang Koliang)?! (I thought it was 1975 but stand to be corrected.)

Ron's script seems to run just a little thin from 1987 when Jiang Jialiang retained his world singles title against the challenge of the sublimely gifted - but vulnerable - Jan Ove Waldner. Thus I (most subjectively!) feel he does not give the due weight to the age of JO. When players of today are old, they will speak of him in the same reverential tones as Ron confers for Barna and Bergmann. Likewise, although Ron lavishes praise on Ivor Montagu and H Roy Davies, and I agree that the ITTF has been extraordinarily fortunate in its first two presidents, I believe this quality carried on with Ichiro Ogimura

(lauded as a player only) who was a visionary of the modern age. His recent death is an incalculable loss to table tennis.

These are minor and perhaps unfair, idiosyncratic

quibbles that do not detract. The book is excellent and a must for all followers of our fantastic sport - now available from the ETTA office in Hastings, at a cost of £5.50 (including p&p).

And what will come next? Ron conjectures just maybe a black world champion before the turn of this century, and table tennis as a front-line television sport next century. What about a woman ITTF President?

“
The book is excellent and a must for all followers of our fantastic sport...
”

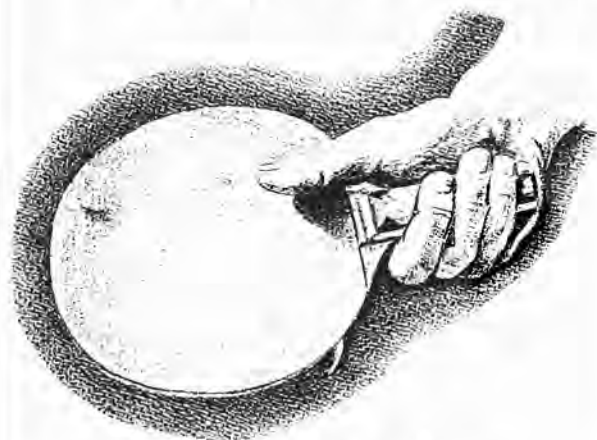
of table tennis, and at the back of the book there are small vignettes of all previous world champions up to 1991 (women) and 1993 (men), together with milestones and results.

As well as chronicling the major personalities and championships in table tennis, Ron accounts the trends and issues such as vellum bats to wood, pimple v sponge, the advent of the loop and spin serves (and third ball attack), shakehands grip v penhold, the continuing battle for ascendancy between Europe and Asia - West v East, and the need for professionalism. A distaste for recent, 'unwholesome practices such as foot stamping, bat 'twiddling' and injecting bicycle glue underneath racket covers', and for shielding serves is evident.

I feel he makes a rare error when he attribute young Swedes for being responsible for introducing the 'farcical ploy' of regluing with speed glue - was it not first the Hungarians (Klampar and Jonyer) and

NOW AVAILABLE

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By Ron Crayden

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Woolwich Junior Leagues...

The purpose of the programme is to attract new players at local level into the sport and to provide competition for elite level players to develop their game against players of a similar standard. The Woolwich British League is quite well known about and its second year is so popular that it is over-subscribed. Reports appear separately in this issue of the magazine.

LOCAL WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUES

The concept is to recruit new young players by making Table Tennis an attractive activity for all young people. One way of achieving this is through a local

SO FAR SO GOOD!

THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE ETTA AND THE WOOLWICH BUILDING SOCIETY (SUPPORTED BY A GOVERNMENT BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR SPORT) TO CREATE THE WOOLWICH JUNIOR TABLE TENNIS PROGRAMME HAS BEEN EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL SO FAR **WRITES DICCON GRAY.**

League on behalf of the senior league so long as permission is granted. Young players are the future of Table Tennis!

WHAT IS A WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUE?

A LOCAL TABLE TENNIS LEAGUE FOR JUNIORS PROMOTED NATIONALLY -

(reduced affiliation, free trophies, posters, score-cards, headed paper, players handbooks and certificates).

ORGANISED LOCALLY -

(often by existing affiliated local senior leagues).

MULTI-TABLE VENUES -

(eg school gym, sports centre, community hall).

MATCHES COMPLETED IN TWO HOURS -

(allows time for homework and other activities).

2 PERSON TEAMS - 11 UP -

(players involved in 4 out of 5 matches).

FIXED DAY EVERY WEEK -

(all matches at same venue, same time and same day of each week).

Alphabetical List of Woolwich Junior Leagues affiliated to the English Table Tennis Association (as at May 1st 1995)

Andover WJTTL	Leighton Buzzard WJTTL
Barnets WJTTL	Loddon WJTTL (Beccles)
Barrow & District WJTTL	Maidstone WJTTL
Bath & District WJTTL	Mansfield WJTTL
BATTS (Harlow) WJTTL	Matlock & District WJTTL
Bedford & District WJTTL	Middlesbrough & District WJTTL
Blackmore Vale WJTTL	Milton Keynes WJTTL
Blackpool & District WJTTL	Newbury WJTTL
Bolton WJTTL	North Middlesex (Enfield) WJTTL
Bradford WJTTL	North Norfolk WJTTL
Brintree WJTTL	Northfield (Stockton) WJTTL
Brighton & District WJTTL	Nuneaton WJTTL
Burton on Trent WJTTL	Okehampton WJTTL
Cambridge WJTTL	OLOP Earley WJTTL (Reading)
Castleford Pontefract & District WJTTL	OLOP Sindleham WJTTL (Bracknell)
Chalfonts WJTTL	Oswestry WJTTL
Chester WJTTL	Oxford WJTTL
Chiltern "After-School" WJTTL	Peterborough & District WJTTL
Chiltern "Saturday" WJTTL	Preston & District WJTTL
Cirencester WJTTL	Salford & Farnworth WJTTL
Cladon WJTTL	Scarborough & District McCain WJTTL
Coventry WJTTL	Sheffield WJTTL
De Aston Sports Centre WJTTL	Sheffield WJTTL
Doncaster WJTTL	Shifnal WJTTL
Dudley WJTTL	Silvertown & District WJTTL
Eastbourne WJTTL	Sittingbourne WJTTL
Exmouth & District WJTTL	Slough & District WJTTL
Grantham & District WJTTL	South-Bristol WJTTL
Grimsby, Cleethorpes & District WJTTL	South Bristol WJTTL
Hackney WJTTL	South Devon & Torbay WJTTL
Haltan WJTTL	South West Sussex WJTTL
Haringey (North Middlesex) WJTTL	Southampton WJTTL
Harrogate & District WJTTL	St Neots WJTTL
Hartlepool (Kingsley Primary) WJTTL	Stamford & Rutland WJTTL
Hastings WJTTL	Stockport WJTTL
Haywards Heath WJTTL	Stoke Damereel WJTTL
Hereford WJTTL	Stowmarket WJTTL
Hermitage Leisure (Loughborough) WJTTL	Stroud WJTTL
High Wycombe WJTTL	Tameside WJTTL
Huddersfield WJTTL	Taunton WJTTL
Ilfracombe (North Devon) WJTTL	Telford WJTTL
Ipswich Sport 2000 WJTTL	The Wellingborough WJTTL
Keighley & District WJTTL	The Wirral WJTTL
Kidderminster & District WJTTL	Wakefield WJTTL
Kings Lynn WJTTL	Wembley & Harrow WJTTL
Leeds WJTTL	Weston WJTTL
Leicester WJTTL	Woolwich South East Cornwall WJTTL

grass roots junior league. Often it is players first introduction to competitive Table Tennis and naturally players will in time feed into senior leagues thus providing a steady stream of new members.

The facts: as at 1st May 1995, a total of 95 leagues had affiliated to ETTA representing 1033 teams and 2321 players (1905 boys and 416 girls).

REGIONAL BREAKDOWN

	Leagues	Teams
East Midlands	10	114
West Midlands	9	80
Yorks/Humberside	11	107
Southern	14	176
Eastern	13	122
North West	9	82
Northern	4	54
South West	13	121
South East	7	118
Greater London	5	59

MORE LEAGUES NEEDED!

The ETTA have received great feedback from people who have organised a Woolwich Junior League - some saying that it's the best thing the ETTA has done for junior Table Tennis for years! However we would still like more leagues to be formed. If your league hasn't taken the plunge, get more details from your Regional Development Officer or Doreen Nightingale at ETTA in Hastings (01424 7222525). It is even possible for a club to run a Woolwich Junior

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Woolwich Junior British
League
Woolwich Junior Leagues



PROTEST

I must protest about a letter from Mr Fowler-Tutt in the March issue of TT News, a person who has not been on any committee nor attended a tournament, yet feels competent enough to criticise someone who has done so much for table tennis.

It is true that Mr Prean's early letter writing criticised some of the decisions being made by the ETTA: his comments were ridiculed by many, yet he was proved right as the ETTA went to the brink of bankruptcy - only saved by Mr Prean's efforts after he became Chairman.

During his chairmanship the financial fortunes of the ETTA were turned around. After four years in office, he retired leaving his successor with over four hundred thousand pounds in the bank account. Yes he upset some people in the process of wielding the axe to cut out the dead wood, but if he had not inherited such a terrible financial predicament, then possibly some of the dead wood could have been saved.

The ETTA now has the benefit of interest on the bank balance as opposed to paying bank charges each year on the overdraft, yet we are still heading for a financial deficit next season.

Mr Prean forecast financial problems if election promises were kept, and that opinion was highlighted by the current treasurer both at Annual General Meetings and National Council Meetings. Mr Prean was proved right in 1987 Mr Fowler-Tutt and do not forget that fact.

Mr Prean is also criticised by stating that his son has beaten Chen on the majority of meetings, which Mr Tutt puts down to being a 'bogey player'.

The current England No. 1 Matthew Syed has never beaten Carl, Chen or Des Douglas; what does that say for the effectiveness of a rating system which puts a player with so many bogey players in the top position?

Mr Tutt seems to imply that Mr Prean should criticise the rating scheme as he admits to not being an expert. In over 30 years on committees, league, county and national, I have met many fine players and administrators both in this country and from other countries; none professed to be experts. In my experience, the more I have learnt about our sport, the more that I realise needs to be learnt. Beware of people who claim to be experts Mr Tutt, and listen to the sense spoken by Mr Prean - table tennis would be a poorer sport without his presence, a man brave enough to speak what he believes.

M Allsop
Little Eaton, Derby

WOT NO CHATTERBOX?

I have just started reading the April edition of TTN and I see a note on page one that "Chatterbox" has had to be dropped through lack of space. This seems a shame when most of page 20 is given over to a letter from John Prean and the same topics get a lengthy airing in his County Notes. However, this does rather support the point that I wished to make in an earlier letter.

I did not intend to "burst into print" again but may I just clarify a few points. My original letter had been edited and this was disappointing as my humorous remarks were all removed and my point that Mr Prean used the magazine to pursue personal matters and vendettas was not made clear. His 1,000 word letter in reply, apparently not edited, put forward the false and obnoxious theory that I read all his outpourings, but this is not so. If there appears to be anything of a new or constructive nature in his pieces then I might persevere but this is extremely rare. No my grouse is not at reading his repetitive moaning but the fact that it takes up so much space in TTN which I subscribe to.

He did advise me to investigate before writing again so I have now gone back through some past issues and his output is actually even greater than I had realised. Returning to his April letter he started by saying that it was just like the old days and I can now see what he means. The arrogant way he mocks and belittles anyone who opposes him, many people well known in the sport such as Messrs Muhr, Simpson, Shepherd, Charters and many others will know all about this. The reference to a dead sheep, well I appear to be the most recent in a fairly large flock as, after "shooting oneself in the foot", this is his favourite put down. His annoyance at "odd" supporters being allowed into print, this is a strange one as John has always put himself forward as a man of the people in touch with the grass roots. Are our subscriptions to be reduced at grass roots level because we are "odd". The abuse of the unfortunate Chen. Nothing new here as this has been consistent since Chen first played for England despite the strong opposition of chairman Prean. Still at least Chen partly shields the Ransome administration from Mr Prean's rage which is just as well as on Page 30 in County Notes I see that they are all victims of a tragic paralysis that has immobilised them. Absolutely nothing new in this continued attack on our elected officials. In fact past administrations have fared no better as I see that in 1986 a Mr Lucas burst into print to demand an end to the "ceaseless tirade" by Mr Prean against the

council then in office. I can almost hear Groucho Marx singing "Whatever it is I'm against it" in Duck Soup. It has to be Mr Prean's favourite lyrics.

To go on would be self-defeating so could I just sum up by saying constructive contributions encouraging debate - yes. Repetitive abuse, personal vendettas and vindictive criticism - no. Surely this has been allowed for far too long. Censorship I can hear Mr Prean bleating if any action is taken. More like common sense I hope would be the view of the many "odd" readers of TTN. Bring back "Chatterbox" I say.
Geoff Fowler-Tutt
Have, East Sussex

THANK YOU

On behalf of my wife and daughters I wish to thank all those people within table tennis, for their kind messages of sympathy and support following the loss of our daughter Clare in a road accident whilst on holiday abroad. I would also like to thank John Woodford and Keith Ponting for their sensitive articles on Clare in the December issue of Table Tennis News.

I am however very upset that Mike Lewis saw fit to lay claim to being Clare's coach by telephoning John Woodford on hearing of Clare's death and telling him he had at one time been Clare's coach. Clare had only two coaches, myself and Malcolm Francis. I was in fact coaching Clare just a couple of months before the accident. It is most important to me that the records of Clare's short life are accurate and I just cannot understand or forgive Mike Lewis for making such a statement at such tragic time for my family.

A trust has been formed in Clare's name with the intention of raising money for children's charities. On Saturday 22 September there will be a 1 Star Junior Tournament and on Sunday 23 September a 1 Star Senior Tournament. Both will be staged in a large leisure centre just outside Torquay and both tournaments will be titled the Clare Pengelly Memorial 1 Star. Proceeds from these tournaments will go to a children's hospice. Already several of the leading players have said they will enter and I am receiving tremendous support from local businesses with sponsorship and from people within table tennis with regard to the organising.

It is the intention of the trust that these tournaments will be held annually.

Brian Pengelly
Paignton, Devon

MEMORIES

My memories of my early days in administrative TT duties are neither

euphoric nor shrouded in the rosy glow of long past nostalgia.

Yes, there have been good times, and there have also been bad, but one great lesson that I have learned is simply this, at grass roots level - it is the unpaid workers in our sport that unquestionably have kept our game alive and kicking, from the very humblest appointed County Rep to highest person on that committee.

Having said that, professional administrators in our sport obviously come and go, but whilst with us, they do play their part and table tennis simply could not function without them.

I have been one of the lucky ones, without news and current information coming from Hastings at regular times, my output on local Radio and Press would indeed be very minimal.

Thank you ETTA.
Alf Pepper
South West Regional Press/Publicity Officer

NO RETURN

The facilities in Tianjin for receiving results was abysmal. The Chinese were concerned with supplying the needs of their 900 journalists from China and relied on four computer terminals whose main function was to give the life histories in great detail of the organising committees.

The 100 overseas professional writers - many others stayed away because they had heard stories of how bad it could be in China - were poorly served.

It often took up to four hours to get the scores of the matches, bare results like "3-0" could be obtained in about two hours.

Despite heated protests that frequently fell foul of a huge language barrier, there was no chance of arriving home with anything like a decent set of complete results. So, we have to rely on our notebooks and memories. I also apologise in advance, especially to readers in the Isle of Wight, (preparing for the Island Games in Gibraltar next month) for perhaps giving too much space to describing the conditions that players, officials and everyone else had to endure.

Carl Prean, himself will willingly confirm that the problems we faced were huge.

The media boss, Bas Van Breden (Holland) for the ITTF sent round a questionnaire to journalists on the conditions. I ended my comments with these sentences "It was the worst organised tournament overall for the media in 25 years reporting round the world. I would never go voluntarily to China again, not even as a tourist."

John Woodford
Daily Telegraph

NEWS from the COUNTIES

AVON

by BOB MURRAY

THE COUNTY SCENE

Despite a 90% return from Michele Cohen (9 wins from 10) and solid support from Andy Creed, Helen Perrott and Sian Evans our Seniors could only manage a mid table position in Division 1B.

In a division which is gaining strength in depth a bigger contribution from the men is essential if a promotion challenge is to be sustained next season.

The Veterans once again flattered to deceive. After a promising start, successive defeats against champions Devon and Hampshire 2nds meant another season in Division 2D. Gary Baldwin's contribution was once again excellent (11 wins from 12) and if repeated next year should gain a better reward with Clive Ellison joining the veteran ranks next year thereby strengthening the squad.

The major disappointment this season was the relegation of our juniors from Division 1B. It looked at one time as if they would escape the drop but a poor performance on the final day of the second weekend secured their fate.

Graham Long and Tom Orlik leave the Juniors to join the Senior ranks but there appears to be a host of cadet players waiting to replace them. I expect to see Leigh Thes, Brian Smith, Mathew Loughran, Jessica Orlik and Gemma Loughran challenging strongly for honours next season.

BRISTOL LEAGUE

The say it's not over 'til the fat lady sings but I'd be extremely surprised if Almondsbury failed to lift this season's Premier Division title. The Almonds squad of Paul Jackson, Dave Richards, Alex Sheppard and Mark Paul have been consistent all season and will deserve this first title.

Congratulations to Leyhill on winning this year's prestigious Morley Mordecai trophy and to Cleeve and Claverham who are arguably the 'club of the season' having provided three divisional winners and a promotion winning side from the four teams they have entered.

BATH LEAGUE

This season has seen Bradford retain their Premier Division title in Bath. A large squad has obviously aided their cause; Trevor Lloyd, Dave Richards, Mark Paul, John Ford, Tony Milerham and Jon Marsh have all played prominent parts in their success.

Bradford are now looking to achieve the double as they have to play Westinghouse in the Knock Out Cup Final.

WESTON SUPER MARE LEAGUE

There are a couple of key matches remaining so it is difficult to predict who will be this season's Premier Division Champions. Worle C held a narrow lead at the time of writing although YMCA B's chances should not be discounted.

Division 1 also looks like producing a close finish with Musketeers, Winscombe Dynamos and Bleadon YC vying for honours. The position is much clearer in Division 2 where YMCA A hold an unbeatable lead. It was nice to see Mike Bridgeman taking the Weston Open Singles title defeating his Nailsea team-mate Steve Voysey in the final. Steve had produced the performance of the day in the semi-finals when he knocked out No 1 seed Steve Palmer.

Mike and Steve also teamed up successfully in the Doubles. Mike Withyman is this year's Veterans champion defeating Pat Maxwell in the final.

Steve Palmer gained some consolation at the recent Somerset Closed when he teamed up with Phil Payne to take the Men's Doubles title. I understand congratulations are also due to Neil Bell on retaining his Bridgwater men's singles title.

BERKSHIRE

by JOHN CUNNINGHAM

AGAINST THE ODDS

Reading have regained the Barbara Peisley in the Berkshire Inter-town Tournament. Much against the odds, without most of their top juniors Reading's youngsters, comprised mainly of cadets clinched it after the senior squad had given the town a narrow lead. Fielding teams in all age groups the squad were led by Andrew Grantham, Roddy Kay and Gareth Soden who won the Junior boys Division one event ahead of Newbury and Maidenhead. The Boys under 14 event was won by the Bracknell trio of Mathew Buzzard, Andrew Stearnes and Adam Neal.

Maidenhead represented by Thakran, Gibbs and Bettenolee took the Girls under 14 title. Reading's strength in depth with points gained in all divisions just gave them the edge, holding Newbury and finishing just one point behind a strong

Maidenhead squad.

Final Scores (Seniors Veterans and Juniors): Reading 35 points, Newbury 30 points, Maidenhead 30 points, Bracknell 17 points.

The Reading Closed Championships were successfully run the well staged finals at the Kingfisher club were followed by a superb exhibition of table tennis by Dave Barr and Jimmy Stokes, Ben Johnson won the Men's title beating Tony Duffield in an exciting final.

READING AND DISTRICT TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS 1994/95:

ROLL OF HONOUR

MS-S/F Ben Johnson bt Bela Hegedus 14, 23, 10. MS-S/F Tony Duffield bt Hari Gehlot -19,22,15. MS-F Ben Johnson bt Tony Duffield 19,13,14. LS Isabel Walker bt Kay Leslie -9, 12, 19. MD Hari Gehlot/Ramesh Gehlot bt Tony Duffield/Paul Savins 10,19,19. XD Ben Johnson/Kay Leslie bt Irwin Schwartz/Isabel Walker 16,10. LD Karen Stalford/Isabel Walker bt Sue Arkell/Eva Foster 15,19. VS Graham Ourtim bt Irwin Schwartz 16,15. SVS Irwin Schwartz bt Alan Dines 12,16. U21S Ben Johnson bt Isabel Walker 16,22. BU17 Roddy Kay bt Andrew Stearnes 13,13. GU17 Kay Leslie bt Lisa Calcutt 2,8. BU14 Roddy Kay bt Alex Lewis 19,9. GU14 Winner: Michelle Bosley, Runner-up: Lisa Calcutt P.I.G. BU12 Alex Lewis bt Richard Hudson 18,14. GU12 Lisa Calcutt bt Lisa Bosley 6,6. BU17D Mathew Buzzard/Adam Neal bt John Chree/Roddy Kay -17,15,18. D1RS Bela Hegedus bt Irwin Schwartz 15,15. D2S Ramesh Gehlot bt Paul Savins -19,14,17. D3S Peter Goatly bt Steve Barnes 16, 17,22,15. YD Andrew Grantham bt Roddy Kay 18,4. Reading Chronicle Trophy Winner: Ramesh Gehlot.

BUCKS

by JAKE YEATES

MELLOWED

A quiet month for Bucks table tennis means that the air of pessimism that you may have detected in my last report has mellowed somewhat, and the doom which I prophesised has abated.

A few Bucks players entered the senior nationals in King's Lynn, with moderate success. Ian Musk managed to reach the first round proper, where he met an upstart by the name of Preat, and was frightfully unlucky in a nail biting encounter to go down 12,4,7.

Milton Keynes juniors fared fairly well at the Derby 2 Star Select. In the singles Jake Yeates reached the last sixteen with a few good wins, and he teamed up with Stephen Munson in the doubles, the pair sensationally reaching the semi-final, before bowing out.

On March 19 City of Milton Keynes travelled to bottom club Byng Hall in the British League. The side was significantly weakened by the lack of flu-victim Ian Musk, and was made to struggle. Ian Collier was unsuccessful, but one each for Neil Biggrave and Jake Yeates, together with a mighty impressive double from John Burleton, enabled MK to salvage a point. As we are now in something of a relegation dogfight, the loss of a point here could prove costly. But, depending on future results, it may not.

Chalfonts and District Table Tennis League held their closed championship finals night on February 28 at Denham Village Hall. The smallest league in the county, it still manages to produce good quality players, and the championships included five county players. The ladies singles was won by Muriel Hooker, who beat Loretta Catlow in the final, while the junior boys was won by Edward Donovan with victory over Nick Lee. The men's doubles was won by Mike Atkinson and Stuart Bowen. The two men's singles events both produced shocks, as, in the veterans', Dave Martin prevailed in a titanic expedite struggle with Larry Gregory, at 26-24 in the third. The senior men's event was won comfortably by league newcomer Peter Harry, who beat Mike Atkinson, 21-10, 21-10.

The Milton Keynes Closed Championships were held at the Kingston Centre over the weekend of 25 and 26 March. The Saturday saw a double victory for youngster Andrew Baggaley, of Newport Pagnell, who won the cadet and junior boys' titles, while clubmate Donna Tuohy won the junior girls' singles. On Sunday the men's singles was won by an in-form Neil Biggrave over long term rival Ian Musk, and they teamed up to take the doubles with consummate ease. Andrew Baggaley and his sister Esther Jones were successful in the mixed doubles, with victory over Jake Yeates and Elizabeth Seymour.

The Junior County 2nd team played against Surrey 2nds on the 25 March,

and were well beaten 9-1, Dave Ralls winning the one with victory over Chris Lemon.

Milton Keynes' junior and cadet boys' teams played in the Carter and Leach cups over 1-2 April. On the Saturday the juniors travelled up to Hull to face the team which has won the cup for the last two years. Despite a quite scintillating 'maximum' win for Lawrence Fo over Andrew Sugarman, Hull were too strong, and won 5-2, Jake Yeates beating Peter Marshall. Mark Cole was our other player.

CMK now need to beat Horsham Angles II to avoid the drop in the British League. On 2 April they were whitewashed 8-0 by OLOP. The side was weakened by the lack of John Burleton through illness and Ian Collier and Messrs Musk, Bigrave, Yeates and Woolmore were never in it, despite some close games.

CAMBS

ANDY HUBBLE

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to James Walton, our No. 1 junior on his call up to the England National Cadet Schools Team. James has been asked to represent his country in the Isle of Man on the weekend of May 6 and 7. We all wish him well.

The Cambs Veterans side have now completed their fixtures, and have finished 4th in the division.

Recent results include a 7-2 defeat at home against Norfolk. (J White 1, B Hagger 1), 5-4 defeat away at Herts 2 (J White 1 1/2, M Stennet 1 1/2, B Hagger 1/2, D Tiplady 1/2), and a resounding 8-1 win at home to Beds 2 (B Hagger 2, D Tiplady 2 1/2, M Stennet 2 1/2, J White 1).

The result against Herts 2 was a little disappointing as a 5-4 win would have given Cambs runner up spot.

ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (SENIOR RESULTS ONLY)

Men's Singles Winner:

Mick Harper, Runner Up: Keith Richardson,

Ladies Singles Winner:

Alison Edge, Runner Up: Jean White,

Veterans Singles Winner:

Mick Harper, Runner Up: Malcolm Stennet,

Men's Doubles Winner:

Keith Richardson/Mick Harper, Runner Up:

Andy Withers/Geoff Davies,

Ladies Doubles Winner:

Yvette Hooks/Alison Edge, Runner Up: Jean

White/Helen Morris,

Mixed Doubles Winner:

Yvette Hooks/Keith Richardson, Runner Up:

Mick Harper/Alison Edge,

Restricted Singles Winner:

Martin Gray, Runner Up: Dave Lee,

Handicap Singles Winner:

Keith Richardson, Runner Up: Chris Gay.

CONSTABLE CUP

The Constable Cup was held at NCI Cambridge, Martin Gray in his last year as an under 21 retained his title with James Walton in runner up spot.

The Kekki Mistry Trophy was

played for by Wisbech, Ely, March and Cambs, at Soham Sports Centre. Wisbech retained the trophy with 20 points, Ely second with 14 points, March 3rd with 8 points and Cambs 4th with 6 points. The winning Wisbech side was represented by: A Hubble (senior), C Gay (Veteran), A Rudd (Lady), M Knott (Junior).

Important Date: The AGM of the Cambs Association will be held at the cricket club in March on Thursday 29 June at 8.00 pm. Please make an effort to be there.

As this is the last Table Tennis News of the current season I would like to thank those who have provided the information to make these reports possible and wish all table tennis members an enjoyable and restful summer break. See you in September.

CHESHIRE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

BRIAN KEAN

The new year started with a comfortable 9-1 home win against our County neighbours Clwyd. The battle of the number ones being the highlight of the day with Ian Eaton taking a close three set match against Paul Robertson. Warwickshire were our next visitors the final result being 8-2. This somewhat flattered Cheshire as a total of five games went to three sets with Warwickshire achieving only one game out of the five. The final game of the season took us to the snow covered County of Cumbria. Due to illness and non availability of players the men's part of the team was a little bit under strength. A close game eventually produced Cheshire's second defeat of the season the final result being 6-4. The final positions of the 2a divisions put Cheshire in third place with 12 points. This is a slight improvement on last years performance and hopefully we can continue the trend next year. Thanks go to all the players who have taken part in this year's season.

CHESHIRE CLOSED TOURNAMENT

1995 WINNERS AND RUNNERS UP

U12 Girl's Singles Winner Binita Joshi (TAM), Runner up Kerry Hazledene (MCH).

U12 Boys' Singles Winner Ben Spiller (STO), Runner up Ian Heatley (MCH).

Cadet Girls' Singles Winner Alice Howard (WIR), Runner up Terri-Anne Nolan (WIR).

Cadet Boys' Singles Winner Christopher Dunne (WIR), Runner up Paul Roberts (ICHE).

Junior Girls' Singles Winner Clare Newns (WIR), Runner up Alice Howard (WIR).

Junior Boys' Singles Winner Christopher Dunne (WIR), Runner up Andrew Gillet (MAC).

Junior Girls' Doubles Winner Alice Howard (WIR)/Clare Newns (WIR), Runner up Gemma Lloyd (WIR)/Terri-Anne Nolan (WIR).

Junior Boys' Doubles Winners Paul Schofield (STO)/David Gerrard (TAM), Runner up Andrew Gillet (MAC)/Alex Booth (TAM).

Men's Singles Winner Stefan Doerr-Kling (MCH), Runner up Malcolm McEvoy (WIR).

Women's Singles Winner Alice Howard (WIR), Runner up Clare

Newns (WIR). **Men's Restricted Singles Winner** Paul Madden (MAC), Runner up Mark Newns (WIR). **Women's Restricted Singles Winner** Alice Howard (WIR), Runner up Denise McEvoy (WIR). **Veterans Singles Winner** Ian Johns (MCH), Runner up Derek Schofield (STO). **Men's Doubles Winner** Terry Turner (MCH)/Peter Flint (HAL), Runner up Brian Johns (MCH)/Stefan Doerr-Kling (MCH). **Women's Doubles Winners** Alice Howard (WIR)/Denise McEvoy (WIR), Runner up Jill Schofield (STO) Clare Newns (WIR). **Mixed Doubles Winners** Malcolm McEvoy (WIR)/Denise McEvoy (WIR), Runner up Mark Newns (WIR)/Clare Newns (WIR).

A PRESENTATION TO KING ARTHUR

A special presentation has been made to Arthur Nelson a living legend in Mid Cheshire Table Tennis circles. Arthur has been in and around the sport in Mid Cheshire for more than 50 years. He was a player, committee man vice president, and until now president of the Mid Cheshire Table Tennis League and has been extremely active in helping keep the league alive. Records show that Arthur first came to prominence by winning the Mid Cheshire Men's Singles title in 1945-46, a season in which he also won the doubles with W Worrall and his side Broadhurst won the league championship. He first played for Rudheath Social Club and recalls cycling to places such as Winsford and Runcorn to play friendly matches. Past and present Table Tennis players were at Rudheath Youth Club when the special presentation was made. League chairman Roger Eaton presented Arthur Nelson with a glass decanter.

CHESHIRE CHAMPIONS CUP

Mid Cheshire's Police 1 won the 1994/95 league champions cup defeating Stockport and District's Flixton the final result being 6-3.

PETER DARCY

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Peter Darcy who passed away on January 10th. Peter was one of Table Tennis's truly great characters and was arguable the most successful Veteran in the history of the English game.

His most successful season was in the early seventies when he collected seventeen singles titles which included the English, Irish and Scottish Open Titles. He was also part of the successful Cheshire County Veterans Team which won three Premier County Championships.

He was the first of the new breed of Vets, "Supper Vet" as Derek Schofield would describe him. The general perception of Veterans Table Tennis changed when Darcy (as he was known) arrived on the scene. No more could it be said that Vets were all fat-bellied, head-banded, sweat-ridden has-beens or never-wasers. He was a man that made Peter Pan look like Rip Van Winkle. Some men watched as their hair went grey (mine has) some watched themselves go bald (Derek Schofield has and John Hilton is going that way). Darcy's hair was complete

and as sandy in colour as it was thirty years previously.

It was for his exploits off-table that he gained notoriety. Always appearing to have an insatiable thirst for the high life. A typical week for Darcy would start with a weekend tournament from which he would arrive home about midnight, by 5.30 am he would be back in the car on route to his business factory in Brighton, home for a match at Manchester YM after which he would take in a night-club until around 3 am. The next morning would see him speeding north to Scotland for a day's business meetings which would be rounded off with a match in the Glasgow league.

Peter would in no way be offended if I were to say his life was colourful in the extreme. As far as personal relationships were concerned it could be said that he had been round the block a few times. However, the last ten years did see something of a change as he settled down (by his standards) and this was largely due to the influence of his wife Caron. Together they pursued a social life in the golfing world and as one would expect, success was enjoyed as they won countless mixed events.

It is to Caron we afford our sympathies and hope the passage of time will help her, while never to forget, at least come to terms with life without Peter.

CUMBRIA

GORDON BROWN

POPULAR PERSONALITY

One of the most popular personalities in Barrow table tennis circles, who has guided many youngsters to success though his coaching over the past few years has decided to devote even more time to coaching and retire from full-time playing.

Eddie O'Hara has been involved in the game for 45 years, having played for 40 years in Barrow League's First Division, two in Division 2 and one in the Premier. He has been county Veterans' Singles champion 10 times and the holder of the Barrow Vets title on 12 occasions.

He took up coaching 30 years ago and among the jewels in his crown is the fact that under his coaching, local schools have collected national titles and some players who have been under his wing have gone on to represent the county.

Eddie is a two-star ETTA coach and his other interests include the comparatively new Barrow Table Tennis Centre, where he is a director. He vows he will only turn out to help now if his club St Patrick's are short.

Pleasing news for Cumbria from a national level is that John Taylor, our county Match Secretary for 17 years has been rewarded for his years of service to the sport he has become the first holder of the Leslie Forrest Award for outstanding service to the county championships. Well done John!

DERBYSHIRE

COLIN DEATON

INCREASED ENTRIES

Our member Leagues throughout the county have been busy staging their respective league closed championships.

In almost every instance, each League is reporting increased entries in both Junior and Senior events. This is most encouraging and must be maintained.

The news that Harold Taylor's contract with the ETTA as the Midlands Development Officer is scheduled to finish in September is without question going to be a real disappointment to our area.

His contribution to our county over the last two years has been considerable and I believe that this is the case with other counties in our area.

I firmly believe that it was not just a job for Harold, he dearly loves table tennis. Let us hope that some ways and means can be found to find some finance from some outlet in order to retain his services.

The Derby Closed Table Tennis Championships were held on Sunday 2 April at Mackworth College. Nearly 230 matches were played during the day by 60 competitors of the Derby and District League.

The final stages were dominated by junior Michelle Haynes and Scott Ferris who both appeared in the final stages of the last 3 events. Michelle won the ladies, junior girls and junior singles with Scott being runner up in both the junior boys and junior events. Scott then partnered Matthew Rutter in the junior doubles to triumph over Michelle and sister Anne-Marie.

Mike Starkie had excellent performances in the divisional events by beating Andy Williams in the division 3 final and then taking division 2 with Hannah Tuxford second. Andrew Portlock won division 1 in his final with John Parker.

After waiting a long time for the open doubles final, Colin Ambrose and Keith Le Milliere put up an excellent fight, narrowly losing out to John Whittaker and Michelle Haynes in the third game of a thrilling match.

Premier division player John Baylis beat Betty Godfrey from the division 3 in the handicap final after clawing back a 15 point start. Betty also did a great job in organising refreshments at the event in addition to juggling appearances in 7 of the days 14 events.

Results

Men's Singles Winner: Jason Bamford, Runner up John Whittaker. **Ladies Singles Winner:** Michelle Haynes, Runner up Jane Vickers. **Veteran's Singles Winner:** Colin Ambrose, Runner up Dave Stills. **Junior Singles Winner:** Michelle Haynes, Runner up Scott Ferris. **Junior Boys' Singles Winner:** Matthew Rutter, Runner up Scott Ferris. **Junior Girls' Singles Winner:** Michelle Haynes, Runner up Anne-Marie Haynes. **Cadet Singles Winner:** David Haigh, Runner up Simon Walters. **Handicap Singles Winner:** John Baylis, Runner up Betty Godfrey. **Open Doubles Winner:** John

Whittaker/Michelle Haynes, Runner up Colin Ambrose/Keith Le Milliere. **Mixed Doubles Winner:** John Whittaker/Michelle Haynes, Runner up Jason Bamford/Jane Vickers. **Junior Doubles Winner:** Scott Ferris/Matthew Rutter, Runner up Michelle & Anne-Marie Haynes. **Division 1 Winner:** Andrew Portlock, Runner up John Parker. **Division 2 Winner:** Mike Starkie, Runner up Hannah Tuxford. **Division 3 Winner:** Mike Starkie, Runner up Andy Williams.

The Matlock League Closed Championships were staged at Cromford Community Centre. The enthusiastic spectators saw Steve Porter retain his Men's Singles title with a convincing display. He defeated Geoff Gill 21-17, 21-17 in an entertaining final showing superb technique and excellent footwork to land a hat-trick of successive Men's Singles titles.

Porter's semi-final win over John Davies was a much closer affair with the powerful Davies putting up a brave fight before going down 21-18, 12-21, 18-21.

The other semi-final saw Geoff Gill overcoming the stubborn resistance of Mick Thorley 21-16, 21-12.

Mick Thorley completed a two set win over Stewart Morris to regain the Veteran Singles title and Thorley then combined with Max Holmes to win the Veterans Doubles event, with a comfortable win over Tony Gregory and Peter Charboneau.

Max Holmes' successful return to tournament action was complete with victory over Rob Alsop in the handicapped event winning 25-23 in the third game of an absorbing final.

The ever popular Hard But competition saw a new champion emerge with the 'Pride of Pomny' Michael Shimwell defeating Steve Porter in the final. The enthusiastic Shimwell regards this performance, together with earlier round wins over Andrew Burton and John Davies as the pinnacle of his table tennis achievements.

In the junior events, Stephen Tolley confirmed his arrival as Matlock's most promising youngster in recent seasons by winning the U21, U17 and U14 events. Other youngsters who caught the eye at Lea Green were David Lowndes and Thomas Gregory.

The Ladies Singles Title went to Gwynneth Beck who seems to be improving all the time, winning her group ahead of Val Lowndes. She then added her second title with John Davies in the Mixed Doubles beating the holders Andrew Burton and Kerry White in straight games.

The tournaments as a whole was again played in the usual sporting manner with finals night providing spectators with entertaining and sometimes spectacular table tennis, especially from Steve Porter who once again proved to be a worthy champion.

How pleasing it is to report that our Derbyshire Juniors first team won 7-3 against Norfolk and with Suffolk being unable to raise a team against Lancashire, Derbyshire Junior first team finished in second place. And as Yorkshire's second team cannot be promoted, Derbyshire are promoted to the Junior Premier Division.

Again on a pleasing note, how

satisfying it was to learn that Alan Cooke, Bradley Billington and Nicola Deaton were again on the medals rostrum whilst competing in the Commonwealth Championships in Singapore.

All three of them were awarded a Silver Medal for their achievements in the team events where both the men and women lost to Hong Kong in the final.

Finally, Nicola Deaton will be busy this summer as she undertakes a national tour of holiday camps featuring exhibitions.

The tour involves over a thousand miles per week trip involving some of the biggest holiday camps in the UK.

DEVONSHIRE

JOHN VINCENT

FIVE TITLES

The Junior County Closed Championships were held in Plymouth.

Count Number Ones Peter Thomas (3) and Joanna Barraclough (2) won five titles between them.

Peter took the Junior Boys title with a comfortable 21-11, 21-13 win over Number Two seed Daniel Adams (Newton Abbot).

Daniel was compensated when he teamed up with Peter to win the Junior Boys Doubles with a resounding victory 21-12, 21-14 over Plymouth pair Rory Harries and Johnathan Kent.

Peter completed his treble in the Mixed Doubles joining Joanna Barraclough to defeat Daniel Adams and Elizabeth May 21-16, 21-15.

Joanna confirmed her Number One position in the Junior Girls Singles with a victory 21-8, 21-9 over Elizabeth May.

James Whiteman, the promising 12 year old from Tavistock, became Boys Under 15 Champion comfortably beating P Bellows (North Devon) 21-11, 21-10.

In the Boys Under 13 event James Whiteman's combination bat held no fears for C Gorvett (North Devon) who beat James 21-18, 21-16 in the final.

The Under 11 Boys final produced a very close match, with Jack Willis (Brixham) defeating Daniel Esau (North Devon) 22-20, 21-18. Willis' powerful forehand seemed to be the deciding factor.

It was pleasing to see an entry of four in the Girls Under 11 section. Fenella Hinton (North Devon) and Helen Friend (Plymouth) played well with both girls preferring to play backhand strokes. However, they lost to Plymouth's Michelle Barrett and Kate Rowe, the subsequent winner and runner up. Michelle claimed victory over Kate 21-7, 21-15 in the final match.

JUNIOR COUNTY RANKINGS AS AT 3RD APRIL 1995

Boys: 1 Peter Thomas; 2 Daniel Adams; 3 Marcus Cronin; 4 Garry Brooking; 5 Glen Goodall; 6 Rory Harries; 7 Gary Reed; 8

Jonathan Kent; 9 James Whiteman; 10 Richard Moores; 11 Cameron Hinton; 12 Adam Wilkes; 13 Stephen Preston; 14 John Brill.

Girls: 1 Joanna Barraclough; 2 Lucy Perry; 3 Elizabeth May; 4 Zoe Warren; 5 Kate Homeyard; 6 Kate Chidgey; 7 Claire Richards; 8 Kelly Pearce; 9 Michelle Barrett; 10 Kate Rowe.

Junior Assessments/trials will be held during the month of June 1995 prior to a Junior County re-ranking by selectors. Any coach or parent prepared to be manager of the County second team should contact John Vincent on 01752 347118.

DURHAM

KEITH WILSON

NEW NAME

The County Closed tournament was held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre and a new name appeared on the Mens Singles trophy.

Eighteen years old Andrew Wilkinson repelled the challenge of two former champions, beating David Blackburne 15 & 18 in the semi finals, and then Dave Robson 16 & 19 to gain his first senior title. Lynn Yarnell comfortably took the Womens title with 16 year old Nicola Parks in the runner up slot. Nicola took on the boys in a mixed Junior Singles and went one better. The surprise package came in the form of 12 years old Richard Johnson. The quick hitting Sedgefield youngster could not find success in the Cadet Singles but included a three set win over the seeded Richard Eden before taking the first set in the final, with Nicola eventually winning -12, 16, 8.

Chris Pennal was another Sedgefield youngster to have a good run. Chris took the Cadet title from David Skeen and then combined with his club mate to beat Richard Eden and Stuart Rose in the Junior Doubles final. Not content with junior success, he then combined with Sunderland's senior county man Dave Godbold to reach the final of the team event only to lose out narrowly to Andrew Wilkinson and Alan Ray. The ETTA's Regional Development Officer took time out to compete in the Veterans Singles and triumphed with a straight sets win over Sunderland's Dave Bissett. A very competitive Open Doubles went to Dave Robson and Steve Penman.

On the same weekend the Sedgefield and Thompson Insurance teams travelled to Bletchley for the final rounds of the veterans British League and a very young Sedgefield team went further afield to take in the final rounds of the Woolwich Junior British League. With Ian Robertson injured, Geoff Salter moved up three divisions and ended up with a winners medal in Sedgefield's Premier Division side. Geoff's crucial wins helped to offset three shock defeats for John Hilton with his 19 in the 3rd win over Brian Burn gaining a vital draw with Bournemouth.

The Thompson Insurance trio of Bob Dodds, John Williamson, and Jimmy Scope began the weekend by defeating top sides Reading and West Warwickshire but found themselves

facing the prospect of relegation from the 2nd Division in a final match with the Barclays Bank side. However, they recovered from 1-3 down to force the required draw. Sedgfield's 3rd Division side, weakened by the loss of Geoff Salter, had to rely on a much improved showing from Jeff Ridley and Peter Vickers added to a 6 from 10 winning run by yours truly.

The Sedgfield side in the Woolwich Junior British League found the going tough but little Dan Welsh did have a magnificent win over the much higher ranked Tim Avis, coming from 11-18 down in the 3rd too. Nicky Hobson-West also took care of Bristol No 1 Tom Orlik, and Michael Marsden added four more good wins to his growing list of higher ranked scalps.

The Friendly Hotels British League is now complete with Sedgfield's four teams ending up 6th (Premier), 5th (1st North), 2nd (2nd North), and 6th (3rd North). The only remaining national team action will be the final weekend of the Womens British League and the Sedgfield quartet of Nicola Parks, Karen Newby, Caron Guthrie, and Joanne Donnelly lie in a handy 2nd place in the 3rd division.

ESSEX

STEVE KERNS

GRAHAM MOON OBITUARY

It is with great sadness that the County have to report the death of Brentwood League President Graham Moon who died on 5 April 1995 aged 82. This year's winner of the County's top award for services to Sport - the BBC Essex Radio/Mobil Sport Award and the 1985 winner of the Corti-Woodcock Memorial award he was the driving force behind the thriving Brentwood Table Tennis Club which he founded 40 years ago. A true gentleman who will be greatly missed.

LINDA RADFORD DISAPPOINTMENT

The omission of Linda Radford from the teams for the Commonwealth Championships as well as the World Championships came as a disappointment and a major surprise to all table tennis followers in Essex. After reaching No 5 spot on the Ladies Ranking List, as well as reaching the semi-final of the Ladies Singles at the English Senior Closed her selection for at least one of the events seemed a formality. Her time will surely come.

A round up of results from the League's Closed tournaments is as follows:

Thurrock League: Mens Singles - James Wickens bt Terry Guymer 11,20. Ladies Singles - Nikki Kennard w/o against Debbie Auvoche. Mens Doubles - Paul Morris/Mick Smalldon bt Kevin Booroff/Martin Heath - 15, 14, 13. Over 40's Veterans Singles - Terry Guymer bt Steve Willis 17,8,17. Over 50's Veterans Singles - Roy Murray bt Lionel Manning 15,9. Mixed Doubles - Margaret Shaw/Steve Willis w/o against Debbie Auvoche/Roger Slade.
Colchester League: Mens Singles -

David Cole bt Derek Wood 16,19. Ladies Singles - Sue Welham bt Janet Faiers 15,14. Mens Doubles - Colin Stallwood/Iain Vine bt Steve Edmonds/Rik James 13,14. Mixed Doubles - Janet Faiers/Rob Hellaby bt Amanda Vardell/John Andrews 18,10. Ladies Doubles - Amanda Vardell/Sue Welham bt Hazel Hume/Annette Thorpe 17,7. Veteran 40's Singles - Derek Wood bt Rob Hellaby 15,18,12. Veteran 50's Singles - Mick Buckley bt Duncan Ellay 18,15. Junior Boys Singles - Michael Earle bt Andrew Faiers 21,13. Junior Girls Singles - Caroline Faiers bt Mick Shoriat 11,9. Junior Doubles - Andrew Faiers/Edward Mehan bt Caroline Faiers/Alexis Spanton 15,13. Cadet Singles - Alexis Spanton bt Caroline Faiers 11,19.

Burnham League: Mens Singles - Simon Woods bt Chris Jacob. Ladies Singles - Marilyn Bowden bt Julie Asken. Mens Doubles - Peter Ballard/Steve Edwards bt Colin Marco/Chris Jacob. Mixed Doubles - Simon Woods/Julie Asken bt Steve Edwards/Jenny Harrison. Ladies doubles - Marilyn Bowden/Shirley Carroll bt Jenny Harrison/Sarah Gardner. Veterans Singles - Chris Jacob bt Peter Ballard. Junior Girls Singles - Natalie Bowden bt Laura Bowden. Veterans Doubles - Stan Owen/Chris Jacob bt Bill Smith/Tom Elder.

Avent's Clacton League: Mens Singles - Steve Kerns bt Iain Vine 19,8. Ladies Singles - Sheila Howe bt Jenny Binns 19,19. Mens Doubles - Colin Stallwood/Iain Vine bt Derek Wood/Dave Binns 16,14. Ladies Doubles - Jenny Binns/Jenny Higgins bt Sheila Howe/Angela Barrett 12,19. Mixed Doubles - Dave Binns/Jenny Binns bt Sheila Howe/Mick Buckley 18,20,18. Junior Boys Singles - Adam Fityan bt Chris Harte - 18, 15,20. Veterans Singles - Derek Wood bt Mick Buckley 13,16. Restricted Singles - John Owen bt Tony Hooper 16,22.

Braintree League: Mens Singles - Terry Dowsett bt Steve Kerns 23,16. Ladies Singles - Sarah Davison bt June Plampin 11, 10. Mens Doubles - Ian Hayden/Steve Kerns bt Terry Dowsett/Peter Hayden 19, 19,14. Mixed Doubles - Sarah Davison/Steve Kerns bt June Plampin/Fred Dove 13,19. Junior Boys Singles - Adam Canter bt Neil Daines 8,7. Veterans Singles - Ian Whiteside bt Peter Beatham 15, -21, 12. Restricted Singles - Jon Hill bt Neil Gooday 15, -17, 18.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

ALF PEPPERD

BIG NIGHTS

This being the final County report of this past season, it seems appropriate that I should start by covering the respective League's Finals Nights, with Cirencester at the time of writing not holding their Final Night until later - here are Gloucester's, Stroud's and Cheltenham's end of season big nights, each of which had exceptionally good spectator attendance.

In the Gloucester event, the evening started with the semi-finals of the open singles, in which Bill Dawe beat Sylvester Callum -20, 15, 14, the other semi final consisted of last year's finalist Darren Griffin who this evening beat Dennis Holland 18,10.

So it was a Dawe v Griffin final, and a rather unexpected one at that, Griffin currently No 75 in England tore through Dawe 21-13 in the first

game, but Dawe playing superb controlled if slightly aggressive table tennis ran out the eventual winner, game 8 in the final game, a great performance from the 37 year old green grocer who is currently ranked No 550, and has now won this title three times.

The Ladies Singles was won by Swindon based Brenda Lee who plays for Rudford in the first division, Lee beat Sandhurst's Heather Tyrer 18, 12, Mrs Tyrer was a finalist in last year's Ladies Singles Championship.

In the Veterans Singles, Wanderers' stalwart Dennis Holland proved to be far too strong for Rudford's John Fannin, beating the latter 17 and 9.

The Junior Boys Singles (U17), went to last years runner up, Aaron Mortimer (Sandhurst) who beat the current County U17 Junior Champion Robin Price (Oxstalls), 16,19.

The Girls U17 Singles event was won by 14 year old Ann Humble who beat Melanie Garlick 18, -15, 15, to retain the title that she won last year.

Darren Griffin had some consolation for his heavy singles loss when he teamed up with Dennis Holland in the Open Doubles, beating Bill Dawe and Sylvester Callum 15,16.

Dawe however, claimed his second title of the evening when he teamed up with Heather Tyrer to retain their mixed doubles crown, beating the Rudford duo of Alan Duke and Brenda Lee, 19, 9. These Championships were staged at the Nuclear Electric HQ, at Barnwood.

Following on closely after Gloucester's Final Night came Stroud's which was held at the Maidenhill School at Stonehouse.

In the first of the Open Singles semi finals Alan Giles beat Ian Heskins 11 and 20, for a place in the final, likewise in the other semi final John Fannin beat Jon Bunn 19 and 11, Bunn played exceptionally well in the first game, despite losing it, but lost his concentration in the second - so it was a Giles v Fannin final in which Alan Giles always held the upper hand beating the defending champion in straight games, 13,14, Giles has now won the open singles title a total of eleven times since 1970.

The Ladies Singles title was won by Roz Ross who beat the defending champion Liz Johnson 16, 18, Mrs Ross has now won the title a total of five times.

The Veteran Singles was a rather long drawn out affair - in the lead up to finals night, Stroud ran out of allocated time, so in the finals we had the semi finals to contend with first, the first event consisted of John Fannin, the last two years defending champion, handing out a 21-7 thrashing to Cirencester's Bob Davis, but this was only the first game, Davis kept his wits about him, and ground the defending champion to a 13 and 17 ominous defeat to take his place in the final against Alan Giles who beat Rob Willsher -20, 16,13, Giles was in superb form in the final against Davis beating him game 8 and 14, and taking this title for the 10th time.

The Boys U17 Singles title went to Jon Bunn who beat Gareth Haines, and the Girls U17 was won by Suzy

Robinson who triumphed in victory over Marianne Willsher.

In the Mixed Doubles Final, the defending champions Miss Elaine Basset and Ian Heskins, successfully retained their title by beating Mrs Liz Johnson & Tony Muss, 17, 19.

The Open Doubles went to Bob Davis and Rob Willsher who beat Graeme Holton and Mark Johnson in straight games, 17, 14.

And finally upon the Stroud & District Finals Night - the following awards were presented: The Pat Toomer Shield went to David Lloyd (Pessimists). The Andrew Golding Award was won by Jonathan Bunn (Forest Green). The Committee Award went to Nigel Ross. The Michael Holbrow Award went to Gareth Haines (Nailsworth Boys Club). And the Paul Bowcott Award was awarded to Eric Watts.

And now moving on to Cheltenham's Finals Night, which this year was staged at St Benedicts School in Arle Road, Cheltenham.

In the first of the Singles semi finals Dave Harvey beat Clive Hayward 10 and 8, and in the second semi final, Graham Slack overcame John Fannin 9 and 10, so, it was a Slack v Harvey Open Singles event, in the first game Slack got off to a bad start and was 1-7 down, however, he pulled back to 17-20 down and eventually levelled at 20 all, Slack then just got the edge on Harvey and took the first game at 23-21, in the second Slack moved up into top gear and ran out winner at 15. This was Graham Slacks 7th Cheltenham Open Singles, and Harvey this year was the defending Champion who lost.

The Ladies Singles was won by Mrs Jacquie Carver who beat Miss Alison Cox, 13, 10, Carver played extremely well, but in all due fairness to Alison Cox, she is currently engaged in her studies at University, putting a business career before her table tennis.

The Masters Singles (over 50's) was won by Roy Fowler who beat John Fannin 19, -17, 19. The Intermediate Singles (Under 21), went to Jon Roberts who beat Simon Lake 12 and 19. And the Open Doubles Final was captured by the Smiths "A" pairing of Nicky Mytton and Douglas Payne, they beat Graham Slack and Jacquie Carver 17 and 16.

Halfway through the events a short address was given by Mandy Hymers, Miss Hymers is the Gloucestershire Youth Development Officer, and has proved herself highly useful to those who organise table tennis throughout the County.

Other events played off prior to Finals Night were:

Minor Doubles - winners A Iles and P Froes, **Ladies Doubles** - winners A Cox and J Carver, **Jubilee award** - winners D Harvey and M Dowsett, **Veterans Singles** - winner D Harvey, **Hard Bat Singles** - winner G Slack, **Mixed Doubles** - winners G Slack and J Carver.

BITS AND PIECES

Five well put together Cheltenham News Letters, "Net & Edge", equally well edited by our County Secretary Graham Slack, and currently the only existing League news letter in Gloucestershire.

Much, much, more evidence of interest in coaching this season, perhaps more than ever before, at least a dozen, maybe a few more that have qualified in theory for Level two, and four or five who have taken a step further, and are fully qualified at Level two

A greater increase in entries this season in the County Junior U14's and U12's events, this speaks well for youth in table tennis in Gloucestershire, the same was applicable regarding more entries for the Gloucestershire Schools event.

And finally, more entries than the previous year for "The Cotswold (Select) Junior", I am strongly of the opinion that table tennis in this neck of the woods is perhaps at last beginning to bottom out.

Hearty congratulations to our Senior County team in Division 2B for winning it, and the very best of everything in next season first division.

HAMPSHIRE

BRIAN LAMERTON
FATHER & SONS

Southampton are this seasons Mens, Junior and Cadet champions from the ten member associations inter-town leagues. And, how is this for a record - Chris Wilshere and his sons Mark and Stephen were ever present in their respective divisions and all three returned a 100% average - Stephen from no fewer than 21 games. Portsmouth in winning the Veteran division have continued the remarkable record of only themselves and Bournemouth having won this event in the 24 years of its existence. The Isle of Wight, with Roger Hookey winning 12 from 12, Portsmouth "B" and Basingstoke "B" are Mens, Junior and Veteran 2nd Division champions and all will look forward to playing at a higher level next season.

The Wilshere boys, who together with Chris Butt and Tom Mellors are to be congratulated on winning Bronze for their Wildern, Southampton School at under 16 level in the English Schools team finals, were also prominent in the Hampshire Junior championships. Mark Wilshere won the under 17 boys title after defeating Danny Burns (Isle of Wight) 11-21, 21-16, 25-23, Burns having made a remarkable turn around in his semi final with Chris Butt recovering from 12-18 down in the third game to win 25-23. Stephen Wilshere was beaten in the Cadet final by the holder Chris Butt whilst in the doubles Stephen Wilshere was on the winning side in both Cadet and Junior events, partnering Chris Butt in the former and Gareth Scadden in the latter. Tina Young (Bournemouth) is the new Girls Junior title holder and Lucy Pointer (Isle of Wight) the Cadet. Lucy also took the under 12 title with David Riddle (Portsmouth) the Boys under 12 winner.

After my recent "dig" I have now received copies of two Portsmouth newsletters, entitled "Beyond the Table" and a very good effort it is;

congratulations to the editorial team, Phil Smith, Roger Winkworth and Danny Lucking. I note from the February edition that their annual special tournament (for those outside Division 1) has been renamed the "Peter Goldring Special Tournament" after their popular and hard working administrator who died earlier in the season. The mens winner was a C Heinz (if I have a criticism it is the economy with Christian names) who at that time was sporting a 100% average in Division 4. The Womens winner was a C Goadley.

This years AGM will be held at Winchester Conservative club on Wednesday 21 June. See you there?

HERTFORDSHIRE

JOHN WOOD
100% BARNETS

This season's Veteran Inter-League Champions are Barnets with a 100% record, winning all their matches to take the title.

The five heroes from Barnets are John Taylor, Chris Budden, Terry Wilson, Dennis Robinson and Brian Gale.

This win for Barnets is their second, following on from last season's victory, which broke the strangle-hold that Cheshunt had put on this competition for the previous three seasons.

Runners-up were the men from Hertford, Len Flowers, Phil Beeden, Alan Critchley and John Torres.

In fact, the only game that Hertford lost was to the winners Barnets.

HERTFORDSHIRE VETERANS INTER-LEAGUE 1994/5

TEAM	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Barnets	8	8	0	45	11	8
Hertford	8	7	1	36	20	7
Cheshunt	8	4	4	29	27	4
N Herts	8	4	4	29	27	4
Show I	8	4	4	28	28	4
Watford	8	3	5	28	28	3
Show II	8	3	5	25	31	3
Hemel I	8	3	5	23	33	3
Hemel II	8	0	8	9	47	0

I am very pleased to announce that we have a newly qualified umpire, Martin Johnson from my patch in Hemel Hempstead.

Hertfordshire's most stylish player, Keith Samuels, who won the North Herts Closed Men's Singles title, also received another trophy when he attended his League's Disco/Buffer/Presentation evening on Saturday 6 May 1995 at the Letchworth Town Football Club's Clubhouse, that of the 'Archie Parkes' award for services to North Herts Table Tennis Association.

On the same evening Alan Harding received the Terry Ives Fair Play Award. This trophy, which was presented for the first time, is in memory of the late Terry Ives.

Meanwhile at the Hemel Hempstead Closed Championships there was a big shock when Emma Hurling entered the Open Singles rather than the Ladies' Singles, and beat the

holder and six times Hemel Champion Glen Wilkes 21-11, 21-14.

Hurling became the star of this end of season championships held in the Adeyfield Hall, when in addition to the Open Singles title she collected the Handicap Singles trophy with a comfortable win over runner-up for the second year in a row Gary Keers.

Wilkes didn't go away empty handed though because Emma teamed up with him to win the Open Doubles Crown.

HEREFORDSHIRE

GEOFF MUTTON
TIME TO REFLECT

With the season over, it is time to reflect on the progress made, and to plan for the year to come.

Junior Team. As most of the team still have two more seasons at this level, the performances throughout this, our first year, have been very encouraging. The squad are clearly enjoying this higher level of competition and are improving quickly. Next season should see us achieve a few more successes.

Veterans Team. Once again Neville Meredith's hard work and enthusiasm in keeping this side going off the table, has not been rewarded by conspicuous success on it. It has not been possible to consistently field our best players, though our number one lady, Carol Milnes has had some notable wins.

Hereford League. As expected, the Moreton Maulers squad has proved to be far too strong for everyone else in Division 1, and retain the title they won last year without losing a match. Ray Holdroyd's heroics for Bromyard Hawks, in the final match against Ross Probables in Division 2 could not stop the title going to the men of Ross. Division 3 was a very tight affair, finally being won by Fownhope Forragers. Hereford TTC Outcasts just secured the runners up spot by virtue of a 6-4 win over 4th placed Bromyard Condors. A draw would have necessitated a play-off with 3rd placed Ledbury Park Rangers. Divisions 4 and 5 were much more clear cut with titles for Ross Go-Getters and Herefordians B, respectively.

In the final of the Wenderlish Cup, Bromyard Hawks from Division 2 beat the Division 1 side of Hereford TTC Clippers by 7 points. The two straight win by Alex Aston over Norman Marchant proving crucial. There was an even closer result in the final of the plate competition, when Ledbury Aztecs beat Hereford TTC Battlers by 4 points!

ISLE OF WIGHT

JOHN PREAN
REMARKABLE FEAT

The headlines are that Roger Hookey won the Island title for the 7th time and Carl Preat the English National for the third. I shall deal with both events and hope to cover the latter from a new angle.

Roger's feat was, of course, a remarkable one. He had never been an Island junior champion. One recalls Ray Hayter who won both senior and junior titles in the same year (1949 - hard bat era) and Steve Harris. Carl Preat had also done it. Roger's rise to the top came rather later. He was not seen as the best player of the brilliant juniors from Sandown Boys Brigade who moved through the divisions like lightning, but today he is the man to beat.

Our "Closed" proved a triumph for the Sandown Club, since Roger and Mike Turner also won the men's doubles and Lorna Dutch the ladies' singles. Turner and Dutch won the Mixed and even that was not the end of the Sandown success story, since the Final of the "Intermediate" (for players from Division 2 and lower) was contested by two Sandowners, Ray Turner and Darren Read. Ray, at 62, seems to be playing as well as ever, though this time the younger man won, his sizzling back-hand much in evidence.

The only non-Sandown victories were in the ladies' doubles (Mary Wheeler and Amanda Elvers) and in the "Consolation" (for players knocked out in Round 1) which was won by Ali Hulbert (Wroxall) who defeated Philip Rorke in the Final. Sandown have also won the Division 1 and 2 titles. The latter had Barry Newnham in addition to Turner senior and Read and the former had Hookey, Turner junior and Dutch. They dropped only one point under our system and that was when they "only" won 6-4. The club only has three teams and well wishers will look for more depth in addition to quality.

Hookey endured only fleeting moments of anxiety, since Danny Burns led him 17-16 in the second game of their semi final. Burns (15) was tipped as a potential double champion. He had already won the junior title with much to spare. In the final Mike Turner also led in the second game - by 17-14, but again Hookey brushed these diversions aside and won in straight games. Dutch was given a good game in her final by Jackie Urry, both girls enjoying a quick, uncomplicated game, which was good to watch.

I almost forgot, after a nine hour day, that Turner and Read also won the "Intermediate" Doubles, though the losing finalists Keith and Neil Griffin have every reason to feel proud of their achievements. They are a third division pairing. The score of -19 and -23 indicates how close they were to winning.

Carl Preat's National title was a nostalgic affair for us, as we made it a family outing as so often in the past. Carl had recently "enjoyed" a meteoric "rise" down the ranking ladder and entered the race as the No 4 seed. One wondered what further surprises "the ritual monthly humiliation" of the English ranking lists had in store for him. He had been described as the "favourite" to win by a famous national newspaper - a curious honour for one so lowly placed, but the journalist obviously knew what he was talking about, at

any rate on this occasion.

The rumoured defections from the National Championships duly materialised and around half of the top 32 were missing. Alarm bells should be ringing, as there is a real chance that the "Closed" will follow so many of the old "3 Stars" into oblivion. A solid start has been made in that melancholy direction. Whilst I firmly blame the ranking system, others point to the lack of "feel good factor" and the recession and see these as the cause for the galloping decline of our senior tournament scene. There is good reason to believe that players, including some at the top, resist the urge to travel if they are likely to lose ranking points as a result.

In the ranking sense there was no point in Carl's participation, since he merely defended his No. 4 spot, a position he does not view with pleasure. For his wins against the ageless Desmond Douglas he got 16 points and the final victory against Chen Xinhua produced 32. I exclude the pitiful bogus ('bonus' for attendance even if you lose) points. I don't know who thought this up. You actually get points for losing! No points were awarded for the wins up to the semi finals and none for winning the title. Carl's points total swelled by just over 1%. The title is, of course, its own and my comments merely seek to explain the inexplicable.

Lucy Pointer (10) won the Hampshire U12 and U14 girls' titles. This is an excellent performance, particularly at so early a stage in her career. The latter looked like hard work with two deuce-in-the-third victories. James Ovnik and Mark Przysocki reached the semi finals of the Cadet Boys and Danny Burns the final of the U17 Boys. Having won his semi final against Chris Butt (England No. 8 Cadet) deuce in the 3rd, he lost by the same margin to Mark Wilshere. A disputed point at deuce rubbed salt into the wound. On the positive side, Danny was back at our excellence sessions the following day. I recalled that Carl Preat had lost the European Junior title under similar circumstances, ie by a millimetre or so, but came back the following year to take the title. Misfortunes can be a spur. Certainly Hampshire look to have three excellent young boys who can take them to the Junior Premier next season and all are young enough to enjoy the fruits of such endeavours the following season. What a pleasure that would give Harold Albery, so long the guiding light behind the scenes and the most tireless worker in the junior (and senior) causes.

KENT

ADRIAN HALL THOMPSON AND FRIDAY DOMINATE

Maidstone's Christian Thompson and Scott Friday dominated the finals of the Bribar Kent Junior League Division 1 competition only dropping one match while winning in convincing style and in the process

won themselves a new tracksuit to go with the shirt and shorts that all the league finalists were awarded. Also winning tracksuits were the winners of Division 2 Maidstone D, Rudi Dharmalingham and Terry Clapperton - Division 3, Medway E, Paul Newman and Malcolm Smith - Division 4, Deal A, James Copper and Darren Gibb and Division 5, Medway J, Garry Burrows and Ryan Hughes.

Eighty-four team from all over Kent were initially split into 4 zones of 5 divisions with the winners of each zone meeting at the Angel Centre, Tonbridge on Saturday 25 March 1995. Sponsorship to the value of £24,000 had been obtained through the support of Bribar Sports and Sportsmatch to run this event for a minimum of three years, and the support of the players and Kent Leagues was well rewarded by a splendidly competitive days play.

Folkestone A's Scott Dawtry confirmed his No. 2 ranking in the county when he beat his nearest rival Scott Friday as Folkestone went down 1-4 to Maidstone A in division 1 and Tunbridge Wells B team of Stephen New and Ashley Steers will be pleased to have beaten their A side 3-2 with Steers unbeaten. In division 2 Maidstone D comfortably won the title beating their nearest rivals Folkestone's Darren Godden beat Dharmalingham 21-19, 15-21, 23-21 for their consolation.

The unluckiest team must have been Maidstone G in division 5 for although they won all their matches and had the divisions only unbeaten player in Oliver O'Brien they finished in second place to Medway (on the total number of games won).

OLIVER STEVENS STEALS THE SHOW

The Lenham Storage Kent Junior Closed Championships were played at the Swadlands Youth Centre, Lenham on Saturday/Sunday 22/23 April 1995. Star of the Saturday events for U14's was Rotherhithe's Oliver Stevens who won the U11, U13 and U14 Boys Singles to be followed on the Sunday by Alison Smith (Maidstone) U17 Girls, and Christian Thompson (Medway) who won both the U17 and U15 Boys Singles.

U14 Boys Singles. Oliver Stevens completed a hat trick of singles titles when he won the U14 Boys Singles beating T Wells David Richardson 21-10, 13-21, 21-14 in the final, the only occasion on the day that he was taken to three legs.

U14 Girls Singles. Maidstone's Lisa Holloway collected her second title of the day when she won the U14 Girls Singles beating Hannah Frarey (Maidstone) 21-17, 21-13 in the final. Holloway beat Ellen Grant (Thanet) 21-9, 21-11 in one semi-final and Frarey beat Abigail Flynn (Tonbridge) 21-8, 21-7 in the other.

U17 Boys Singles. Christian Thompson (Medway) retained his U17 Boys Singles title with a ferocious display of power hitting to topple second seed Scott Dawtry (Folkestone) 21-12, 21-8 in the final. Third seed Paul Smith (Ashford) was surprisingly beaten by Gravesend's Alastair

McTavish in the quarter finals 19-21, 22-20, 21-18. McTavish only just failed to cause another upset just losing to Dawtry in the semi-final 19-21, 19-21. Dawtry was taken to three by Maidstone's Anthony Lickfold in the previous round before winning 21-16, 19-21, 21-10. Folkestone's Trevor Griffiths beat Ian Murphy (Maidstone) 21-16, 16-21, 21-17 in the quarter final but was then out of his depth against Thompson losing 9-21, 18-21.

U17 Girls Singles. Unseeded Alison Smith (Maidstone) used her combination bat to good effect to win the U17 Girls Singles final against last years champion Angie Bristow (T Wells) 21-11, 19-21, 21-11. Smith had earlier beaten second seed Crystal Hall (Maidstone) 21-13, 15-21, 21-16 in the groups and then accounted for Maidstone's Rachel Woollyen in the semi-final 21-14, 21-14. With two going through form each group Hall had a chance to make amends in a semi-final clash with Bristow after beating Cally Howes (T Wells) 21-12, 21-16 in the quarters. After surviving two game points in the first leg Bristow held on to win 24-22, 21-17.

LENHAM STORAGE KENT JUNIOR CLOSED

U17 Boys Singles - Christian Thompson (Medway) bt Scott Dawtry (Folkestone) 21-12, 21-8. U17 Girls Singles - Alison Smith (Maidstone) bt Angie Bristow (T Wells) 21-11, 19-21, 21-11. U14 Boys Singles - Oliver Stevens (Time and Talents) bt David Richardson (T Wells) 21-10, 13-21, 21-14.

U14 Girls Singles - Lisa Holloway (Maidstone) bt Hannah Frarey (Maidstone) 21-17, 21-13. U11 Boys Singles - Oliver Stevens (Time and Talents) bt Wesley Cheeseman (T Wells) 21-7, 21-10.

U11 Girls Singles - Gemma Alcorn (Maidstone) bt Amy Ramsook (Farringtons).

U17 Boys Doubles - Scott Dawtry (Folkestone)/Paul Smith (Ashford) bt Christian Thompson (Medway)/David Richardson (T Wells) 22-20, 17-21, 21-15.

U17 Girls Doubles - Crystal Hall (Maidstone)/Rachel Woollyen (Maidstone) bt Amanda Bateman (Ashford)/Kelly Grant (Thanet).

U14 Boys Doubles - David Richardson (T Wells)/Wesley Cheeseman (T Wells) bt Oliver Stevens (Time and Talents)/Rudi Dharmalingham (Maidstone) 15-21, 22-20, 22-20.

U14 Girls Doubles - Lisa Holloway (Maidstone)/Hannah Frarey (Maidstone) bt Amy Ramsook (Farringtons)/Ellen Grant (Thanet) 21-14, 21-15.

U15 Boys Singles - Christian Thompson (Medway) bt Antony Lickfold (Maidstone) 22-20, 21-6. U15 Girls Singles - Kelly Grant (Folkestone) bt Amanda Bateman (Ashford) 21-13, 21-18.

U13 Boys Singles - Oliver Stevens (Time and Talents) bt Raymond Jordan (Folkestone) 21-11, 21-7. U13 Girls Singles - Lisa Holloway (Maidstone) bt Hannah Frarey (Maidstone) 21-10, 21-16.

U17 Boys Class II - Kevin Powell (Folkestone) bt Andrew Ridgeway (Canterbury) 21-6, 21-13. U17 Girls Class II - Amanda Bateman (Ashford) bt Kelly Grant (Thanet) 24-22, 21-18. Special Merit Award - Nicholas Bannister (Dover).

KENT CADETS AND U12 PLAY IN GENERATION ATLANTA

For the second year Kent accepted an invitation to play in Generation Atlanta, a mini olympics for U10's U12's and U14's played at Namur, Belgium for French speaking countries over the weekend 15/16 April 1995. Kent's teams were U12 Boys, Justin Dodd, Christian Hanys and Dominic Hall, U14 Boys, Scott Friday, Robert Poutney (Berkshire) and Oliver Stevens, U12 Girls, Katie Parker (Lancs), Stacy Collins (Notts) and Ellen Grant. With a young and inexperienced team the success of last year was not repeated with many of Kent's youngsters getting their first taste of International competition. However, Scott Friday came away with a Bronze Medal in the Singles and 11 year old Oliver Stevens playing as a cadet was awarded Kent's player of the weekend.

Folkestone 5 - Chelmsford 4

Folkestone really upset the form book when they beat Chelmsford in the quarter final of the Carter Cup (U17 Boys National Team Event). Scott Dawtry was the outstanding player of the match winning all three against Regan Nettingham 21-19, 21-17, Steven Joslin 21-15, 18-21, 21-8 and Paul Lucas 21-13, 21-10. Trevor Griffiths win from 10-15 down in the third against Paul Lucas put Folkestone 4-2 up at a most crucial stage, following Paul Smith's earlier win over Lucas. Folkestone travel to Plymouth for the semi-final.

MIDDLESEX

TONY TAYLOR SUPERB PERFORMANCE

A superb performance by our County 1st team enabled us to win the Premier Division yet again.

Despite the absence of Graham Sandley our all stars were Nigel Tyler, John Souter, Richard Hyacinth, back up by Neil Charles representing the male side of the team and Leslie Keast and Marta Pilchova representing the ladies. Neil Charles won both his singles games on his debut and one of those reversed an earlier defeat whilst playing for the 2nd team some weeks earlier.

Our Senior 2nd team started the final weekend in a precarious position only having obtained two points from three previous matches. From the moment Simon Rockall overwhelmed Paul Carter in the first match against Surrey 2nd the result was never in doubt and so it proved with a final win for Middlesex 2nd of 8-2. Although we subsequently lost 8-2 against Surrey 1st team there were fine wins by Simon Rockall and Nick McCoy. We also lost against Avon but Simon again performed creditably winning a close and exciting game against Andy Creed. Finally an

excellent win was achieved to keep our team in the division and was notable for a win by Caroline O'Leary against Jane Swabey, a player some 100 places above her in the ladies computer ranking.

In the Victor Barna competition North Middlesex and Staines were previously unbeaten and met in a crunch match. Simon Rockall, Jonathan Proffitt and Craig Millwood unexpectedly won by a wide margin of 8-1 against the talented trio from Staines of Neil Charles, Andy Sheppard and Mathew Boon. There were however some very close games where the ball was hit extremely hard with the aid of third generation glues.

North Middlesex were also successful against Ipswich in the Rose Bowl Competition in an extremely nail biting match by 5 games to 4. We were represented by Marta Pilchova, Leslie Keast, and Anne Flowerday against three top ranking juniors who were recently featured in Table Tennis News. Despite falling behind by 0-2 and then 2-4 we spectacularly came back to win the next two games to level at 4-4. The next match was between Anne Flowerday and the Ipswich No.1 player and nationally ranked No.7 Junior which looked like a formality for Ipswich. To the amazement of everybody watching however, Anne beat Rebecca Sparkes with the minimum of fuss, her experience proving more important than the precocious skills of her opponent.

Our County Junior seconds have had a difficult season but nevertheless secured their first point and just avoided the wooden spoon. Our Veteran sides have had a mediocre season - 1st team won 5, lost 2 and were ably led by John Holland who only lost 2 singles all season, 2nd team (Vets) won 3 and lost 4 run by their non-playing captain Norman Sliifkin and we hope he returns to his playing days next year.

Congratulations to Simon Rockall who had a wonderful achievement reaching the quarter finals of the English Closed Championships and then took 18 points in the first game against Carl Preen. Simon who plays for our County 2nd team has had an excellent season and his hard work at his game is obviously paying dividends.

NORFOLK

RAY HOGG

REPEAT PERFORMANCE

He did it again. Against all our predictions Leeroy Pye repeated his performance at the County Closed this year. Having won all possible titles both Senior and Junior last year. We - the older and wiser ones - could not see him doing it again what with the pressures of knowing that it is easier to win first time than to defend titles. Starting with the Seniors this is his list of wins.

Singles bt Gary Hewitt 7, 17. Mens doubles with Ben Thompson bt Steve Barrett and Alan Nicholls 19, 16.

Mixed doubles with Kim Chambers bt Steve Howlett and Edna Fletcher 19, 16. Juniors - U17 singles bt Adam Brewer 9, 17. (Adam beat both Jamie Vasco and Mark Wortley on his way to the final.) Boys doubles with Mark Wortley bt Adam Brewer and Jamie Vasco 12, 17. The only title to be lost was Junior Mixed with Michelle Sadd against Mark Wortley and Ashleigh Mackellar 18, -12, -25!!

Other results from the day - Juniors. Girls U17 Katie Green bt Ashleigh Mackellar 7, 10. Girls U14 Gemma Keogh bt Michelle Sadd 19, 14. Girls U12 Julie Horstead won a round robin. Boys U14 Daniel King bt Wayne Thorn 18, 14. Boys U12 David Lam beat Robert Drake 17, 16. Girls doubles - Ashleigh/Katie bt Michelle/Gemma 16,7. Restricted Boys singles - Jonathon Webb bt Matthew Howlett 8, 20. Restricted Girls singles - Lucy Goodale bt Michelle Sadd 14, 17. An entry of 66 juniors with 33 from Kings Lynn!

A 9.30 finish for the organisers the only sour note was a report of a ranked player beating a rabbit in the groups without giving him a game and then just walking off without so much as a hand shake.

Sixty-five seniors including 30 from Kings Lynn - are they taking over as the leading league from Norwich.

Results other than those including Leeroy. Ladies singles - Denise Jacobi unranked and unknown bt Melanie Chaplin 14, 18. Veterans Mens singles Chris Brewer again bt Mick Broughton 12, 15. Ladies doubles - Mary Sawyer/Edna Fletcher bt Anthea Rudd/Sally Shaw 15, 19 (not bad for two over 60's). Mens consolation Dave Needham bt Don Dixon 18, 17. Ladies consolation Ruth Hogg bt Claire Vasco 16, 17.

So ends the 48th happening of the County closed, and the beginning of arranging the 49th happening as to when and where and who will sponsor next year because if no one does there will not be a 49th. Not necessarily one big sponsor, lots of £50 would do. Any ideas or offers to me please.

A quick word on County teams as it is now history that our Vets 1st team won their division at a canter 2nd Vets came 3rd, Junior 1st and 2nd teams came 3rd and bottom and Senior also bottom. All are raring to go again next season. Let us hope there are enough helpers to do all the things that make playing possible.

A comment overhead at the Norwich presentation evening when some 14 teams collected their awards - where are all the younger players?

NORTHANTS

DENNIS MILLMAN

QUICK AND ACCURATE

The 1995, Queensberry Scimitar County Closed Tournament ended on a high note for Daventry's Kieron Dabbs, as he proved too quick and accurate for previous holder Ryan Keates, and then raised his game to a different dimension in the later stages

to easily regain the men's singles title he last won in 1993.

Keates was not the only player to lose a title, for Sally Russell, winner of the women's crown for the last two years, was summarily deposed by twice runner-up Donna Furniss. Miss Russell had taken the first in confident style but then became tentative and the Towcester girl was quick to seize the initiative. She led 10-9 at the change-over, raced to a 20-13 lead, and then quelled a late fight-back to become champion for the first time.

It was to be a memorable night for Miss Furniss, for she went on to gain the classic treble, taking the doubles with her beaten opponent, and then fittingly joining Dabbs to deprive Keates and Russell of their mixed doubles trophy.

For once the ladies doubles created keen interest, with the newly established pairing of Viv Smiley and Clem Little giving a spirited performance that earned them several game points, of which they were unable to take advantage, and eventually they were overwhelmed by the extra power and experience of Russell and Furniss, who made it five wins in a row.

Keates did have the consolation of a men's doubles success in partnership with Steve Brown, who finally achieved ultimate reward in his fourth final, leaving Steve West and Gary Deakin to pick up the minor honours.

In a match of contrasting styles, Mike Pond took his first county title in the Veteran Men's Singles, coming from behind, and not for the first time, to account for a persevering Alan Ashberry. In the corresponding doubles, Pond and Gordon Shaw went out early to Ashberry and Gerald Finney, leaving eight Kettering players to fight out the semi-finals, and at the end of the day it was the senior pairing of John Palmer and Dennis Millman who came through to snatch a hard earned victory.

Palmer, whose Queensberry Scimitar company were sponsoring the event for the first time, also celebrated success in the Over 50 Doubles, but just failed to add the singles title at this level, when going down in a prolonged duel against Bill Fletcher. Millman however, went on to complete a unique treble when for the fourth successive year he and Dick Cole proved too strong for the Over 60 opposition, and to complete his day, the Kettering League Chairman added the Over 60 Singles for good measure.

Sally Russell, who had produced her brilliant best to halt Sarah Creasey's inspired run, beat all her male counterparts in the 17-20 Rod Marchant Memorial Trophy while at junior level the rapidly emerging talent of her likely successor Gabrielle Evans gained her rich rewards in the Under 17 and the Under 14 Girls Singles, and also the doubles in tandem with Ruth Huddle.

Paul Adams repeated his 1994 boys singles success against Joe Trippett, but it was Trippett and Daniel Vertigan who collected the main doubles award at the top of the age range, with Imran Soorty, James Fitton and Greg Yarnall making considerable

impact at the other end of the scale.

The classified events gave tournament organiser Arthur Palmer most reward for his arduous efforts, with a superb mix of styles and abilities. Gerald Finney, who was unfortunate to lose to Mike Pond in the veterans semi-final, ended up top of the Class One, and his wins over Gary Deakin, Mick Perry and Dave Smith, together with a veterans conquest of Michael Edwards, provided rich recompense.

The evergreen and ever-ready John Gandolfi ended the day with a fine win in the Class Two event after accounting for Colin Judd and Majid Soorty, while one level lower, young Imran Soorty came through to beat Viv Smiley in an epic final. Meanwhile Class Four provided a Kettering Second Division final with Lee Bunker hanging on to beat Ivan Retalic in a close finish.

NORTHUMBERLAND

PAULINE LONG

OUTSTANDING

The National Power Northumbria League officially ended on April 28, but a combination of the Tyneside postal strike and Easter holidays meant that some matches were either still outstanding or results had yet to be received.

However, it appears that Gateshead 'A' have won the Division 1 title, with North Shields's YMCA 'A' as runners up. Tyne Dock will be relegated, but who goes down with them is anyone's guess as no fewer than seven teams are currently involved in the battle to avoid the drop. In Division 2, North Tire 'A' appear to have the championship sewn up with one game to play, and North Shields YMCA 'C', who have completed their programme, are in second place, but it is still possible for three other teams to overhaul both of them if any of them have a big win in their last matches. Whitley Chapel and Ashington YMCA are the unlucky teams for demotion.

DSS 'B' have secured the Division 3 title, with Mortimer as runners up, while Byker 'B' and probably the Post Officer are the likely candidates for relegation. Either North Tire 'A' or Dunston 'A' will be Division 4 champions, with the other team as runners up, while the wooden spoon will go to Stanley YC 'B' and North Shields YMCA 'L'.

Eddie Smith (Gateshead) was unbeaten in 15 matches played in Division 1, while Ken Bowman was an ever-present for Farrow in Division 2, and lost only ten sets all season. Alan Matthewson (Blaydon) had a 100% record from 18 matches in Division 3, while Russell Lee did likewise for North Fire 'B' in Division 4 from 20 matches.

The final of the Handicap Cup competition will be between Newton 'A' (90) and Gateshead (72), and will be played at North Shields YMCA on a date yet to be arranged at the time of writing.

The National Power Summer League will commence in late May

and will continue until August, which will amount to League play virtually all the year round for those who are interested.

Close seasons now appear to be a thing of the past!

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

MIKE TUNNINGLEY

THRILLING FINAL

Nottingham took the honours in the Annual Inter-Town Championships which were held at Wellow House School. In a thrilling finale they defeated Worksop 5-4 with the victory being decided in the deciding third set of the final match when Nottingham's Mark Green and Paul Wood defeated Dale Ajeto and Mark Short 21-16, 19-21, 18-21. Earlier in the competition Nottingham had defeated both Retford and Mansfield by 10-0 margins while Worksop had also defeated them this time by 9-1 margins.

In the Annual Worksop Closed Championship Stephen Harrison defeated Mark Short in the Open Singles Final to regain the title he last won in 1987. Short, recent winner of the Sheffield Open Singles, battled hard in a thrilling encounter before eventually going down 20-22, 21-17, 17-21. Undoubtedly the best of the remaining finals came when two former Open Singles Champions met in the final of the Plate Competition. Paul Clarke, eight times champion met Mick Bartrop who last won the title in 1990 and has been runner up in 1991, 1992 and 1993. With both players entertaining the spectators with some exceptional rallies it was Clarke who eventually emerged the winner 17-21, 21-16, 21-15.

Eleven year old Craig Gascoyne reached four finals and won them all, with perhaps his best win coming in the Junior Singles Final when he defeated the reigning champion Glyn Evans in straight sets 21-16, 21-15.

Another eleven year old currently making the mark in table tennis is Louise Durraut who was recently selected to represent England in the British Primary Schools International Championships which were held Dumfries Scotland. Louise, who represents Rhodesia TTC in Division 2 of the Worksop League made a fairly tale debut. In the team event which England won after recording a 10-0 win over Isle of Man, 8-2 win over Scotland, 8-2 win over Ireland and 6-4 victory over Wales, Louise had remained undefeated and not having dropped a set throughout the event.

Her coach and mentor Neil Houghton, is delighted with her progress and holds great hopes for her future in the sport.

Following the team event, Louise was greatly involved in the Individual Championships where she unbelievably reached the final after gaining successive victories over England's No 1 and 2 in the quarter and semi-final respectively.

Up against the reigning champion in the final Louise fought hard but eventually lost a thrilling match 21-17

in the deciding third set.

The season, has for the Worksop League, been its best ever with the league gaining its own headquarters, higher sponsorship, more teams joining the league, excellent press coverage and excellent progress being shown by the younger players. Not forgetting the older players who have achieved titles in Sheffield, Rotherham and Chesterfield at the time of writing, they have come through the excellent coaching schemes available in the area and are now attaining the rewards they so richly deserve.

On the league front, Priory Carpets A have lost the First Division title which they have held for the previous four seasons, to Sports Centre A who are represented by Mark Short, Stephen Harrison, Andrew Lee, Gordon Garlick, Shaun Lee and Gary Lee. Yo-Yo team Rockware B regain promotion to the First Division following relegation last season after winning a two-horse race with Carlton Greys B. The Division Three title goes to Harthill Juniors B who are represented by Craig Gascoyne (who maintained a 100% record throughout) Andrew Gascoyne, Alex Gascoyne and Luke Ambrose.

Finally, on a personal note may I through this column extend my thanks to the many friends and players who supported me through my recent triple-heart by-pass surgery and subsequent convalescence. Your kind thoughts were very much appreciated and they have certainly helped me on the road to recovery.

SOMERSET

ANDY SEWARD

LONG SEASON

As we come towards the end of yet another long season, time to reflect on the end of season activities, the Somerset Closed, the local tournaments and the last round of County matches.

The Somerset Closed was kindly hosted by Westlands at Yeovil. The referee successfully managed to get nearly 200 matches played on 8 tables in 10 hours with the last three finals being staged in the main Clubhouse. It was very pleasing to note that a sizeable audience stayed to watch.

Summary of results:

Mens Singles: Phil Payne bt Brian Reeves 21-12, 21-11. **Ladies Singles:** Tina Sadler bt Shirley Dark 21-17, 21-17.

Mens Doubles: Phil Payne/Steve Palmer bt Brian Reeves/John Crabtree 21-10, 18-21, 21-14. **Ladies Doubles:** Tina Sadler/Christine Cowell bt Shirley Dark/Judy Craig 21-12, 12-8 ret d.

Mixed Doubles: Rob Millard/Tina Sadler bt Graham Green/Shirley Dark 21-17, 21-18.

Veterans: Brian Reeves bt George Philpott 21-18, 21-17. **Under 17 Boys:** Andrew Rumory bt Chris Filer 21-9, 21-13.

Under 17 Girls: Claire Gibbs bt Helen Round 17-21, 21-13, 21-12.

Under 17 Doubles: Andrew Rumory/Ed Brown bt Chris Filer/Sam Reynolds 21-12, 22-20.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

REVIEW

Both the Seniors and Veterans came to their last match of the season desperately wanting to win - for differing reasons. The Seniors needed to win to give themselves an improbable chance of promotion - assuming that Gloucestershire lost their last match. Somerset lost, Gloucestershire didn't, so it was all academic.

The Veterans needed to win to escape relegation. They failed, but only just. The only redeeming features of the 4-5 defeat by Essex 2 were the two wins by the redoubtable Brian Reeves, one for Graham Green and the fact that the Veterans won't be travelling to Essex (twice) and Kent next season - that will save on expenses.

The Vets 2 nearly, in fact very nearly, pulled off the win of the season against top of the table visitors Oxfordshire 2's. A banker away win said the pundits, Oxon 2 six straight wins, Somerset 2 one win all season. Result 5-4 to Oxon 2 and much relief to Alf and his boys. Congratulations to them, and all we can say to Brian and his Berkshire team is, 'we tried'.

The Juniors continued their season getting better and better. A creditable 5-5 against Worcestershire, wins for Andrew Rumary (2), Michael Ong (2) and Chris Sayers (1). As usual at the end of a season, we say farewell to the juniors who are ineligible next season. To Andrew Rumary and David Corkett, thanks for your contribution and good luck in the Senior ranks.

And finally. That's it from the Farmers Arms scrumpy drinker and washer upper. Next season a new scribe will (hopefully) be appointed to pen for Somerset ... probably the same quality rubbish!! Au revoir.

SUSSEX

JOHN WOODFORD

FASCINATING EVENING

Ritchie Venner (Crawley) and Rose Rainton (Hastings) emerged victorious from a fascinating evening's play at the Newman School, Hove on April 1 at the prestigious Seaman and Nicholls Cups for the top eight Sussex men and women.

But from the 16 players, eight men and eight women, one who was not made a fool of on April 1 was the Lancing top-spinner Peter Bartram, who continued his role of giant-killer right through to the final, despite languishing at No. 100 on the England men's ranking list. How Bartram remains as low as that, is probably because he plays better against stronger opponents, losing concentration against lesser mortals.

Bartram brought down the Sussex champion Adrian Moore 22-20, 22-20, 22-20 in the semi finals and in the final almost took Ritchie Venner to a third game. Venner triumphed 21-11, 21-14, 17-21, 21-19, just managing not without problems to stop the deadly stream of top-spin from Bartram.

Scott Greenbrook, the man still

tipped to be a future Sussex champion was the other losing semi finalist going under 12, 9, 13 to Venner, who at this time is emerging as the most consistent of the top Sussex men.

There were also upsets in the women's event, the Nicholls cup - the top two top seeds Teresa Bennett and Sally Weston were knocked out in the semi finals, Weston 21-17, 21-13 by Rose Rainton and Bennett succumbed to the Sussex No. 2 Sally Weston of Horsham.

Miss King is poised to launch her counter hitting armoury on the women's veterans circuit, that should provide some posers for the army of pushers and defenders in the women's veteran line-ups.

Rose Rainton is the player pulling up trees in Sussex as the end of the season approaches. After winning the Nicholls Cup she went on to win the Newman 1 star Open womens singles, taking out Teresa Bennett in the final. Scott Greenbrook is the new Crawley men's champion, with a splendid 21-19 third game victory over Ritchie Venner in the final, whilst Sally Weston defeated Sarah Stedman in the womens final at Broadbridge Heath.

Who is going to be the next Sussex champion in the men's ranks will not be known until May 6, when the late-arriving all-Sussex senior championships will be held at Hove.

The Sussex TTA have had lots of trouble in finding a date and a venue. A Saturday has been chosen because there were no Sundays available. Officials will be trying to find a date and a venue for next season right now. Many organisations now have to pick dates 18 months ahead, because there is such a huge shortage of premises at reasonable prices.

Because of this Saturday date on May 6, it is known that three players of some note, Paul Barry, Paul Elphick and Paul Butcher will all be absent due to other clashing activities like cricket.

Sussex chairman, Keith Jackson is due to complete his first year in the hot seat in July. It seems to have been a quieter season than those in recent years marred only by the death of the secretary Bill Bradley.

I would guess that having been given the reigns by surprise last July Keith Jackson will carry on the good work and hopefully, so will the secretary Alan Beames and his wife, Sussex national councillor Carol Beames.

WILTSHIRE

STUART MORSE

FINAL OFFERINGS!

Hello everybody and welcome to my final column of the season. At the time of going to press most of the league winners are known and things have started to wind down slowly. One date for your diaries is Friday 30 June and that's the County AGM to be held at Devises Headquarters at 7.45 pm. Anyway lets get around the leagues and tell you what I know.

Salisbury & District Premier league

winners South Newton A. West Wilts Premier League winners Trowbridge Snooker Centre A, runners up Westinghouse A. Devizes League in the last known table Poulshot A led from Poulshot B. Swindon & District League Division One either Ferndale A or B, Division Two Ferndale E, runners up Gaslink Sanford F. Thamesdown Division One winners West Swindon A, runners up Link A. Division Two winners Link C, runners up GWRSA D. Division Three winners St. Saviours. Division Four winners Aldbourne B, runners up West Swindon F. Junior Division winners Link A, runners up Link F.

Swindon and District's Picket competition was won by Ferndale B from Northside A, over fifty people turned up to watch the event at St Saviours Church Hall in Swindon and saw a superb final that was organised for the first time by Basil Thompson. They saw the victorious side of Raymond Powell, Brenda Lee and Tim O'Mahoney break down the superb opposition put up by Alan Duke, Tracey Hicks and Steve Davies to take the cup 4-1.

The final Veterans ranking tournament of the season took place at Churchfields School in Swindon toward the end of April. Top seed Brian Powell was a late withdrawal with a broken toe Neate eh Brian. This left Terry Parkins of Melksham as favourite for the bubbly, well despite starting like the proverbial train and beating all in sight he was eventually to succumb to quarter final opponent Colin Thompson from Compton Basset. Another upset in the quarters was the defeat of Swindon's Alan Duke to Salisbury's Alan Cooke (the real Alan Cooke), however, neither player could produce the same performance in the semi's where they were beaten by Tony Brown and Basil Thompson. Andover's Tony Brown went on to lift the champagne from his Swindon opponent. In the ladies event Newbury's Liz Whittaker overcame Chippenham's Nan Boyd to take top prize for the first time as a Wiltshire Vet.

Wiltshire Veterans Ranking List as of April 1995. Men: 1 Brian Powell. 2 Terry Bruce. 3 Tony Brown. 4 Basil Thompson. 5 Terry Parkins. 6 Bill Moulding. 7 Alan Duke. 8 Mike Oxley. 9 = Tony Mileham. 9 = Alan Cooke. 11 John Nash. 12 Ian Bell. 13 Colin Thompson. 14 Dave Bartlett. 15 Ray Cordery. Women: 1 Sylvia Morse. 2 Margaret Willson. 3 Liz Whittaker. 4 Gwen Hazell. 5 Ginny Sherman. 6 Mary Rossiter. 7 Ros Deakin. 8 Nan Boyd. 9 Ann Jeary. 10 = Pat Cleverly. 10 = Sue Stone.

That concludes this season's efforts don't forget any news over the summer ring me, send me or fax me, I may be big but I don't go into hibernation so for all those of you who have helped me during my part of the season thanks and may you all enjoy the close season. Cheers

WORCESTERSHIRE

JOHN BARBER

Evesham League Champions: Division 1 - Wyre Piddle Riversiders. Division 2 - Studley. Division 3 - Bengeworth.

EVESHAM CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mark Bilborough of Bengeworth Tigers completed a double success winning both the men's singles title, and in partnership with team mate Bob Price, the men's doubles title. In the singles final he was 4 points behind Colin Green in each game but his top spin loops proved decisive. As expected Lynda Reid took the ladies' singles title overcoming a gallant effort by Joan Parfitt, and went on to take 3 more titles.

Men's Singles: Semi finals - Mark Bilborough bt Malcolm McFarlane 15, 15. Colin Green bt Bob Price 9, 11. Final - Bilborough bt Green 14, 16.

Ladies' Singles: Semi finals - Lynda Reid bt Chris McLean 15, 15. Joan Parfitt bt Jean Lewis 14, 19, 10. Final - L Reid bt J Parfitt 10, 13. (L Reid plays in Division 1, the other ladies in Division 2.)

Ladies' Doubles: Final - Lynda Reid/Joan Parfitt bt Peggy Mytton/Jenny Williams 21-5, 21-15.

Men's Doubles: Final - M Bilborough/B Price bt C Green/Steve Gough 6, 10.

Mixed Doubles: Final - Chas Lane/L Reid bt Ken Baker/Aileen Berry 17-16, 17.

Veterans Men's Singles: Final - M McFarlane bt S Gough 11, 19.

Veterans Ladies' Singles: Final - Jean Lewis bt Joan Parfitt 17, 19.

Veterans Doubles: (Drawn): Final - I Reid/P Mytton bt C Lewis/J Lewis 19, 14.

Junior Boys: Final - Matthew Hartwell bt Matthew Burgess 15, 19.

Junior Girls: Final - Emma Preston bt Sarah Bradley 10, 8.

LOWER DIVISIONS

Men's Singles: Final - Chris Gooderham bt Stan Owen 15,13. **Draw Doubles:** Semi final - Peter Troake/Ian Shadbolt bt Graham Briscoe/Les Jabson 21, 11, 14. Vic Davis/Sarah Bradley bt Joan Parfitt/Rick Hartwell 12, -19, 16. Final - Troake/Shadbolt bt Davis/Bradley 20, 14.

Division 3 Final: Stuart Spire bt Ian Preston 13, 13. The same players competed in the Cadets final, Spire bt Preston 17, 14.

Consolation Competition: Graham Briscoe bt Mike Moore 10, 19.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

In an extraordinary season for non-availability and injuries 11 players were used for both 1st and 2nd senior teams. The first team lost 5 and drew 2 and will be relegated. Trevor Washington won 8 out of 14 and Sandra Roden 4 out of 4. The 2nd team won 3 and lost 5. D Rogers won 8 out of 12 and Hill won 8 out of 14.

The veterans finished mid-table. Washington won 8 out of 14, Norton 8 out of 14, Janet Hunt 4 out of 7.

The juniors finished second to Glamorgan, exceeding all expectations.

SCHOOLS

A competition was set up to determine qualifiers for the national finals on 6 May: BU11 Phillip Burdon (K'minister), BU13 Andrew Jones (Worcester), BU16 Stephen Jackson (Malvern), BU19 Mark Norwood (K), GU13 Kate Hughes (Bromsgrove), GU16 Alison Rathbone (K), GU19 Zoe Evans (K).

With all good wishes, John.

YORKSHIRE

REA BALMFORD

RIGHT FOOT

With the close of the season rapidly approaching - it will be well gone by the time these notes go into print - I can only look at and forecast events that will certainly be matters of fact when they appear to the reader - such are the tribulations of a scribe.

But I will get off on the right foot with facts, and congratulations can go to two of our County sides, Junior II in Junior Division 1A and Vets II in Veteran Division 3A.

The Juniors, for whom Peter Marshall and Wayne Marsh (Hull), Emma Smith (Selby) and Sarah Nouth (Leeds) were ever present and Mark Brook, David Smith (Huddersfield), Timothy Simpson (Doncaster), Darren Wright (Bradford) and the two Leeds girls, Charlotte Spink and Kate Foster all made an excellent contribution, dropped only one point - in a 5-5 draw in the opening fixture of the season against Roses' rivals Lancashire.

Unfortunately for the young players involved, a number of whom will still be available in the 95/6 season, promotion is not available to them with the County's first team flying high in the Junior Premier Division.

But the Vets II can move up from their slot in Division 3A after blasting their way to the championship with a seven match unbeaten record, in which only five games out of a total of 63 were allowed to go to opposing sides.

The final match saw them in Norwich where the quartet of Keith Powell (Huddersfield), Keith Bell (Leeds), Steve Kosmowsky (Bradford) and Louvain Smith (Ripon) ran out convincing 7-2 winners.

Also looking ahead are our sides in the Friendly Hotels British League, with two hoping to compete at a higher level next season and a third, Brabar Humberstone, almost certain of retaining their status in Division 1 North.

The last named may not be thought of as a success, but when it is remembered that the side rely on a teenage squad of home grown players - all have come up through and compete regularly in the Hull League - skippered by long service Derek Munt, also back in local League action, survival at this top level is an achievement.

And, with Derek unavailable for the vital match away to fellow relegation strugglers Leicester, the playing squad had an average age of seventeen -

surely the youngest side to go on court in a Division 1 match.

And the youngsters did themselves proud with a battling win over the East Midlands outfit, the crucial victory probably being that of the 'baby' of the side, 16 year old Mike James, -20, 20, 20 over home No. 1 Mark Illingsworth - another Yorkshireman, of course!

So, with City of Leeds hot promotion favourites in Division 2 North, we could be seeing the establishment of a Yorkshire 'derby' next season, and derbies in any sport are something special in our County.

The West Riding's 'capital city' will no doubt strengthen their already powerful squad with some of the leading players in the area to consolidate their place in higher company and, hopefully, after a 'settling in' period, make a challenge for Premier status.

In their initial season Abbeydale, who draw on the South Yorkshire area for their squad, have made an excellent start and they too, could be moving up at the end of the campaign.

My personal views on British League are well known, but I have nothing but praise for the three sides mentioned, who are doing a fine job in offering higher table tennis opportunities to players in East, West and South Yorkshire respectively and not bringing in expensive 'imports' with no local loyalties.

Back to Mike James, and we wish him well with the England Schools team in Israel for the second World Schools 'get-together'. No. 4 in the national Junior rankings, the Bridlington boy played in the initial event in Birmingham some 18 months ago and he is no stranger to international competition after travelling on the continent of Europe as a member of the England squad in the Cadet Six Nations Championships when he was still in that younger age group.

To close with a number of 'shorts': Wakefield based coach Rowden Fullen will not be in the County next season. Always hardworking, sometimes controversial, Rowden has produced some fine players over the years and Yorkshire's best wishes go with him as he moves to take up a new challenge in Sweden.

One of those players was local girl Debbie Toole from nearby Normanton. Debbie has been out of table tennis for some 2-3 years but, following the arrival of son Sam, now 15 months old, she is back in the game, playing for top Wakefield club Eastmoor and has already put the Irish Open Ladies Singles title under her belt.

Wortley High School (Leeds) finished in third place in the National Finals of the National Schools Team Championships, but the feeling in the Leeds camp was "we made the finals after a very enjoyable competition. Hope to be back next year".

Dave Cammish, who plays in both Bridlington and Hull Leagues takes the Yorkshire League Merit Award for Veteran Division 3 following his first season in the competition.

PARKER'S PLEASURE

1995 JARVIS SPORTS I.A.P.S. TOURNAMENT, WELLOW

As the top players were involved with the English Closed at King's Lynn, so a group of rather younger players began their annual championships. This being the National Preparatory School Championships, hosted by Wellow House Preparatory School for the third year running. This year our referee was International Umpire Mr Mike Payne from Derby together with Mrs Lilian Payne.

The Parkers paid a visit this year and, logically, played a big part in the individual and team finals. Described by Table Tennis Organiser, Brian Jones as "a modest young man with an extraordinary talent", Adam Parker dominated the Under 11 Boys' event. In the final, Adam showed ability and power to beat a good opponent 21-5, 21-15. However, sister Katy (U12 ranked 2) was quite surprised to find that

an unranked (and "unchoached") player gave her something of a fright in the Girls' Final. Katherine Sayers of King's School Ely took the first game quite convincingly before eventually being bettered by Katy in the third.

In the team event, the U11's again hinged on the Parker siblings, their team being taken to a deciding doubles which they won with a good effort. The omnipresent team from King's Wimbledon took the Under 14's honours. Sixty-three children representing 13 preparatory schools took part in the event, some travelling over 150 miles to be a part of it! The host school, for once, didn't figure so prominently this year although Ruth Corbyn of Wellow managed third in the girls.

Younger Wellow players are attempting to remedy this within their practice sessions, while the weekly Monday sessions are also open to any local players as reported recently in 'The Daily Telegraph'. Resident Coach, Neil T Houghton oversees these and

FAIR PLAY IN LETCHWORTH

Alan Harding was presented with the 'Terry Ives Fair Play Award', at the North Herts TTA Disco/Buffer Presentation Evening, at the Letchworth Football Club, by Charlene Ives. The trophy which was being presented for the first time, is in memory of the late Terry Ives.



young local players are welcome as indeed are any who choose to travel to join us at Wellow House. Latin translation is not in the coaching manual (yet!) but this (as does the organisation of the tournament for everyone) seems to fit in with the Wellow House motto - 'Haud sibi sed omnibus', which presumably means something like "not for self but for all"!

Results of the Jarvis Sports National Preparatory Schools' Table Tennis Championships held at Wellow House School, Newark, Nottinghamshire on Saturday 4 March 1995:

Under 14 Team Event. 1 King's College Junior School, Wimbledon (3-1 in final). 2 Downside School, Surrey. 3 St Andrew's Preparatory School, Berkshire.

Under 11 Team Event. 1 St Pius 10th School, Lancashire (3-2 in final). 2 King's College Junior School, Wimbledon. 3 Ipswich Preparatory School.

Individual Events. Under 14 Boys Final: R Lilani (Downside) bt A Lewis (St Andrew's) 24-22, 24-22. Plate - G

Foster (King's). Under 11 Boys Final: A Parker (St Pius 10th) bt B Jones (King's) 21-5, 21-15. Plate - C White (Downside). Girls Event: K Parker (St Pius 10th) bt K Sayers (King's, Ely) 17-21, 21-16, 21-6. Third - R Corbyn (Wellow House).

CY ENDFIELD a tribute

Died 17 April 1995, aged 80.

Cy Endfield the Hollywood film producer found fame with Zulu in 1964. He took up table tennis that year and played at Fulham (Alan Lindsay's).

He became a benefactor for lots of impoverished players. He loved to see us win and was unforgettably generous and encouraging. He made us feel like winners.

He was an inventive genius yet never talked down to us 'yobs', a true humanitarian.

Cy loved the game and praised its benefits, he played at Fulham until it closed.

Geoff Salter (now aged 46).

PETERBOROUGH TABLE TENNIS CLUB

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The Coaches

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Assisted by numerous top coaches and players.

Please note, these coaches will be present for the whole duration of the course,

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Oundle Public School, New Street, Oundle, Northamptonshire.

COURSE 1

Monday 24th July - Saturday 29th July

COURSE 2

Monday 31st July - Saturday 5th August

For booking form and further information contact: Julian Tee, Course Organiser, Peterborough TTC, 20 Eaglesthorpe, Peterborough, Cambs, PE1 4PE
Tel No: (01733) 69938
no later than 31st March 1995

ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENT

South East Region TT Projects Officer

Office based - West Malling, Kent.

Other details not yet known.

Persons can register an interest with

Doreen Nightingale at ETTA (☎01424 722525)

and will be sent details when confirmed.

