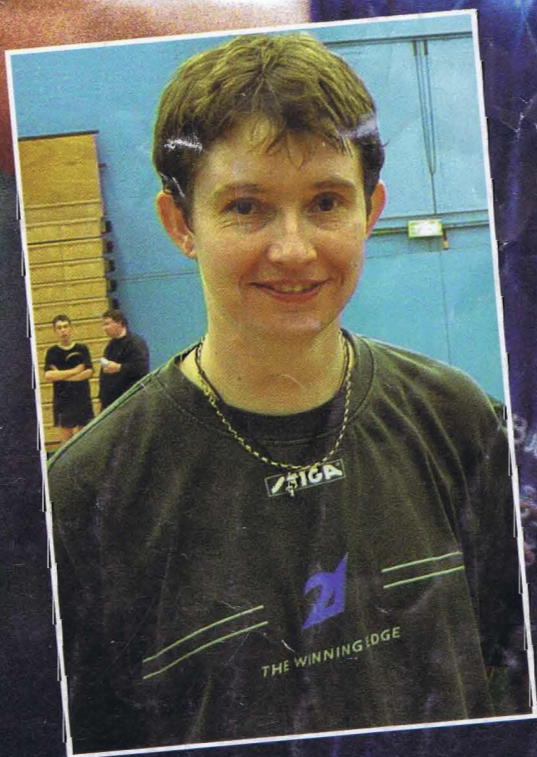


Table Tennis NEWS



SYED & LOWER WIN BRIBAR TOP 12

Pages 20 & 21



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TABLE TENNIS NEWS

The Official Magazine of the English Table Tennis Association

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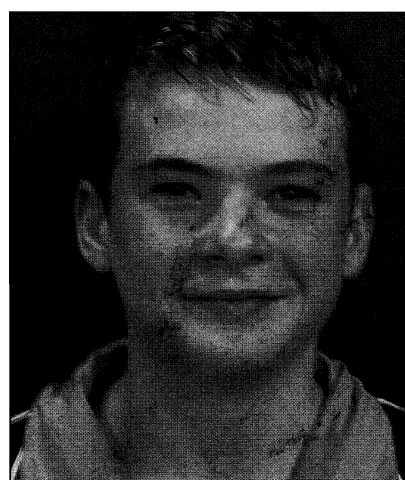
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MATTHEW SYED WINNER OF THE BRIBAR TOP
TWELVE IN LIVERPOOL
Picture by John Wood



GRAHAM TRIMMING was presented with the 'Service to Sport Award', page 15



MARTHA TRAVIS won the Under 11 Girls title, page 6



PAUL DRINKHALL won four titles at the Junior/Cadets Nationals, see page 14

The ETTA would like to thank the following organisations for their support

GRASS ROOTS

Pages 15 to 17

GILES & SHORT WIN VETTS NATIONALS

PAUL GILES & ELAINE SHORT (pictured right) won the Over 40 singles titles at the VETTS Nationals at Thornbury Leisure Centre on Sunday 16th May.

A full report and pictures will appear in the first issue of Table Tennis News next season

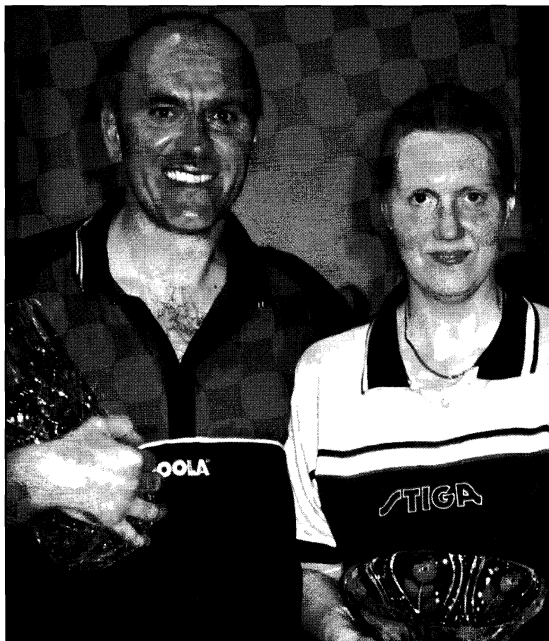
BEST IN EUROPE

ENGLAND'S juniors put themselves firmly on the map when they proved themselves to be among the best in Europe by lifting three titles at the German Youth Table Tennis Open in Willstadt, Germany.

Joanna Parker, still only 16, placed herself in the forefront of European table tennis when she beat the current European No.1 Iveta Vacenovska from Czechoslovakia in six games to win the junior singles.

That was followed by an equally impressive win from 14 year old Paul Drinkhall from Cleveland who beat the French player Abdul Salifou again in the sixth game to win the final of the Cadet singles.

England's success didn't end there when the trio of Darius Knight, Paul Drinkhall and Gavin Evans came back from trailing 2-0 in the final of the team event to beat favourites Turkey 3-2.



WOODY'S World

THIS issue of Table Tennis News is the last edition of the 2003/2004 season. A season that has seen many changes, like the re-birth of the English Top 12 tournament sponsored by Bribar and the Liverpool City Council. See the centre spread for details.

What an achievement by young Paul Drinkhall who won a record four titles at the Cadet/Junior Nationals, see page 14.

Once again our youngsters were hitting the headlines, this time at the German Youth Open tournament, were Joanna Parker, Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight and Gavin Evans won Gold, see this page for details.

Thanks to everyone for their support during the past season. Have a great Summer.

John Wood

Sanctions against Persistent Misbehaviour - 2004-05 Season

Tournaments Committee and NURC have proposed a system of sanctions to address the increasing problem of player misbehaviour. This was unanimously endorsed by National Council at its April meeting, and will operate for a trial period during the coming 2004-05 season.

Background

Tournaments Committee has been recording the 'cards' shown by umpires during the past two seasons. The number of cards has doubled this year compared with the same period last year, and it is clear that the antics of a few players are disfiguring the sport. More importantly it appears that their example, at present going unpunished, has been giving a lead to other players. This will change with the imposition of meaningful sanctions, assisted by new guidelines to umpires about the offences for which a card should be shown - and aimed at ensuring greater consistency in practice.

Counting cards

Every player will start with a 'clean sheet' in July 2004, and every card shown during any ETTA competition will be recorded. Each card will be recorded separately, along with the offence for which it was shown - so a yellow card followed by a red/yellow card in the same match will be recorded as two incidents. The trigger for sanctions will be the number of cards accumulated in a rolling 12-month period. This means that any cards shown in September 2004 will remain on the player's record until the same date in September 2005.

Sanctions

Once a player's record shows five cards, the Open Tournament part of their Player Licence will be suspended for a period of three months. The player may still enter Open Tournaments during this penalty period, but will have to pay a Single Tournament Fee on each occasion. Any further offence during the penalty period will re-start the clock. Once a player has successfully completed the 3-month penalty period without re-offending, their record of offences will be cleared and their full Player Licence entitlements will be restored.

Administration

The Trial will be under the jurisdiction of Tournaments Committee, which will receive and collate records of all cards shown in all ETTA competitions. As soon as a player's tally is seen to reach five cards, the player will be notified of the start date and expected finish date of the penalty period, and we will also notify the Organisers and Referees of all Open Tournaments scheduled during that period.

Limits to the sanctions

The sanctions will only apply to the Open Tournament aspect of the Player Licence, and will not affect any other benefits. They will not affect entry to the British League, County Championships, etc.

Conclusion

The aim of the sanctions is to reverse the worrying trend towards petulance and dissent, and to ensure that all players behave properly on court. Thus we have not attempted to impose an outright ban on competitive play, preferring to allow players to continue to compete - but putting them under increasing pressure to conform to acceptable standards of behaviour.

Tournaments Committee & NURC



INTERESTING, ENLIGHTENING, A LOT OF WORK & A BIT OF A 'ROLLER COASTER' AT TIMES

THIS will be my last contribution to Table Tennis News for this season and coincides with my first 12 months as your Chairman.

The last 12 months have been interesting, enlightening, a lot of work and a bit of a "Roller Coaster" at times, but to say I am enjoying the challenge would understate how much the last 12 months have meant to me. The enthusiasm, interest, determination, dedication and belief from the table tennis fraternity that we all have an opportunity to move the sport forward is unquestioned. I do not believe in the history of our sport that an ETТА Chairman and Management Team have covered as much ground visiting, meeting, playing, listening and reviewing our sport at all levels.

We have made some controversial decisions, not all members are happy about all our ideas but we are still listening. I do believe that there is a different buzz and feeling across the sport and a genuine belief that progress is being made.

We shall continue to make changes, reorganise the structure of our sport, involve new blood at all levels and continue to work closely and discuss our thoughts and ideas with grass roots and others.

Let me try and give you some background and update on various issues.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS

I have extended the time scale on completion and return of the questionnaire until the end of June. This is to ensure that as many people as possible are involved. It is very disappointing that a few have returned the form with just a "NO" giving no reasons nor have bothered to say who they are or where they are from, I ask them why are they not interested in the sport or wish to contribute to its future?

INTERIM FUNDING

We have been awarded an additional £200,000 from Sport England as part of the last £1m available to National Governing Bodies for the 2004/5 financial year. This money will be used to assist the sport at all levels but in particular at grass roots level. It will mean additional staff being employed by the Association dedicated to the improvements needed in a number of critical areas, namely Events, Development, Teaching and Training, Communication, IT and Administration. Some may believe we have too many staff already doing too little, this is not my view and it is important that the Management focus the resources we have in ensuring that the "members" get value for money and our funding partners see the results from their investment.

PE, School Sport and Club Links.

(PESSCL)

We have been invited as one of the sports to participate in a Governmental lead initiative to get more young people participating in sport via school and club links. We have submitted a plan covering a two year period from September 2004 for £170,000 the majority of

which will be, if approved, invested in participation and coaching of young people at schools and linked to clubs. It is hoped that this will bring more people into our sport and sustain their interest in it and hence directly increase our membership at schools, clubs and leagues. I will keep you informed of our progress.

WEBSITE

Malcolm Macfarlane will be circulating various documents during the coming weeks to assist counties, leagues and clubs in direct access to their part of the website for them to update. This is a major way forward to help in ensuring that the Website is updated but also gives the grass roots the opportunity to be part of the ETТА and its website.

ENGLAND TEAM

The success of our talented young players continues and details will be included in this issue.

VOLUNTEER MANAGER

Martin Ireland via his "Network" document is getting more exposure with programmes for the needs of our Association to expand our volunteer base. Please contact him if you need his support and help in your area.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

We are going to expand our complement of RDO's to nine hence covering all the Sport England Regions. They are ready to assist you in your regions, counties, leagues, clubs and local communities to develop and expand our sport. Contact and use them, they are your link and have the expertise to help you focus on funding and other opportunities for the sport in your patch. They are very happy to attend local meetings and work with you for Table Tennis Development and exposure locally.

GENERAL

I shall continue, as will my team, to attend meetings, events and meet with you to discuss any aspect of the sport, improve communications and work together with you in the long-term interest and future of our sport. I said from the very start that the road was long and narrow but it is a two-way street, progress is being made and I am determined and committed to make, with your help, the changes necessary for table tennis and the ETТА.

Alex Murdoch, ETТА Chairman

THE GAVIN EVANS WEEKEND

NATIONAL UNDER 10/11/12/13 TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

THESE Championships took place at Lynnsport & Leisure Park Kings Lynn during the weekend of 5th and 6th June 2004. Nearly 150 competitors took part and it was very interesting to note that about 40% were girls which for the future of our sport is fantastic.

It was undoubtedly the Gavin Evans weekend winning the under 11, 12 and 13 boys singles and the under 12 and 13 boys doubles. This means he has now won 12 titles in these National Championships since 2000/01.

His achievements and those of the many other winners and participants in these Championships will ensure a brighter future for our sport.

Gavin Evans beat unseeded Mathew Ware in the final of the Under 13 Boys Singles, Mathew, on the way to this final beat a number of players well above him in the ranking list.

Rachel Jamieson, the No.2 seed overcame Emma Vickers, the number 1 seed in the Under 13 Girls final.

Mary Fuller beat the No.1 seed Katie Rule in an exciting 5 set final of the Under 12 Girls Singles.

Gavin Evans, the No.1 seed, beat unseeded Graham Barella in the Under 11 Boys Singles.

Cornwall's rising star Martha Travis followed on from last year when she won the Under 10 Girls trophy, by winning this season's Girls Under 11 title, when she beat Sarah Russo of Sussex in the final.

Chelsea Furnival, the No.3 seed, beat Lucy Davidson in a tense final of the Under 10 Girls Singles.

Lewis Gray, coached by his very nervous father Diccon Gray - ETTA National Development Manager, beat Edward Mitchell in a close Under 10 Boys final.

Many thanks go to the Referee Gill Smith, her Deputy Phil Gower, the organisers Graham Rogerson and Dave Evans, the Umpires and the Umpires Manager Jenny Evans, the ETTA Events Staff Harvey Webb and Vanda Jones, and Kings Lynn Council for their continued support of table



tennis. Additional thanks must go to all the players, parents, coaches and spectators who endured one of the hottest weekends of the year.

Results:

Under 10 Boys Singles:

Lewis Gray (K) bt Edward Mitchell (Bu) 10,5,10

Under 10 Girls Singles:

Chelsea Furnival (Sx) bt Lucy Davidson (Dy) 5,3,4

Under 11 Boys Singles:

Gavin Evans (Bu) bt Graham Barella (Du) 2,5,0

Under 11 Girls Singles:

Martha Travis (Co) bt Sarah Russo (Sx) 9,10,8

Under 12 Boys Singles:

Gavin Evans (Bu) bt David McBeath (Ha) 6,10,7

Under 12 Girls Singles:

Mary Fuller(Y) bt Katie Rule (Bu) -8,6,-10,5,5

Under 13 Boys Singles:

Gavin Evans(Bu) bt Mathew Ware (Ha) 6,-9,8,7

Under 13 Girls Singles:

Rachel Jamieson(E) bt Emma Vickers (Dy) 8,-7,5,4

Boys Under 12 Doubles:

Gavin Evans(Bu)/Edward Mitchell (Bu) bt Liam Pitchford (Dy)/George Young (Dy) 8,4,6

Girls Under 12 Doubles:

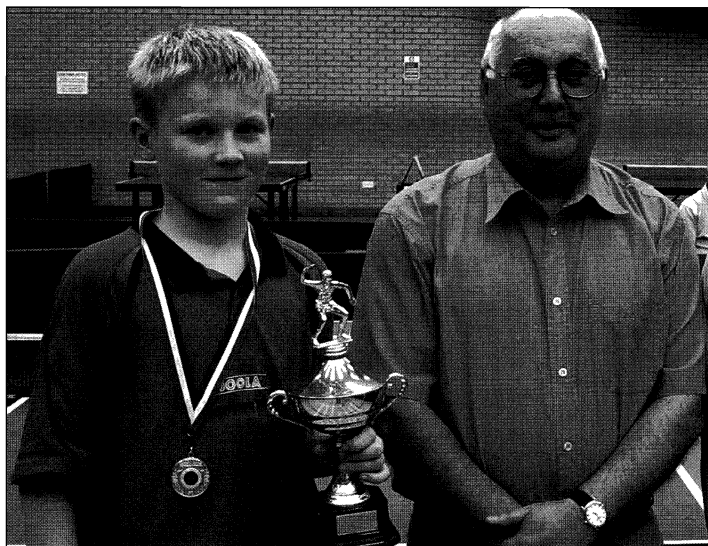
Katie Rule (Bu)/Martha Travis (Co) bt Mary Fuller(Y)/Sarah Russo (Sx) 8,10,8

Boys Under 13 Doubles:

Gavin Evans (Bu)/Myles Evans (Bu) bt Chris Doran (Np)/Stewart Mundie (Li) 7,3,4

Girls Under 13 Doubles:

Rachel Jamieson (E)/Jessica Macken (E) beat Emma Vickers (Dy)/Mary Fuller (Y) 9,6,4.



GAVIN EVANS (above) is pictured receiving one of his many trophies from ETTA Chairman ALEX MURDOCH, whilst pictured left is MARTHA TRAVIS who won this year's Girls U11 crown

Can you... m o T i v a T e?

- Will you -** work with a wide range of volunteers in Table Tennis as well as other professionals in education and sport to develop Table Tennis through a national work programme?
Do you - have good communication skills with the ambition and commitment to help Table Tennis progress?
Are you - a dynamic, versatile, 'self starter' with an interest in Table Tennis?

The English Table Tennis Association is recruiting suitable individuals to fill two posts to help drive forward the development of the sport.

If you think you may fit the bill, we look forward to hearing from you!

Regional Development Officers - two posts NORTH EAST (Cleveland, Durham & Northumberland) EAST MIDLANDS (Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire & Nottinghamshire)

Job purpose: To initiate and co-ordinate Table Tennis development in the region in accordance with ETTA national policy and priorities. Key work areas include: club and league development, school club links, volunteer support, facility development and communication.

Job details: Fixed term contract - all hours worked - until March 2005, with the anticipation of an extension for a further four years subject to funding confirmation. Office base located within the region, salary £18,000 p.a. Travel expenses for business mileage and £1,200 p.a. car allowance.

Application process: Closing date: Friday August 6th 2004

For a job pack (background, person specification, job description and application form - CVs alone will not be accepted) - please contact: Sheila King (Development Secretary), ETTA, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HF. Tel: 01424 722525, fax: 01424 422103, e-mail: sheila.king@englishtabletennis.org.uk

For an informal discussion about the posts contact Diccon Gray (National Development Manager, ETTA) Tel: 07970 575285.

supported by



The English Table Tennis Association Limited is actively working towards being an **Equal Opportunities Employer committed to building a diverse workforce, and as such welcomes applications from any suitably qualified individual.**



POSTBAG

Table Tennis News and the English Table Tennis Association, whilst recognising the right of free speech, reserve the right not to publish letters that may prove to be libellous. The content of the letters published below do not necessarily reflect the views of Table Tennis News or the English Table Tennis Association.

A REFEREE'S DILEMMA

I REFEREED the 2004 National Junior and cadet championships and a problem was encountered that I believe should be aired in TTN. A top ranked junior overlooked sending in his entry and as he did not become aware of this until after the draw had been made and would have been the No. 1 seed I declined to accept his entry when he contacted me by phone.

In the Cadet Boys event a top ranked player entered the doubles event but did not enter the singles and although I noted this with some surprise I took no further action as so far as I was concerned it was not my job to discuss with players what events they should or should not enter. The player was not aware of this omission until receiving his competitor letter and it then transpired his parents had in error overlooked entering him for this event. I was once again asked to accept a late entry and re-draw the event and I again declined to do so. Other people, some with a vested interest became involved and I explained the circumstances and why in my opinion I could not accept this entry and redraw the event.

On 13 April I received an email from Richard Scruton demanding that I take the blame for this and stating that he had advised others that there were no grounds for a re-draw. I had informed the Chair of the NEC, Doreen Stannard, by letter of the events surrounding the non entry of these two players but heard nothing from her about this until 48 hours before the championships were due to commence when she phoned and instructed me to re-draw the Cadet Boys event and include the player who had omitted to include his entry. She was also of the view that I should have contacted the player concerned to ascertain his intentions. Their view being that this was a highly ranked cadet and he had also paid the twin levy. I need to point out that for these

championships players entering two singles events have to pay a higher levy than a player entering only one singles event. However, a number of competitors also paid two levies but only entered one singles event with some paying both, paying the wrong one and in some cases paying none. Every postal delivery contained an entry form with a payment error of some kind and they were all accepted for what they were, calculation errors.

The instruction to re-draw this event and include the player concerned was given without any thought to the competitors who had correctly completed their entry the redraw affecting every player as the additional player went in as the No 1 seed. This decision demonstrating to me that positive discrimination exists within the ETTA and we are not all treated as being equal, some being seen as more equal than others. The NEC has blamed me for this without anyone discussing this with me and I have been denied any semblance of natural justice. The manner in which I have been treated has left me with mental scarring and I still feel traumatised by the unwarranted accusations made against me so much so that I am seriously considering giving up all contact with the sport that I have given so much too and obtained so much enjoyment from over many years.

I have always believed that the interests and welfare of competitors in any event are of the utmost importance and I try always to treat every competitor alike and believe that I am respected for this. Everything I have done has now been destroyed by those who seek to blame me and in doing so have shown a complete disregard for other competitors whose money they were happy to take but did not give them the justice that was due to them following the correct submission of their entry form treating them instead as cannon fodder.

I wrote to Hastings prior to entries arriving to ask if any guidelines for referees at National events were

COURTSIDE



by **John Woodford**

- **MANY** tournament referees and organisers have in the past found themselves in the same position as Ken Armson, the Doncaster referee for the English Junior Championships.
- **TOP SEEDS** have failed to enter or their paperwork was defective. Filling in forms can be a nightmare ; mistakes are bound to happen as they did in this case when England's brightest prospect Paul Drinkhall was on paper not entered for the main event.
- **PRESSURE** from officials and others to correct the error was very upsetting for Ken Armson. It would be very sad if he decided to pull out of table tennis by trying to apply the rules.
- **HAD** Matthew Syed been excluded from a major senior tournament in similar circumstances, it would probably have made a story for the national press. The Daily Telegraph have a policy of not wishing to get involved in the politics of smaller sports.
- **THIS** is a squabble concerning a junior tournament, so it will not reach the national media, apart from this magazine. I hope that Ken Armson will continue in table tennis for years to come.
- **ALEX MURDOCH** the ETTA chair criticised 'Courtside' April issue, because I did not praise the performance of the England womens team in Doha. True that I expressed my distress at no mens team, but on Pages 20 and 21 my praise was about the "pearl in the oyster".
- **EXCELLENT** news from the Bribar England Top-12 at Liverpool - Paul Drinkhall nearly beat Matthew Syed and came second to win £500.
- **JOANNA PARKER** is to live in Berlin playing for the famous 3B BERLIN club who have a host of coaches and players from China, Korea, Russia. But Joanna will be back for the British Grand Prix's and to play for England.
- **STEEN HANSEN** went to Berlin to negotiate Joanna's move. Well done Steen. Joanna herself knows that she and her coaches have to work hard on her game to create an attack and the same with all defenders to keep as many returns as low as possible.
- **TELEVISION** viewers watching the recent Davis Cup match between Luxembourg and England at an absurdly small venue - the Luxembourg national tennis centre-could be interested to know why the venue was so tiny.
- **BACK** in November I was courtside in Luxembourg at their national sports arena - Le Cocque - the place where this tennis match should have been played. Bryan Adams had booked Le Cocque for a huge rock concert which no doubt attracted thousands as against hundreds for the table tennis. Our event was the European qualifying tournament played amongst thousands of empty seats, but a superb venue.

The above views expressed by John Woodford, are not necessarily the views of Table Tennis News or the English Table Tennis Association.

available the reply being that none existed. I acted in accordance with ITTF draw conditions that no player be accepted after a draw has been made if the player would have been in a seeded position. In the event of a redraw no player should be included who would have been seeded had they been in the original draw. Someone within the ETTA took a decision to blame me and threw the book out of the window in their eagerness to appease some unknown person who was presumably pulling their strings.

The question still to be answered is why the second non-entry was accepted and the first ignored. More discrimination?

Ken Armson, Liverpool, Referee 2004 National Junior & Cadet Championships

THE NEW ETTA RANKING SYSTEM

IF a ranking system is to work properly the players on that system have to have an accurate rating. By accurate rating I mean one that is true to their standard or form at that time. The old ranking system had its flaws. One being that if a player did not play very often his rating would not have been accurate. Because the system is progressive, meaning there are more points to be won for wins, than against points lost for losses. Therefore anyone not playing very often would fall behind and would not be accurately rated. Therefore anyone playing against that player would not win or lose a correct amount of points. But after saying that I still believe it was as fair as could be possible. Now to the current situation that changed in January. With the new system players only win or lose points in the category they are playing in.

A veteran playing in a senior tournament only wins or loses points in the seniors.

A junior playing in a senior tournament only wins or loses points in the seniors

Therefore veterans and juniors will have different ratings in each of the categories they play in. Surely this contradicts the importance of accurate rating. A rating should be the guide to how well a player is playing regardless of the competition. How can any one player have two different ratings?

One scenario that occurs is if two veterans play in a senior tournament it is only their senior rating that is affected. Another is if a junior only plays in senior events his senior rating goes up where as his junior rating stays still, not reflecting his current form.

All in all there are now more players playing with inaccurate ratings than before with the old system. The longer this system is allowed to continue the more inaccurate the whole system will become. Please let me know your thoughts.

*Michael Wilkins
Leighton Buzzard*

FOR THE RECORD

THERE have been two statements published by John Woodford recently that require correction.

The first one was in his Courtside column in the March issue of Table Tennis News in which John says he believed the decision not to send a Men's team to Doha for the World Team Championships, would have been the same given the current circumstances if I had still been Chairman. This is not correct. In my view the decision not to send a team to the World Championships is so serious that it is a matter which should be led by the Management Committee and even consulting National Council, rather than following the coaching staff. Given the circumstances, my strong recommendation would still have been that we should have sent a man's team to Doha. If, in the opinion of the selectors, certain players, should not have been selected for disciplinary or non-compliance reasons, then that is a

matter for the selectors, in which case the next players in line or promising younger players should have been given their chance. A Men's team as well as a Women's team should certainly have participated in Doha.

John Woodford has written three articles recently in his column in the Daily Telegraph which have referred to Andrea Holt, the current National Women's singles champion, being appointed by the ETTA as Regional Development Officer for the North West. John states that this appointment ends a ten year spell when Andrea was regarded as a disturbing influence by the ETTA and banished from the England squad and international selection. Again, this is not correct.

Amongst Andrea's appearances were: 1996 the Olympic Games in Atlanta (Team GB), 1997 the World Championships in Manchester and the Commonwealth Championships in Glasgow. Andrea was selected as a member of the England Women's team as recently as 1999. She withdrew herself from the England team for the World Championships in Eindhoven in August of that year after Sport England did not renew her Lottery subsistence allowance. (See John Woodford's article in TTNews, Oct. '99) Andrea was given the opportunity to return to the team between 1999 and 2003 and had separate discussions with both Michel Gadai and Tony Chatwin during that time. However, these discussions unfortunately did not produce a positive outcome. *Alan Ransome, O.B.E.
Middlesbrough*

A NEW 'STEALTH TAX'?

ESTYN WILLIAMS (TTNews April) has misunderstood what I have said on the topic of individual affiliation.

I have no problems with this in principle, so long as the administrative burden will not fall on member organisations, as is likely.

Unfortunately the evidence is that this new method of counting will be used to increase ETTA affiliation fees.

The main category, that of local league players, will have imposed on it a very large increase. Currently the levy is based on teams or team places.

Each team, assumed to consist of four members, pays approx. \$16 p.a. Papers I have seen indicate \$10 per player or \$40 per team. That would mean an increase of 150%.

The net may also be cast more widely among casual players and officials who have retired from play, but continue to help run the sport.

Many of us therefore see "individual affiliation" which sounds so reasonable, as a stealth tax.

If I am wrong, then the fee should be fixed at £4 per member. It is my suspicion that rather more will be charged that makes me opposed to the concept.

If there is no intention of increasing the burden on the membership, then let the management speak up and confirm this.

My own members are opposed to increased ETTA charges, however described. Few feel that the ETTA is good value now and most would not notice, if the ETTA, in its present form, were to disappear altogether.

*John Prean
National Councillor Isle of Wight*

SLIPPING STANDARDS

We are always hearing and reading about how playing standards have fallen, but what about all the other standards associated with playing 'off the table'.

In my last 'Town Match' some of our team had travelled for over two hours to get to this venue and weren't even offered a cup of tea or coffee on arrival. We had to wait until the end of the match until we got a hot drink or any drink for that matter, and for some of us that was a six hours interval between drinks. Which quite frankly was 'not on'.

Two of the home team arrived late. The match almost started 'out of order', due to the absent players.

One player was without his town shirt because various alterations were being done to his home and his wife was away.

Another player left the match to 'pop out' to the shops to get some cake for the 'match tea'.

One of my earliest memories of starting playing table tennis, over 35 years ago, was to take pride in your team and treat your opponents as you would like to be treated yourself if you were the visiting team.

I would never show such disregard and lack of respect for my team or opponents by 'turning up' improperly dressed or by not being hospitable to them.

This season notices are beginning to appear in some clubs, telling people to safeguard their property etc. - due to the rise of theft. This at one time was unheard of.

So come on everybody - lets get our act together and improve standards, hopefully both on and off the table.

*Sylvia Smith
Bournemouth TTA*



SUMMER HELP NEEDED

A 13 year old French boy, Baptiste Paulet, wishes to spend 2 weeks in England in July or August to improve his English and to play table tennis.

**Anyone who can offer accommodation to Baptiste should contact his father (who speaks excellent English) via email
thierry.paulet@beru.com**

COOKE CAPTURES HIS 9th TITLE TO WIN OVERALL

ALAN COOKE landed his ninth tournament win of the campaign in the last port of call, the Moorways Sports Centre at Derby. The previous mens record was held by Ryan Jenkins - five grand prix victories, writes John Woodford.

Alan of course, won the tour overall whilst Tong Feiming was the womens overall winner.

This tournament came onto the schedule very late but there were nearly 200 players - this allowed early finishes on both days and many satisfied customers.

Cooke came through the draw, stopping Gergely Urban 7, 6, 10, in the semis and then -6, 3, 8, 8, against Craig Bryant in the final.

Earlier, Bryant (still a junior) brilliantly brought down the Scottish champion Gavin Runggay in straight games 9, 11, 6.

In his age-group Craig appears to have made a lot of progress this season. It has been said again and again that to get anywhere the up-and-coming English lads must beat the likes of Runggay and Stuart Crawford.

Abdul Wuraola keeps popping up in the later stages - after his show at Liverpool he peaked again to bring own Michael James who finished third at Liverpool - then Abdul lost to Urban at 6 in the fourth.

WATERED DOWN

The womens singles was watered down by Tong Feiming and Marketa Myskova failing to arrive, so referee Mick Strode swapped groups three and four which led to a Helen Lower and Georgina Walker final, won by the Wolverhampton lady 5,11,5.

The womens singles quarters line-up was Bristow v Springthope, Owen v Walker, Hallows v Brown, Roberts v Lower. Georgina Walker, now established in the England No2 ranking spot knocked out Angie Bristow 8,4 6 whilst in the other semi-final Helen Lower cruised through 5,



ETTA Chairman ALEX MURDOCH is pictured presenting the cash prizes to overall winner of the Grand Prix series ALAN COOKE (left) and the runner-up at Derby CRAIG BRYANT. Pictured right is HELEN LOWER winner of the Derby Womens singles

3,7 against the Cheshire girl Caroline Hallows.

In the womens final Walker had a purple patch only losing the second 11 to Helen who went on counter-hitting her way to victory 5 in the third .

U21 SURPRISES

The Under-21 mens event saw Steve Bailey creating a shock win over Craig Bryant but then losing the final to Londoner Umair Mautoor who plays for Essex teams in several theatres of action.

Mautoor was the winner of the Greater London tournament.

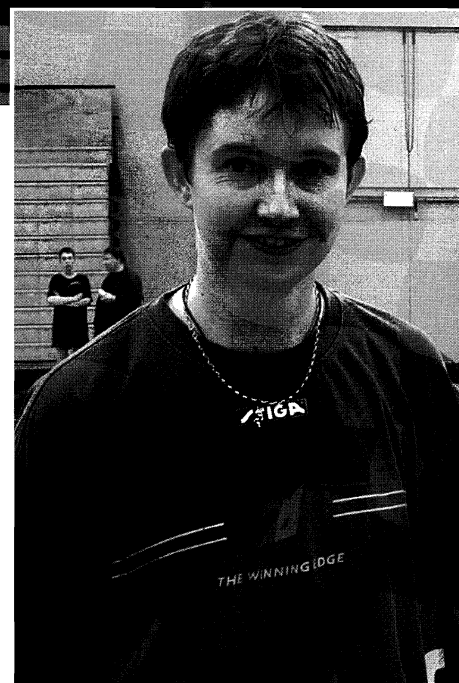
Abigail Embling was the surprise winner of the womens Under 21 challenge - she performed with style to defeat her Essex team-mate Natalie Bawden -3, 8, 7, 9.

The veterans singles for men saw a splendid win by Lincolnshire's Andy Wignall against Ayo Ademakinwa from Essex at 5 in the fifth game. Veteran womens events seem to get smaller - Local heroine was Jane Vickers, stopping Kent stalwart Kim Mudge 9 in the fourth game of the final.

WORTHY RUNNER-UP

The worthy runner-up in the Band 1 final was 13-year-old Emma Vickers who is No.1 on the England Under 13 list and No.4 cadet - she just managed to beat Rose Rainton (Sussex)in the semi-finals only losing 8 in the fifth to Yorkshire's Joanna Roberts in the final, but Emma did win Band 2.

Mens Band 1 winner was Yorkshire's Chinese



player Victor Shi - he came from behind to beat Michael Marsden (Durham) 9 in the fifth - Marsden held three match points in the third game aiming at winning three-straight '

• THE tournament organisation was excellent, except there was an acute shortage of umpires - Brian Savage was the man who bore the brunt of the essential umpiring - Derby must try and do better next season, assuming they manage to secure sponsorship after working hard at the Derby City Leisure department. The Lord Mayor of Derby spent several hours at the tournament before he went next door to the stadium where the Asian games were in progress.

• The full list of the Grand Prix Ranking points is published on the ETTA Website: www.etta.co.uk



THE OCEAN INTERNATIONAL CUP AT FAIRFIELD HALL, CROYDON

LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS

Limited Tickets Still Available for the Ocean International Cup

The Ocean International Cup at Fairfield Concert Hall in Croydon on July 23rd has already attracted more interest and anticipation than any invitation competition for a generation. The event is part of the Super Circuit, a series of competitions that has been staged in Japan by Kenshoen, a kimono retailer. It is the first time that a leg of the circuit has taken place in Europe.

A host of celebrity and corporate VIP's will be in attendance to watch many of the world's greatest players battle it out for a record first prize of US\$70,000. Timo Boll, the twenty-three-year-old sensation from Germany who is considered by many as the favourite for the Olympic title in August, will head the line-up. He will face stiff competition from Vladimir Samsonov, the two-time European Champion and former world number one from Belarus who has hit sensational form in recent weeks.

The final line-up of competitors for the Ocean International Cup also includes Kalinikos Kreanga from Greece, widely regarded as the world's most spectacular player, Petr Korbel from the



TIMO BOLL

Czech Republic, Jorgen Persson from Sweden, Zoran Primorac from Croatia, Ma Wenge from China and Chen Weixing from Austria.

Home interest will focus on Matthew Syed, the British number one and three-times Commonwealth Champion.

Last Chance to buy Tickets

If you have not bought tickets yet, there is still time. Seats are currently available in the upper stalls and balcony, which offer an excellent view of the court at a very reasonable price (please see table below). Don't miss out on a unique opportunity!

The event will be broadcast around the world, including in China, Japan, Singapore, Vietnam and India. BBC1 will be screening the competition on Saturday afternoon's Grandstand programme. It is a unique opportunity to showcase our great sport.

Butterfly will be the official equipment supplier of the Ocean International Cup, the third time that the company has supported a television event in recent years. The ETTA would like to thank Butterfly for its ongoing co-operation. The competition will be contested on the new Sky

version of the Butterfly Centrefold Rollaway.

Solutions Health and Fitness is the official health club partner to the Ocean International Cup. The club is opposite Jury's Inn hotel (a two minute walk from Fairfield Concert Hall) and guests can use the state-of-the-art equipment including swimming pool and steam room for a daily price of £6. Ticket holders only can purchase this pass at the gym reception.

Get into the Spirit of Things

In addition to the fantastic table tennis, the ETTA has worked extremely hard to ensure that the presentation and razzmatazz surrounding the event will be in keeping with its global prestige. There will almost certainly be a big screen linked into the BBC feed, giving spectators the chance to watch action replays.

However the atmosphere ultimately be determined by the audience. It will add hugely to the success of the event, both in the venue and on television around the world, if ticket holders came wearing face paint, wielding banners supporting their favourite players, blowing whistles or any other manner of things that do so much to create memorable sporting occasions.



JORGEN PERSSON



TICKET PRICES FOR THE OCEAN INTERNATIONAL CUP FRIDAY 23rd JULY 2004

	Afternoon Session		Evening Session		Both Sessions (Special Price)	
	Adults	Child/OAP	Adults	Child/OAP	Adults	Child/OAP
B (Upper Stalls/Front Balcony)	£7.00	£5.00	£12.00	£8.00	£15.00	£10.50
C (Rear Balcony)	£5.00	£3.50	£8.00	£5.50	£10.00	£7.00

Ticket Hotline: 0208 6889291 or you can buy online at www.fairfield.co.uk

The Afternoon Session commences at 1pm and will finish at approx. 5pm and features the two last sixteen matches and the first three quarter-finals.

The Evening Session commences at 6.30pm and will finish at approx. 10pm and features the last quarter-final, the two semi-finals and the final.

Ticket Prices
Please note that the special rate for both sessions cannot be obtained online and should be purchased from the telephone box office 0208 6889291

CHAMPION PAUL DRINKHALL



PAUL DRINKHALL is pictured receiving one of his four trophies from ETTA CHAIRMAN ALEX MURDOCH

THE ENGLISH NATIONAL CADET & JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS took place at the Dome in Doncaster, on 17th April 2004, and had a very large entry and was well attended by parents, coaches and spectators, giving the whole event a great atmosphere and buzz, writes Alex Murdoch.

Paul Drinkhall from Cleveland and a member of the High Performance Group reached a milestone in English Table Tennis, by winning both the Cadets and Junior Singles titles, and with his partner Darius Knight won both doubles events as well. Paul's win in the Cadet Singles makes it the second in a row and his win in the Junior Singles means that the title, won by his elder brother Bryn last year, has been kept in the family.

The Cadet Doubles win by Paul and Darius was also very significant and unprecedented, as this was the third year in succession that they have won this title. In the final they beat surprise finalists non-seeded pair from Cleveland, Daniel Reed and Nicholas Skipp, 5, 7, 6.

In the Junior Boys Doubles final, beat another surprise finalist duo Stephen Denny from Yorkshire and Derbyshire's Shaun Marples, 5, 5, 5.

Joanna Parker from Surrey won the

Junior Girls Singles beating Kelly Sibley of Warwickshire (in her first year out of Cadets), 4, 10, 1.

The Cadet Girls was won by Lauren Springthorpe from Lincolnshire, who beat Emma Vickers of Derbyshire in a five game classic match, 4-8, 7, 5, 11.

Lauren with her partner Sarra Wang from Essex beat Emma and her partner Caroline Hallows of Cheshire, in the Cadet Girls Doubles final, 4, 6, 6.

In the Junior Mixed Doubles final Abigail Embling from Essex and Northamptonshire's Tim Yarnell beat unseeded pairing of Cheshire's Claire Langford and Durham's David Meads, 8,-7, 8, 9.

The Junior Girls Doubles final saw Kelly Sibley and Karen Shepherd from Cheshire beat Lauren Norfolk and Lauren Springthorpe, 7,-6, 9, 4.

• Many thanks to the Referee Ken Armson, Deputy Referee Steve Welch, Tournament Organiser Dave Evans, Deputy Tournament Organiser Ken Elliot, Umpire's Manager Liz Wilson, all the umpires and volunteers, Doreen Stannard the Chairman of the National Championships Committee and it's members, plus Harvey Webb and Vanda Jones from the ETTA Events Department for all their hard work before, during and after the event.

PAUL DRINKHALL

Interviewed by Alan Ransome

"My focus is to improve my play to the maximum, to play for England and to win as many important titles as possible." That is the mindset of 14 year old Paul Drinkhall from Loftus who has already more trophies in his cabinet than most sportsmen win in a lifetime. He has won the National championships in his own age group for the last five years, and this year he has won the title of a level four years his senior with the National Junior (Under 18) Championship held in Doncaster in April.

Paul has dominated junior table tennis in England, winning not only the National titles at Under 15 and Under 18 level, but also the two National Masters. Earlier this month he won the German Open Cadet Championship beating the European No. 1, Ping Fe of Turkey, and he is now focussed on his ambition to win medals in the European Youth in Hungary in July.

Whilst Paul clearly has the talent and the mental approach to succeed, he puts the progress that he has made to date down to three key factors. The support that he has received from his family where his parents, Andy and Karen Drinkhall, who have dedicated almost as many hours to Paul and travelled thousands of miles taking him to competitions and training, and his brother, Bryn, last year's National Junior champion, who has proved to be a great motivator and practice partner. Second is the Ormesby Table Tennis Club where Carole Moore spotted Paul's rare ability very early and has guided him to where he is today. "To have a table available to practice as much as I can with a good player at the other end and a dedicated, top level coach, has been really important."

The third factor is the opportunities provided by the English Table Tennis Association. Paul attended the National Training Centre in Nottingham for two years until it closed last August. He has been given top coaching and practice. First by Denis Neale, the former English Champion from Middlesbrough, who travelled back to his home town every week to practice with Paul, and the help given by one of China's top coaches, Jai Li, who has been in charge of England's juniors for most of the last decade. Jai produced three World Champions in China and we hope that he can do the same for England with the current crop of very talented youngsters. Added to that has been the trips to overseas competitions and training on a regular basis since Paul first became a member of the England set up.

In reality it is not any one of these three factors that has worked for Paul, but the combination of all three and how they have dovetailed well together to provide the support that the talented player needs to reach international level and beyond.

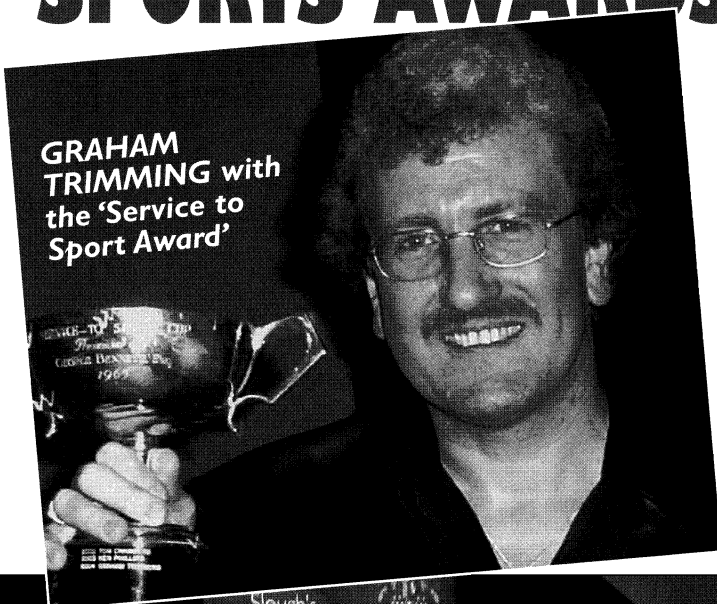
Paul found the recent trip to China with Jai Li particularly helpful. "We practised with top class players for seven hours a day, and this was on top of the physical training. This included 4 hours of normal practice, 2 hours of multi ball and an hour of serve and third ball attack. We were given a half day off on the Sunday. The discipline in China is very strict. One boy skipped a lap of the 400metre track and was made to run an extra 50 laps for four days as a punishment by the coaches."

When Paul is not playing table tennis, he likes football and listens to music, in particular rhythm and blues and light rap. His favourite artist is R. Kelly. On the football field Paul plays in the mid field and has always, like his father, Andy, supported Manchester United. Despite winning the FA Cup, Paul has been very disappointed with the results this season and blames it all on Alex Ferguson for selling David Beckham to Real Madrid. "I think Arsenal will win the Premiership again next year, but I hope I am wrong."

Paul attends the Lawrence Jackson Specialist Sports College in Guisborough and is intent on achieving six GCSE's. His ambition is to be a professional table tennis player and, in the long term, a coach. But for the foreseeable future he will be giving his full concentration to his practice and fulfilling the programme to win as many matches as possible and to improve his playing standard.

Paul wants to do well in Hungary at the European Youth Championships to qualify for the World Cadet Championships in Japan next season. He would also like to be the youngest player ever to win the National Senior Championships and beat the record set by Chester Barnes in 1962. But all that requires a lot of practice and training which will need to go in over the next nine months if that is a realistic prospect.

CIPPENHAM TTC SUCCESSFUL AGAIN *at* SLOUGH SPORTS AWARDS



CIPPENHAM Table Tennis Club's run of success at the Mayor of Slough's Annual Sports Awards continued on 21st March 2004 with a further three prestigious awards made to the club.

Against opposition from all other sports Cippenham picked up three awards: the Senior Club of the Year, the Service to Sport Award for Graham Trimming and the Junior Sportsman of the Year for David Hayes.

This was the second time that Graham Trimming had won the Service to Sport Award, having also been recognised sixteen years previously. Even more fitting was that the award was kept in the club as Cippenham Chairman Ken Phillips was presented with the same award twelve months earlier.

The citation for Graham's honour read as a lifetime of service for he was only 20 years old when he founded Cippenham Table Tennis Club in 1973. Graham has been its only General Secretary in the ensuing thirty-one years and also served as Treasurer in the first two years. In addition his secretarial duties Graham currently edits the Club's monthly newsletter, regularly updates the vast web site that he created and writes reports for the local press most weeks during the season. He also organises two open tournaments each year on behalf of the club, referees another and is also the local organiser for the club's hosting of British League weekends and well as producing all entry forms for the eight open tournaments that the club holds annually.

Graham has also put in the same 31 years service to the Slough and District

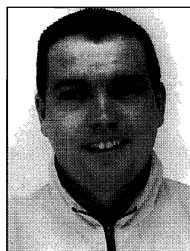
Table Tennis League, firstly as Treasurer for two years and then an unbroken stint of 29 years as Fixtures Secretary. Graham was also Chairman from 1981 until 2000 and was General Secretary for one season and Handbook Secretary for many.

Graham has also been Auditor of the Maidenhead Association for 26 years, was previously Match Secretary of the Southern Region League for six years and in the last two years has taken on the stewardship of the international Table Tennis Collector's Society, producing a journal three times a year.

This was the first time that Cippenham had won the Senior Club of the Year award and was in recognition of the club's good showing in the various British Leagues, including winning Veterans' British League Division 2 in 2003 and for retaining the Gainsford Cup, first won in 2002. The club had previously been three times Community Club of the Year and twice Junior Club of the Year.

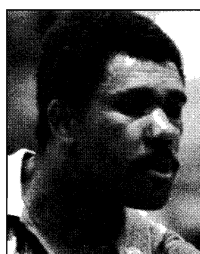
David Hayes' award for Junior Sportsman of the Year was very worthy and capped a couple of years in which David has progressed greatly. Still only 15, David has won the Men's Singles championship at the Slough Closed twice in 2003 and 2004 and this season also won the Men's Singles at the Bucks County Closed. He has won many open tournaments staged at Cippenham at has recently been ranked number one for his adopted country Ireland.

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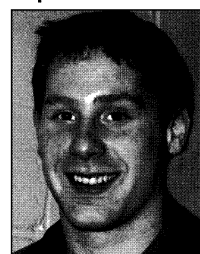


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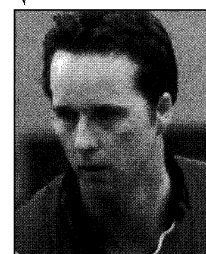
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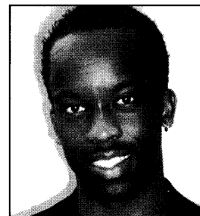
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COACH: ANDREW EDEN Former England No.1 Junior



COACH: RYAN JENKINS
5 times Welsh Champion. Welsh No.1 for 8 years. '99 British Champ.



COACH: GARETH HERBERT
Plays for an Austrian Club and is current member of the England team.

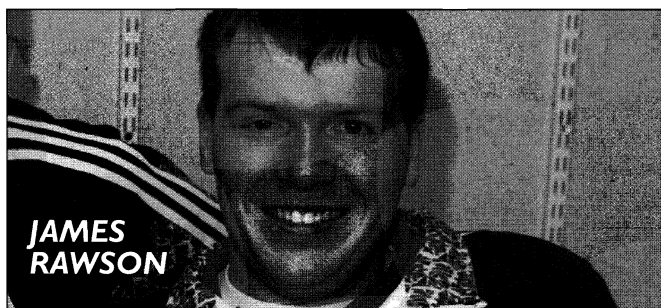
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PARALYMPICS 2004 ATHENS



**JAMES
RAWSON**

THE 2004 OLYMPICS are fast approaching with sadly no able-bodied Great Britain player qualified for the table tennis competition. However, our hopes for Olympic glory have not been dashed as eight wheelchair players have made it and will be competing at Athens between 18th to 28th September. Around 240 qualifying players worldwide will compete at the Galatsi Olympic Hall where the competitions will consist of singles and team events for men and women, writes Dzaier Neil.

Players are classified according to their physical ability - classes 1-5 are for wheelchair users, classes 6-10 are for ambulant athletes. The preliminary round in singles and team contests are in a pool format with matches played on a round-robin basis. The top two individuals or teams in each pool will progress to the knock-out stages.

The eight-strong GB squad includes James Rawson, Neil Robinson and Stefan Trofan, silver medallists in the class 3 team event at the Sydney 2000 Paralympics. The trio were runners-up to France in Sydney and will get an opportunity to go one better in Athens. James and Neil also won the European Championship class 3 team title in Zagreb last year and will also look to figure prominently in the class 3 singles event. They have high hopes of getting into the top four in the singles with Stefan hopefully not far behind.

The 2004 Olympics will be Scott Robertson's second Paralympic Games, while Arnie Chan will attempt to add to the team bronze he won in Seoul in 1988 and the singles bronze he took in Barcelona in 1992. Arnie and Scott are teamed together in the men's class 5. Both are also competing in their respective singles events.

The men will be joined by Olympic bronze medallist and reigning class 2 World Champion Cathy Mitton. At the World Championships in 2002 Cathy and Lynne Riding teamed up for the class 1-3 team event winning the silver. The pair have a good chance of medals again in Athens.

Sue Gilroy, reigning Commonwealth champion, whose first major competition was the 2000 Sydney Olympics, will also be there. At last year's European Championships she was silver medallist and is hoping for a medal in Athens.

The Table Tennis squad will be supported by the GB Coaches Andrew Horsfield, Andrew Eden, Coach Team Manager Steve Ward and Sarah de Lacey Munday the team therapist.

Steve Ward, Performance Director of the GB disabled table tennis team, said: "The competition in Athens will be tough, but all the players who have qualified and been selected by the BPA have real medal chances." He added "I am pleased for the players who have made it, but also a little sad for those who have not. But I look forward to them developing their games so they can reach the qualification standards for Beijing in 2008."

We echo the words of Phil Craven, Chief Executive of the British Paralympic Association, who said: "I would like to congratulate our table tennis players on their selection and wish them the best of luck for Athens."

GRASS ROOTS - 2

2004 MACCABI GAMES

MACCABI is a Jewish Organisation with member clubs throughout the British Isles and indeed the rest of the world. Some people may have heard of Maccabi through the Maccabi Tel-Aviv Basketball team. However the organisation is responsible for the Maccabiah Games, which is the Jewish equivalent of the Olympic games. This is held every four years in Israel and is generally recognised as the third largest sporting event in the world

Bushey Grove Leisure Centre in the heart of Alex Murdoch's Hertfordshire provided a magnificent location for the 2004 Maccabi GB Open Table Tennis Championships. This dormant event was resurrected by a committee of dedicated enthusiasts and turned out to be almost certainly the best Jewish Table Tennis Championships that this country has ever seen.

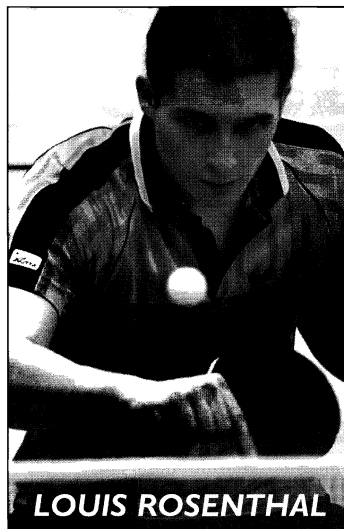
Jarvis Sports gave much appreciated sponsorship and also had a stand selling goods from their comprehensive catalogue.

The overall entry was gratifyingly strong with nearly all the top Jewish players in attendance. A number of them well rated on the national ranking list and it even saw a comeback performance from Martin Shapira a former England Cadet International. The open aspect of the hall allowed all to see the quality of play on show. These included the top eight men's seeds as follows: 1. Louis Rosenthal, 2. Gary Tendler, 3. Eli Baraty, 4. Matt Spero, 5. Morris Greenberg, 6. Keith Lesser, 7. John Tendler, 8. Dov Katz.

Players of all ages had entered with an astonishingly healthy entry on the cadet and junior front.

The junior events came first and in the under U.18 boy's singles Rafael Moskovitz aged 13, from Sweden did very well to reach the semi-final, where he went out bravely at the hands of Herts junior Ben Swart. In the other semi the very promising Progress Club player, Raphael Moran put out Essex County junior Paul Hizer, but found Swart too strong for him in the final.

In U.15 singles Ben Swart who had taken out Progress star Ashley Stokes in the U18 quarters, found Stokes too strong in the U15 final losing -1, 9, 9, -5, 9. The Men's Singles event was dominated by the two top seeds Louis



LOUIS ROSENTHAL

Rosenthal and Gary Tendler, a member of the 2003 County Championships winners, Essex. Neither Louis nor Gary lost a game en-route to the final, where Louis came through a very hard fought match to win 8, -9, 6, 9.

In the Veterans Event John Tendler played Jeremy Banks in the semis. Banks, who in his youth played in Scotland for a team along with former internationals Brian Wright and John Broe, put out Tendler out in the Men's event but found Tendler too strong in the Veterans leaving Tendler to reach the final where he beat another fine veteran, Ian Mablin.

Special mention should also be made of Sera Shepherd who won two events, the Women's Singles

where she beat Lisa Cohen 12-10 in the fifth and the Women's Doubles. She also reached the final of the Mixed Doubles with Gary Tendler where they lost in the fifth to Dov Katz and Sally Prowen in a dazzling display of Table Tennis.

After the event Chairman Mel Davidson said, "This was our first big venture and is the realisation of a vision that has taken the committee months of hard work to bring into being".

Results

Men's Singles: Louis Rosenthal bt Gary Tendler 11-8, 9-11, 11-6, 11-9

Women's Singles: Sara Shepherd bt Lisa Cohen 11-3, 5-11, 11-5, 8-11, 12-10

Junior Boy's Singles: Ben Swart bt Raphael Marom 11-8, 11-8, 11-7

Cadet Mixed Singles: Ashley Stokes bt Swart 1-11, 11-9, 11-9, 5-11, 11-9

Veteran's Singles: John Tendler bt Ian Mablin 11-5, 11-4, 11-6

Men's Doubles: Rosenthal/G Tendler bt Eli Baraty/Dov Katz 11-7, 5-11, 11-7, 5-11, 5-11

Mixed Doubles: Katz/Sally Prowen bt G Tendler/Shephard 11-3, 5-11, 11-5, 8-11, 12-10

Women's Doubles: Prowen/Shephard (decided by a round robin knockout)

CROYDON

ALL games completed with the final positions of the League, consisting of three divisions, have now been determined, writes Lon Moir.

Wicken Park 'A' won convincingly with a 15 points gap over runners-up Eldon 'A'. Heading the individual averages table was Roger Pingham of Wicken Park with a 100%, closely followed by George McClone also of Wicken Park with 96.15.

In Division Two only one point divided the first three teams, with Eldon 'C' on top with 84 points, followed by Monks Hill 'B' and Forrester's 'B' who both had 83 points. Steve Hulbert of Monks Hill headed the averages with 96.97%, whilst Eldon's Andrew Makowiecki was in second place with 84.38%.

Division Three saw the total domination by Wicken Park 'B' finishing 30 points clear of second placed Monks Hill 'D' and 36 points above Eldon 'D' in third spot. Sharing top spot of the averages was Eldon's Jack Barratt and Wicken Park's Richard Pratt with 96.15%.

The Annual Closed tournament was

held at the Eldon PHAB Club, where an average turnout produced many exciting games. The singles had a five game final between Lenny Leow and Robert Harrowven, after fierce attacking and superb defending Lenny won in the fifth 11-5.

FOLKSTONE

FOLKSTONE'S side retained the mens division of the Kent League, despite a spirited effort by opponents Medway in a crucial match that the champions won 7-3, writes Colin May.

Steve Doughty had a good win over Folkstone's Kevin Powell, with the Medway man coming through to win an exciting final game 17-15.

But team leader Phil Morford maintained his 100% record for the season, which has been the backbone of Folkstone's title winning effort.

And with Colin May also beating Medway's Craig Riley and Doughty, the Folkstone side won the day.

The champions received their trophy at the Kent AGM at Barming Village Hall on the 20th June.

"LOOKING TO THE FUTURE" with STEEN KYST HANSEN



The picture above shows **STEEN KYST HANSEN** (left) and **PAUL WHITING** in action on the table.

THIS Workshop at the Okehampton Table tennis Centre earlier this year, attracted 40 coaches from the South West Region, writes John Vincent.

Steen Kyst Hansen impressed with his explanation and multi-ball exercises assisted by Plymouth's Paul Whiting and Tony Sweet.

The booklet produced was a revelation, providing targets for developing players and coaches under the ETTA structure.

Everyone I spoke to enjoyed the day, which was well organised by Nicola Clarke, the South West Region's Development Officer.

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COOKE & TONG TAKE TITLES AT CHELTENHAM



ALAN COOKE and TONG FEIMING took Cheltenham by storm, winning their respective events, writes John Wood.

The Cheltenham Open Table Tennis Championships took place at the Cheltenham Recreation Centre on 8th/9th May, where over 220 players took part.

Alan Cooke, England No.2, beat Ryan Jenkins, Welsh No.1, in an exciting final of the mens singles. This result for Alan seals 1st place in the Mens Singles Grand Prix Prize Fund which will mean he will receive a cheque for £1450 at the Derby Grand Prix which is almost a home venue for Alan as Derbyshire is his County.

In the Womens Singles final Tong Feiming, the No.1 seed, beat Marketa Myskova, 7, 8-8, 3, proving that she still has the upper-hand over a rapidly improving Myskova.

The under 21 Mens was won by Craig Bryant who beat Andreas Johansson from Sweden in an exciting final, 11, 8, 9, which was the last match of the tournament.

semi finals of the Mens Open Singles.

After his victory Nigel Eckersley said, "Costas didn't like my pimples, I played the odd chop and that kept him guessing. Sunday was a good day for me and my pimples."

In the Womens Veterans final Kim Mudge beat the ETTA Chairman's wife, Val Murdoch, in a round robin.

Georgina Walker's grandparents Glenys and Alan Godfrey said, "This was an excellent and well organised tournament."

Pictured left are ALAN COOKE and TONG FEIMING winners of the Mens and Womens singles at Cheltenham. Below are (l.to.r) GARY YOUNG rrup Mens Band 6, MELANIE FARQUHAR winner Womens Band 2, and ASHLEY WILLETTTS winner of Mens Band 6



Pictured left is the HARVEY FAMILY from Cheltenham (l.to.r) ROBERT 12 years, Dave the Dad and MIKE who is 14. Below is MATT STAINES winner of Mens Band 1 and 2.



In the under 21 Womens final Georgina Walker beat Jenny Melstrom from Sweden. On the way to the final Georgina beat another Swedish entry, Emelie Jonsson in the semi finals.

In the Womens Band 1 Final Rose Rainton beat unseeded Gemma Yarnley, 8, 5, 5.

Matt Staines had a superb weekend winning both the Mens Band 1 and Mens Band 2 events.

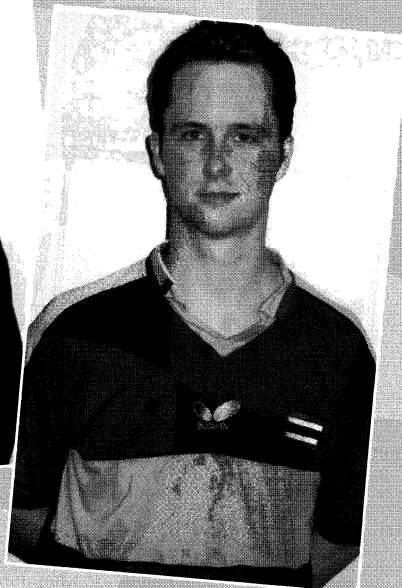
Young Staines won a tremendous battle in the Band 1 final against Nigel Eckersley, 5-8-2, 11, 10.

Eckersley bounced back on the Sunday to beat Costas Papantoniou in the Mens Veterans final. Costas had a fantastic event also reaching the





ALAN COOKE (above) and RYAN JENKINS



COOKE BEATS JENKINS IN GRAND PRIX RACE for POINTS

THE Wolverhampton Open Table Tennis Championships took place at the Aldersley Leisure Centre on 24th/25th April. Over 210 players took part, including many high ranked players in both the mens and ladies events.

Alan Cooke, England No.2, beat Ryan Jenkins, Welsh No.1, 12, 5, 8, in the final of the mens singles. Both players are fighting to become the Mens Grand Prix points winner which will involve a prize of £1450 for first place. The results at the final two Grand Prix's at Cheltenham and Derby will determine who is the winner.

In the Womens Singles final Tong Feiming, the No.1 seed, beat Marketa Myskova, the No.4 seed, 3, 6, 5.

Both are high up in the Grand Prix points count.

The under 21 Mens was won by Devon's Craig Bryant who beat Liam Thomas in an exciting four game final 7,-6, 9, 9.

In the under 21 Womens final Joanna Parker beat her fellow

England team mate Kelly Sibley, 7, 7, 11. On the way to the final Joanna Parker played in a tremendous five set battle to beat Natalie Bawden.

The Mens Veterans was won by Clive Carthy who beat the evergreen number 1 seed Nigel Eckersley.

In the Womens Veterans final Kim Mudge beat the ETTA Chairman's wife, Val Murdoch, 5, 7, 6.

Many thanks go to the Grand Prix Organising Committee, Gill Smith, Eileen Allison and Mick Strode on the Referees table and to the Umpires and other volunteers who supported this event.

Some other results:

Womens Band 1 Singles Sarah Horsnell (Mi) bt Liz May (Dv) -6-7 11, 5, 9

Mens Band 1 Singles: Steven Bailey (Cv) bt David Meads (Du) 10, 7,-10 8

Mens Band 2 Singles: William Cooney (Dy) bt Craig Howieson (SCO) 11, 5, 5

Womens Band 2 Singles: Jenny Galloway(SCO) bt Jane Dickens (Bu) -10, 8, 7, 9.

Cheltenham Open Grand Prix Results:

- Mens Singles: Alan Cooke (Dy) bt Ryan Jenkins(Wal) 9,-9,7,6
- Womens Singles : Tong Fei Ming (Tpe) bt Marketa Myskova(Dv) 7,8,-8,3
- Mens Band 1 Singles: Matt Staines (E) bt Nigel Eckersley (Sx) 5,-8,-2,11,14
- Womens Band 1 Singles : Rosemary Rainton (Sx) bt Gemma Yarnley (K) 8,5,5
- Mens Band 2 Singles: Matt Staines (E) bt John Harley (K) 6,-12,9,9
- Womens Band 2 Singles: Melanie Farquhar (Bk) bt Andrea Harrison (La) 10,5,9
- Mens Band 3 Singles: Keith Weatherby(La) bt Dave Gannon (E) 9,8,4
- Womens Band 3 Singles: Sarah Hudson(Bd) bt Clair Howe (So) 7,6,8
- Mens Band 4 Singles: Jeff Rigby(Ox) bt Chris Doran(Np) -9,-7, 9, 12, 4
- Mens Band 5 Singles: Alan Kempton(Bu) bt Ashley Willetts (Ha) -7,8,8,-9,6
- Mens Band 6 Singles: Ashley Willetts (Ha) bt Gary Young (E) -6, 5, 8, 5
- Under 21 Mens: Craig Bryant(Dv) bt Andreas Johansson(Sweden) 11,8,9
- Under 21 Womens: Georgina Walker(Ng) bt Jenny Melstrom (Sweden) 8,4,10
- Veterans Mens: Nigel Eckersley(Sx) bt Costas Papantoniou (Mi) -8, 3, 5, 5
- Veterans Womens: Kim Mudge(K) bt Val Murdoch (Bd) 6, 8, 9.

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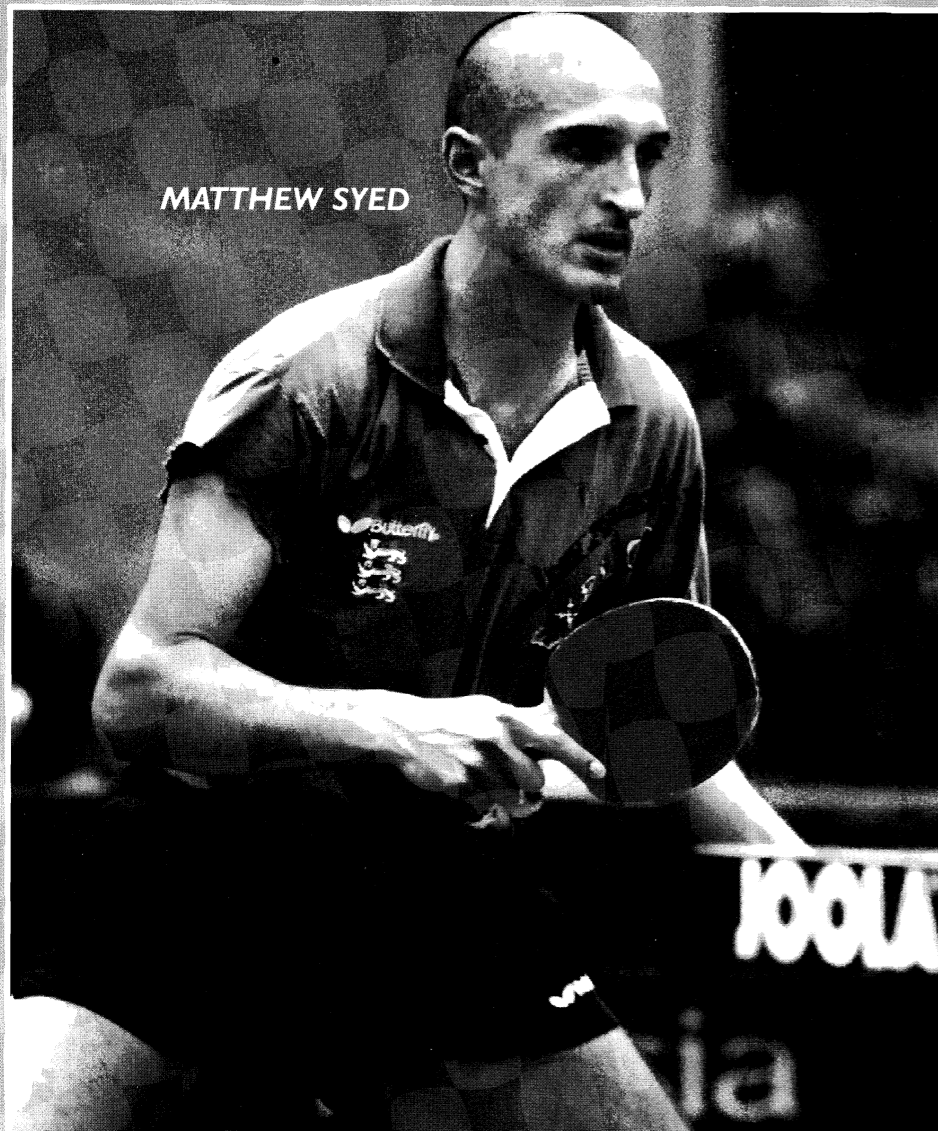
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Our staff:
ALAN COOKE former Commonwealth Champion, 4 times English champion & England National Team coach.
NICOLA DEATON 5 times National Champion, Commonwealth and European medallist & currently one of England's leading coaches.
BRADLEY BILLINGTON Former National Team Coach & National Junior Champion. Currently head coach at Grantham College.
ALEX PERRY Former English National Champion, Commonwealth Team Gold Medallist & current England international.
JOHN HILTON Former European Mens Singles champion & world No.5. One of England's top veteran players. Former National Team Coach.
MARK BAWDEN Qualified Sports Psychologist. Mark has worked with the National Table Tennis Team. Currently working with the English Cricket Board.



MATTHEW SYED

SYED, LOWER & DRINKHALL STARS OF LIVERPOOL

Then Syed came back to win 2, 6, 8, but Paul led 7-2 in the fifth! Syed took six points in a row, eventually winning at 8, snatching victory from the jaws of defeat to use the time-honoured phrase.

After winning Syed said, "At the end I had to lift my game to beat him. He is definitely one of our best three prospects for the future - the other two are Darius Knight and 9-year-old Gavin Evans."

Syed's appearance at Liverpool was a major blessing for the organisers as a group of top England men declined their invitations, but the room created on the men's acceptance list was gleefully taken up by other senior players and a number of juniors headed by Paul Drinkhall who was delighted to finish second and to win £500 - Matthew collected £750. Matthew then advertised on the public address system encouragement for fans wishing to attend the Ocean International Cup at Croydon on July 23.

Second seed Andrew Rushton played two games on the first day and then injured his thumb on his right hand going

for a forehand top-spin. He attended hospital but it was said that he could be back in action in a week.

That meant that the 110 ten matches was reduced to 102. So the two top stars were Syed and Drinkhall. Michael James did extremely well to finish in third spot to collect £300 prize money.

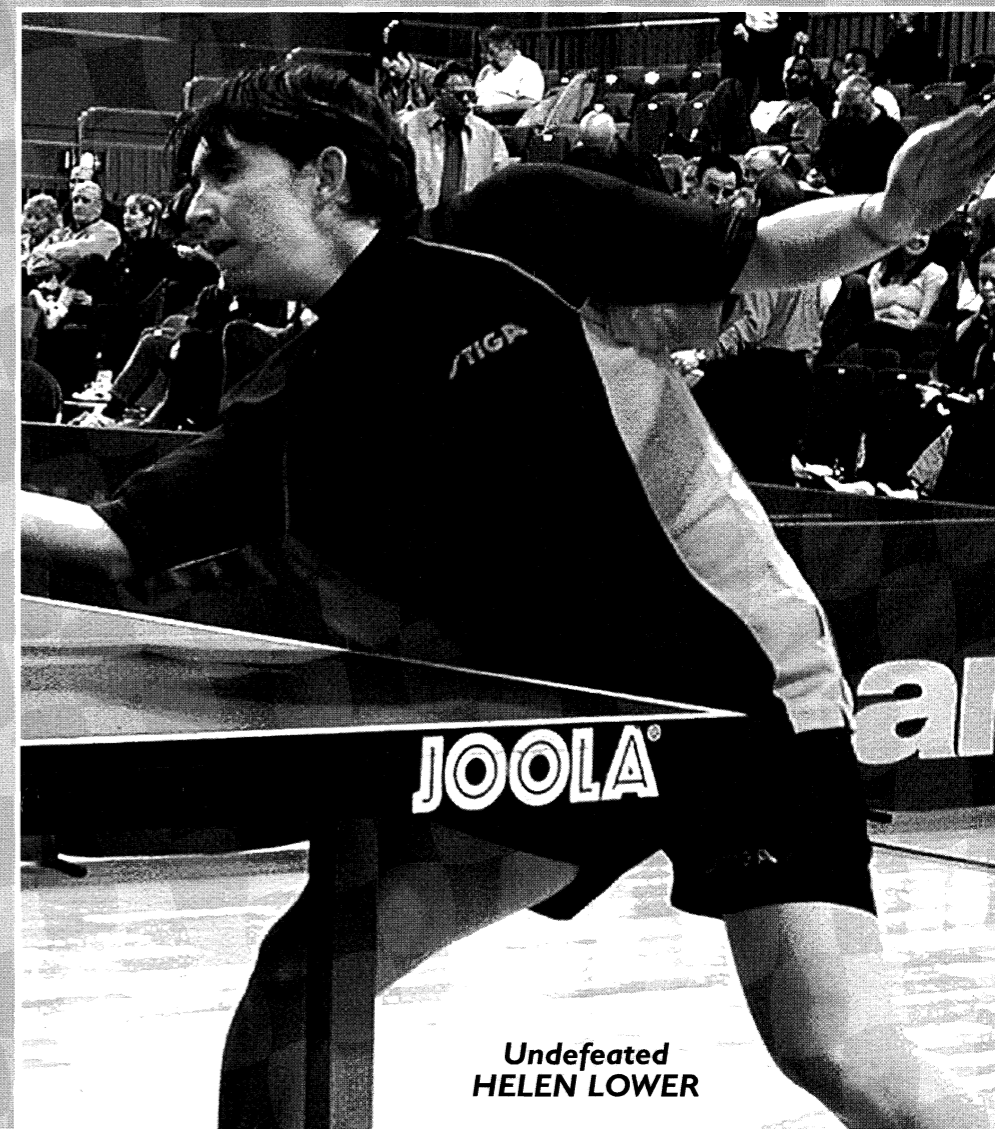
Craig Bryant from Devon, England's No.2 junior was also a high finisher at No.4 although he lost an early match to Darius Knight.

John Hilton was the star veteran - he finished sixth, just outside the prize money. He then claimed that he did not know there was any prize kitty!

LOWER UNBEATEN

Helen Lower was the only unbeaten player at the Greenbank Centre in the womens event. She is enjoying some of the best table tennis of her career, continuing where she left off in Doha, never getting into serious trouble against all ten rivals.

Georgina Walker, also a strong performer for England in Doha, finished a credible second, losing only to Helen,



Undefeated
HELEN LOWER

THE decision made by the ETTA management to revive this tournament is one of the best made so far under the Chairmanship of Alex Murdoch. The Top 12 was last held 17 years ago in Farnborough, the day after the 'Big Gale' that blew down hundreds of trees in the South of England, writes John Woodford.

It gave our talented juniors a rare opportunity to play in first-class match conditions against a number of senior men, especially against Matthew Syed.

Matthew does sterling work coaching and encouraging young players all over the country, but this was the opportunity to test their talent against a world-class defence.

Paul Drinkhall, skillfully coached in Cleveland by Carol Moore emerged as our greatest prospect since Carl Preen, some eighteen years ago. After I gave him a boost in a Daily Telegraph preview on Liverpool, he lost two games but from then on his attack, fierce and direct saw him defeat a whole string of victims that nearly included Matthew. Paul took the first two games 8, 11 before Matthew managed to work out his return path.



PAUL DRINKHALL in action at Liverpool

whilst Essex star-turn Natalie Bawden staked a claim for the England Commonwealth team by finishing third, one ahead of Joanna Parker who is off to the 3B Berlin club and possibly matches in the Bundesliga - but she will still play for England.

Abigail Embling (Essex) No.3 on the England list, impressed me and many fans, finishing in fifth place.

THE SPONSORS

The event was sponsored by Bribar and Liverpool City Council. Hopes are high that a contract stretching perhaps three years ahead with Bribar and Liverpool is a possibility.

The playing conditions were first-class, although the lighting could be improved over the six tables.

Mike Johns was the tournament director. Ken Armson MBE was the referee; the organiser was Dave Evans with Harvey Webb and Stan Clarke in managing posts.

The umpires according to the programme were Messrs Cochrane, Sherratt, Perry, Davies, Purcell, Watkins, Goulding, Rhodes and Rowlinson.

FINAL POSITIONS

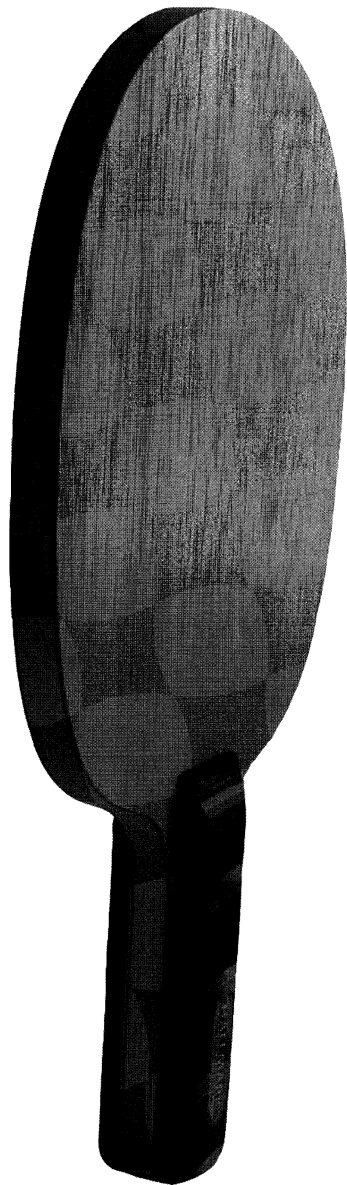
MEN

1. Matthew Syed
2. Paul Drinkhall
3. Michael James
4. Craig Bryant
5. John Holland
6. John Hilton
7. Darius Knight
8. Adam Bleakley
9. Abdul Wuraola
10. Andrew Wilkinson
11. Bradley Evans
12. Andrew Rushton

WOMEN

1. Helen Lower
2. Georgina Walker
3. Natalie Bawden
4. Joanna Parker
5. Abigail Embling
6. Lauren Spink
7. Kelly Sibley
8. Louise Durrant
9. Lauren Springthorpe
10. Karen Shepherd
11. Gemma Chapman
12. Clare Peers

HALLMARK ULTRA BLADE IS A WINNER



HALLMARK have produced some very interesting products for the coming season, which are available from the 1st July onwards.

Firstly, they have created a real winner in their 'Combination Ultra' Blade, which is a five ply large oversize blade with a thick balsa core available with straight, anatomic or conical handles.

This blade has incredible attacking properties, it is extremely easy to hit any ball with a great degree of consistency. When used in combination with long pimple rubber the effects are quite devastating. This blade really must be tried to be believed.

Hallmark's 'Combination Ultra' is not their only new blade, because in addition to their popular 'Strategy' and 'Combination', they have produced 'Allround' and 'Offensive', as well as 'Hallmark' Carbon Blade for out and out attacking play.

Hallmark's new rubbers for the coming season are:

Panther

A medium pimple rubber available in

Red or Black, OX, 1.0, 1.5 or 2.0mm.

Slightly improved control and slightly increased effect when compared to Half Long.

Frustration

A long pimple rubber available in Red or Black, OX, 1.0, 1.5 or 2.0mm.

A long pimple rubber with a slightly sticky surface, it is the first LP rubber that can produce some rotation of the ball. Effect is still maintained when blocking and chopping against topspin.

Super Special Extra

Is a long pimple rubber available in Red OX or 1.0mm

It is a very effective long pimples rubber. Excellent for close to the table blocking and also due to the width of the pimples the level of control has been increased. Attacking properties are outstanding for a pimple as effective as Super Special Extra. Long lasting rubber.

Power Spin

A reverse rubber available in Red or Black 1.0, 1.5 or 2.0mm

Production of very high levels of spin are possible with Power Spin. 2.0mm version is faster and better for top spinning while 1.0mm gives good control when chopping away from the table but still produces very high levels of back spin.

BAT TEST

All three tests used the 'Hallmark Combination Ultra' blade, with conical handle, and 'Super Special Extra' OX on the backhand.

new gained attacking possibilities make this an outstanding rubber.

In a way it's like playing with a mid-length pimple when attacking and a long pimple when pushing and blocking. It has the best of both worlds. A truly specialist rubber.

Used in combination with 'Frustration' 1.5mm black, was a very interesting experiment. Not as effective as the 'Super Special Extra', but effective enough, and it allowed rotation of the ball. Especially effective when rolling the ball with the forehand.

2. Forehand: Panther 2.0mm

In combination with 'Super Special Extra' on the backhand, 'Panther' proved an ideal attacking partner. 'Panther' like 'Half Long' gives the effect of long pimple. Probably, for a short and long combination 'Magic Pips' short pimple rubber, is a better combination.

3. Forehand: Power Spin 2.0mm

Probably the best Hallmark combination tested was 'Super Special Extra' with 'Power Spin' 2.0mm. 'Power Spin' has very good control with lots of spin, and is a powerhouse to hit with. For defence one would use 1.0mm and suitable for allround play is 1.5mm.

Further information contact anne@hallmark.co.uk or 0795 8640139.

For sales contact Bribar, Tees Sport or Thornton's.

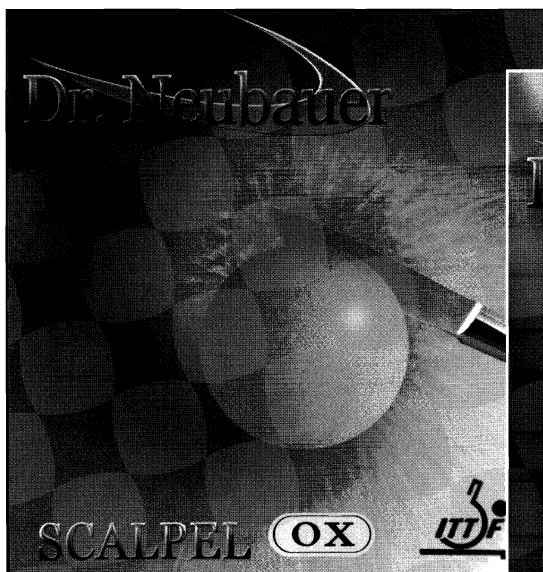
1. Forehand: Frustration 1.5mm

First impression of this new blade was how good and comfortable it felt in the hand. The backhand side of the blade is only marginally slower than the forehand.

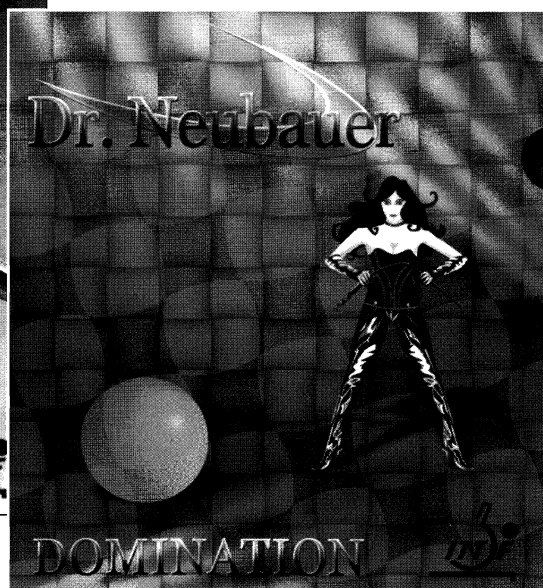
The 'Hallmark Super Special Extra' lives up to it's manufacturer's ratings, it's long pimples do facilitate attack and are really effective when pushing and lifting. However, with the increase in attacking properties it has lost a little bit of effect that the original 'Super Special' has, but the

TACKY PIPS-IN "ENERGY TENSION SYSTEM" RUBBER

The new tacky pimples-in rubber D'OR has broken conventional wisdom. While its sticky rubber surface produces heavy spin, a new "Energy Tension System" has built strong tension in its sponge. Tacky and yet powerful D'OR (French for "of gold") will promise you high performance as its name hints. Play with D'OR and



Dr. Neubauer's two new rubbers, long pimpled SCALPEL (above) and DOMINATION



Dr. NEUBAUER DOMINATION SPIN IS EXCEPTIONAL

WITH this milestone in the development of reverse rubbers, 'Dr. Neubauer Domination' has managed to include 'speed glue' tension and elasticity both in the sponge and in the top sheet, accelerating the ball while looping or hitting.

If, however, speed glue is used then

exceptional spin and speed are achieved with 1.8 and 2.1mm sponge.

The slightly tacky surface of the rubber produces a high amount of grip and therefore good control for offensive strokes.

With 1.5mm "Dr. Neubauer Domination" becomes an excellent

weapon for modern defensive or allround players, when chopping or blocking and yet wishing to disturb their opponents occasionally with very dynamic looping or hitting.

Dr. Neubauer Scalpel is a ground breaking long pimple development combining two properties: deadly spin reversal and strong wobbling

balls, with very good control. This is the ideal rubber for killing any loop while blocking close to the table. You can very easily achieve wobbly balls through aggressive pushing and lifting as counter attacking, making it very difficult for your opponent to return the ball.

The strong reversal on topspin is also excellent for classical defenders, since 'Dr. Neubauer Scalpel' produces a very flat and dangerous ball, in OX or 1mm sponge.

Dr. Neubauer Firewall blade, with straight handle. This blade replaces their existing 'Kenetic' for the coming new season. It is similar but it has got a new gluing technique.

BAT TEST

'**Firewall**' appears to play faster than it's predecessor the 'Kenetic' when tested, playing with both blades without rubbers, just the bare wood.

'Firewall' is also a more rigid blade than the 'Kenetic'. With the predecessor having slightly more control, but the 'Firewall' is more suited to attacking.

The blade with '**Scalpel**' OX on the backhand and '**Domination**' 2.1mm, on the forehand, proved to be a great combination.

'Domination' plays with exceptional back and top spin with control and is good for looping.

'Scalpel' is an ideal long pimpled partner with 'Domination', creating so much variation.

'Scalpel' is marginally less effective than 'The Wall' and 'Super Block', but with this new rubber one can hit a lot better.

Further information is available on www.drneubauer.com

GOLDEN TOUCH FROM BUTTERFLY

BUTTERFLY have been selected as the official supplier of the equipment for the Ocean International Cup which is to be played at the Fairfield Concert Hall in Croydon on 23 July. The Cup is to be broadcast by BBC1 in Grandstand the following day. Included in the field is likely to be Timo Boll, Kalin Kreanga and Vladimir Samsonov, Matthew Syed and Gareth Herbert will be participating from England.

Butterfly will be launching its new Butterfly Centrefold 25 table with the Sky look design at the Cup. The table will have a semi circle on the side of the frame in red, giving the impression of the table floating on the dark red playing floor. The undercarriage of the table is also

shown in a strong red colour.

The Butterfly Centrefold is the top of the range 25 mm table, heading the Butterfly table range. It is specially designed to be wheelchair friendly and is easy to move and erect in a club or sports centre environment.

New Butterfly Products

Butterfly has always been at the forefront of innovation in table tennis equipment.

This summer will see the launch of two new rubbers in the Butterfly range, the Sriver G2 and D'Or.

Sriver G2

The latest addition to the Sriver family. Butterfly have combined Sriver L, the world's best known rubber that has been a success for

over 30 years, with the high tension technology that is incorporated in Bryce. The objective of this was not to change Sriver completely, but to take this rubber into the next generation and enjoy the same benefits of spin, speed and control that has made Bryce one of the best selling rubbers. Sriver G2 is recommended for players who play an all-round, attacking style, who would like to increase speed and spin, but maintain the control they enjoyed with the original Sriver L. Available in 1.7, 1.9 and 2.1 mm thickness.

D'Or

This is designed for up at the table attacking players who also like to impart heavy spin. Generally,

powerful shots are reliant upon a longer stroke being played. Because of the new energy tension, which the sponge has, you can now play these powerful strokes up at the table with less effort being put in. The rubber also has a very tacky surface, allowing you to generate more spin from your serves and attacking strokes. The combination of high spin and power means that D'OR will be the ideal for many attacking players. Available in 1.7, 1.9, and 2.1 mm thickness.



DURHAM-COUNTY OF THE SEASON

COUNTY of the season must be Durham, all of their teams winning their respective divisions. The Senior team won division 1A and are promoted to the Premier Division, Their Junior team also won division 1A and are promoted to the Junior Premier Division, The Junior 2nd Team won division 3B and their Cadet team won the Cadet Premier Division. I don't know if this is a record but it is certainly a unique feat and speaks volumes for the coaching set-up in the County, writes Stan Clarke.

JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION

AFTER the first round of matches Derbyshire held a one point advantage at the top of the division having won all three of their matches. Glamorgan were in second place with five points from two wins and a draw, followed by Yorkshire and Cheshire with four points each. Buckinghamshire were in fifth place with three points followed by Essex and Lincolnshire with one point each and Devonshire were in bottom place with no points following three defeats. The final round of matches was held at Grantham and each team played four matches during the weekend.

In the first set of matches Derbyshire faced Yorkshire and what a tough match it proved to be as Yorkshire stormed into a 4 sets to 2 lead before Derbyshire pulled back to level at 4/4 only to loose the penultimate set when Katie Lightowler beat Emma Vickers, but Adam Frost forced a draw when he beat Luke Carrington in the final set. Glamorgan played Essex and ran out winners by 7/3, Stephen Gertson and Naomi Owen undefeated for the Welsh side. Lincolnshire kept their hopes

alive by beating Cheshire 6/4 and Buckinghamshire and Devonshire fought out an honourable draw.

In the second set of matches Glamorgan surged into the lead of the division when they defeated Lincolnshire 7/3 and Derbyshire were held to a second successive draw by Cheshire. Buckinghamshire improved their position when they battered Essex 9/1, only Sarra Wang, who beat Emily Tucker preventing a whitewash, as Essex were sucked into the relegation places, a win over Yorkshire helped Devonshire escape from bottom place. On the Sunday morning Derbyshire threw the leadership race wide open when they held their nerve to beat Glamorgan 6/4, two wins each for Shaun Marples, Adam Frost and Allan Fulwood over the dangerous Stephen Gertson, Aled Rhys Howell and David Owen pushing the Welsh side off top spot. Buckinghamshire kept the pressure on the top two when they beat Lincolnshire 8/2. Yorkshire and Cheshire fought out a draw and Devonshire dispelled any thoughts of relegation as they pushed Essex into bottom place by beating them 7/3.

The final round of matches saw Glamorgan throw down the gauntlet as they humbled Cheshire 8/2, only Tom Page and Karen Shepherd causing any problems, but the outcome of the championship was decided when Buckinghamshire thrashed Derbyshire 10/0, a result which ensured Glamorgan the winners position and pushed Buckinghamshire into second place ahead of Derbyshire who finished in third place. Devonshire pulled themselves into fifth place when they beat Lincolnshire 6/4, taking seven points from a possible eight over the weekend, and in doing so ensured

Lincolnshire of relegation along with Essex, who although relegated, fought hard against Yorkshire to finish off their season with a draw.

Trophies were presented by ETTA Chairman Alex Murdoch.

SENIOR PREMIER DIVISION

If the Junior Premier Division had some unforeseen changes in position they pale in comparison to the juggling for position that occurred in this division. After the first round of matches Essex and Devonshire were top of the division, level on points with three wins each and with an identical sets difference it required a points count back to separate the two teams, Essex being six points better off were placed first. At the other end of the division Surrey with one point were in seventh place ahead of Leicestershire who had suffered three defeats picking up just nine sets from a possible thirty, both teams staring relegation in the face.

The second weekend produced shocks even before play started as Glamorgan were unable to raise a team and were withdrawn from the competition and their record from the previous round was expunged, leaving only one team to be relegated.

Team of the weekend were without doubt Surrey, who lifted themselves from seventh place to finish in second place, an escape that must rival even the best of Harry Houdini. Leicestershire also secured their place in the division next season by winning two matches. Kent, who had two points going into the weekend, found that with the withdrawal of Glamorgan their one win was deleted and as they were unable to win a point during the weekend, they were the unfortunate team to take the tumble into the first division.

Essex had a terrible weekend and tumbled from top place to finish fourth, but nothing could stop Devonshire from continuing their winning ways and they finished as Champions by three clear points.

VETERANS PREMIER DIVISION

Kent were firm favourites to take the

Championships, having a two point lead after the first round of matches and the only team to have won all of their matches. Essex, Sussex and Surrey were level on four points each, separated only by sets difference.

Rather surprisingly Cheshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Dorset were all struggling, although Cheshire did have a two point lead over the bottom three who were all level on one point.

The final weekend of matches took place at Knutsford and Kent made no mistake as they won all four of their matches, beating Essex, Yorkshire and Lancashire by 8/2 before having a closer match against Cheshire which they won 6/4. You can't ask more of a team than that they win all of their matches and with Joey Kennedy, John Burleton, Mark Romano and Di Pearce Kent never looked likely to lose a match.

By comparison Essex, who started the weekend in second place, failed to win any of their four matches, losing three with one draw, they slid to sixth place. Surrey finished in second place with wins over Sussex 7/3, Dorset 8/2, Yorkshire 7/3 and Essex 6/4.

Cheshire, who won three and lost one pulled up to third place, whilst Sussex claimed fourth place above Lancashire by a margin of one set, both teams finishing on six points. Dorset and Yorkshire both lost three matches and drew one over the weekend, not enough to save them from the dreaded drop into the first division, their places next season will be taken by Northumberland and Devonshire who are promoted from the first divisions. Once again the Veterans showed their disregard for the County Championships regulations which requires Counties to provide Umpires for their matches, it would appear that they are very selective as to which regulations they obey and which they ignore, it is particularly annoying when my own County provides Umpires for every home match and every weekend played by our teams.

**YASAKA
3 STAR BALLS**

VETERANS OVER 60's TABLES

Over 60's Division 1A

Worcestershire	5	4	1	0	37	13	9
Yorkshire	5	4	0	1	37	13	8
Essex	5	3	1	1	32	18	7
Cheshire	5	2	0	3	22	28	4
Norfolk	5	1	0	4	21	29	2
Cheshire 2nd	5	0	0	5	1	49	0

Over 60's Division 1B

Kent	5	5	0	0	42	8	10
Middlesex	5	4	0	1	30	20	8
Berkshire	5	3	0	2	30	20	6
Hertfordshire	5	2	0	3	21	29	4
Surrey	5	1	0	4	13	37	2
Sussex	5	0	0	5	14	36	0

OVER 60's

SENIORS

Premier	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Devonshire	6	5	1	0	38	22	11
Surrey	6	3	2	1	33	27	8
Yorkshire	6	2	3	1	34	26	7
Essex	6	3	1	2	31	29	7
Middlesex	6	1	3	2	30	30	5
Leicestershire	6	2	0	4	25	35	4
Kent	6	0	0	6	19	41	0

Glamorgan have withdrawn, their record has been deleted

Division 1A

Durham	7	7	0	0	55	15	14
Yorkshire 2nd	7	5	0	2	39	31	10
South Yorkshire	7	5	0	2	37	33	10
Lancashire	7	4	0	3	40	30	8
Lincolnshire	7	3	0	4	38	32	6
Cheshire	7	2	1	4	32	38	5
Worcestershire	7	1	1	5	21	49	3
Suffolk	7	0	0	7	18	52	0

Division 1B

Sussex 1st	6	6	0	0	47	13	12
Berkshire	6	4	1	1	34	26	9
Wiltshire	6	2	3	1	33	27	7(102-90)
Glamorgan 2nd	6	3	0	3	31	29	6(93-100)
Devonshire 2nd	6	1	1	4	23	37	3
Middlesex 2nd	6	1	1	4	21	39	3
Sussex 2nd	6	0	2	4	21	39	2

Hertfordshire have withdrawn, their record has been deleted

Division 2A

Derbyshire	6	6	0	0	44	16	12
Northumberland	6	5	0	1	43	17	10
Cleveland	6	4	0	2	37	23	8
Warwickshire 1st	6	3	0	3	34	26	6
Leicestershire 2nd	6	2	0	4	21	39	4
Warwickshire 2nd	6	1	0	5	14	46	2
Cumbria	6	0	0	6	17	43	0

Division 2B

Gloucestershire	6	5	1	0	47	13	11
Cornwall 1st	6	5	0	1	41	19	10
Hampshire	6	4	0	2	39	21	8
Isle of Wight	6	2	1	3	30	30	5
Avon	6	2	0	4	21	39	4
Somerset	6	2	0	4	18	42	4
Cornwall 2nd	6	0	0	6	14	46	0

Division 2C

Nottinghamshire	6	5	1	0	46	14	11
Cambridgeshire	6	5	1	0	41	19	11
Northamptonshire	6	4	0	2	39	21	8
Suffolk 2nd	6	2	1	3	27	33	5
Hertfordshire 2nd	6	2	0	4	22	38	4
Bedfordshire	6	1	1	4	25	35	3
Norfolk	6	0	0	6	10	50	0

Division 2D

Buckinghamshire	5	4	1	0	39	11	9
Surrey 2nd	5	2	2	1	31	19	6
Oxfordshire	5	2	2	1	25	25	6
Kent 2nd	5	2	2	1	25	25	6
Essex 2nd	5	1	1	3	19	39	3
Berkshire 2nd	5	0	0	5	11	39	0

JUNIORS

Premier Division

Glamorgan	7	5	1	1	44	26	11
Buckinghamshire	7	4	2	1	47	23	10
Derbyshire	7	4	2	1	35	35	10
Yorkshire	7	1	5	1	36	34	7
Devonshire	7	3	1	3	34	36	7(75-139)
Cheshire	7	2	2	3	32	38	6(71-138)
Lincolnshire	7	1	1	5	27	43	3
Essex	7	0	2	5	25	45	2

Division 1A

Durham	7	7	0	0	62	8	14
Yorkshire 2nd	7	4	2	1	50	20	10
Nottinghamshire	7	4	2	1	42	28	10
Lancashire	7	3	2	2	38	32	8
Warwickshire	7	2	2	3	27	43	6
Cleveland	7	1	2	4	27	43	4
Essex 2nd	7	1	0	6	17	53	2(80-173)
Cumbria	7	1	0	6	17	53	2(77-174)

Division 1B

Kent	7	6	1	0	48	22	13
Buckingham 2nd	7	5	1	1	48	22	11
Surrey	7	4	3	0	44	26	11
Sussex	7	4	0	3	38	32	8
Glamorgan 2nd	7	3	0	4	29	41	6
Middlesex	7	2	0	5	25	45	4
Gwent	7	1	1	5	30	40	3
Dorset	7	0	0	7	18	52	0

Division 2A

Northamptonshire	6	6	0	0	51	9	12
South Yorkshire	6	5	0	1	39	21	10
Cheshire 2nd	6	3	1	2	33	27	7
Lincolnshire 2nd	6	2	1	3	28	32	5
Shropshire	6	2	0	4	21	39	4
Hertfordshire	6	1	0	5	23	37	2

**COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS
FINAL TABLES
2003/04 SEASON
compiled by Leslie Smith**

Nottingham 2nd 6 0 2 4 15 45 2

Division 2B

Somerset	6	4	1	1	41	19	9
Hampshire	6	4	1	1	38	22	9
Surrey 2nd	6	4	1	1	32	28	9
Buckingham 3rd	6	2	2	2	28	32	6
Devonshire 2nd	6	2	1	3	25	35	5
Oxfordshire	6	1	1	4	22	38	3
Sussex 2nd	6	0	1	5	24	36	1

Division 3A

Essex 3rd	6	6	0	0	50	10	12
Norfolk 1st	6	5	0	1	48	12	10
Bedfordshire 1st	6	3	1	2	35	25	7
Norfolk 2nd	6	3	1	2	30	30	7
Cambridgeshire	6	1	1	4	17	43	3
Devonshire 2nd	6	1	1	4	17	43	3
Huntingdonshire	6	0	0	6	13	47	0

Division 3B

Durham 2nd	6	5	1	0	51	9	
Lancashire 2nd	6	4	1	1	36	24	9
Northampton 2nd	6	3	1	2	36	24	7
Staffordshire	6	2	3	1	33	27	7
Worcestershire	6	2	1	3	30	30	5
Northumberland	6	0	1	5	7	53	1
Conwy	6	0	0	6	7	53	0

Division 3C

Cornwall 1st	5	5	0	0	40	10	10
Devonshire 3rd	5	3	1	1	31	19	7
Avon	5	3	0	2	27	23	6
Cornwall 2nd	5	2	0	3	25	25	4
Gloucestershire	5	1	1	3	20	30	3
Devonshire 4th	5	0	0	5	7	43	0

Division 3D

Kent 2nd	5	5	0	0	39	11	10
Middlesex 2nd	5	4	0	1	40	10	8
Buckingham 4th	5	2	1	2	22	28	5
Surrey 3rd	5	1	1	3	17	33	3
Sussex 3rd	5	1	1	3	16	34	3
Wiltshire	5	0	1	4	16	34	1

CADETS

Premier Division

Durham	7	6	1	0	53	17	13
Derbyshire	7	5	0	2	44	26	10
Lancashire	7	5	0	2	43	27	10
Sussex 1st	7	4	1	2	44	26	9
Lincolnshire	7	3	1	3	40	30	7(161-119)
Surrey 1st	7	2	0	5	28	42	4(160-127)
Suffolk	7	0	1	6	14	56	1
Gloucestershire	7	0	0	7	4	66	0

Division 1A

Yorkshire	8	7	1	0	61	19	15
Cleveland	8	6	1	1	53	27	13
South Yorkshire	8	5	1	2	48	32	11
Cheshire	8	4	2	2	51	29	10
Warwickshire	8	4	0	4	46	34	8
Northamptonshire	8	4	0	4	46	34	8
Leicestershire	8	1	0	7	21	59	2
Suffolk 2nd	8	1	0	7	10	70	2
Norfolk	8	0	1	7	14	66	1

Division 1B

Somerset	7	6	1	0	46	24	13
Sussex 2nd	7	5	2	0	48	22	12
Worcestershire	7	5	0	2	45	25	10
Gwent	7	4	0	3	37	33	8
Surrey 2nd	7	3	1	3	34	36	7
Glamorgan	7	2	0	5	23	47	4
Berkshire	7	1	0	6	24	46	2
Sussex 3rd	7	0	0	7	23	47	0

VETERANS

Premier Division

Kent	7	7	0	0	51	19	14
Surrey	7	6	0	1	43	27	12
Cheshire	7	4	1	2	40	30	9
Sussex	7	3	0	4	33	37	6
Lancashire	7	2	2	3	32	38	6
Essex	7	2	1	4	34	36	5
Dorset 1st	7	0	2	5	24	46	2
Yorkshire	7	0	2	5	23	47	2

Division 1A

Northumberland	7	6	0	1	46	24	12
Cheshire 2nd	7	4	1	2	41	29	9
Norfolk 4	7	4	0	3	40	30	8
Yorkshire 2nd	7	2	3	2	35	35	7
Hertfordshire	7	2	2	3	33	37	6
Oxfordshire	7	2	1	4	30	40	5
South Yorkshire	7	2	1	4	29	41	5
Leicestershire	7	2	0	5	26	44	4

Division 1B

Devonshire	7	6	1	0	55	15	13
Surrey 2nd	7	5	0	2	41	29	10
Middlesex	7	4	0	3	37	33	8
Dorset 2nd	7	2	3	2	31	39	7
Berkshire 1st	7	2	2	3	33	37	6
Kent 2nd	7	2	1	4	38	32	5
Hampshire	7	2	1	4	25	45	5
Buckinghamshire	7	0	2	5	20	50	2

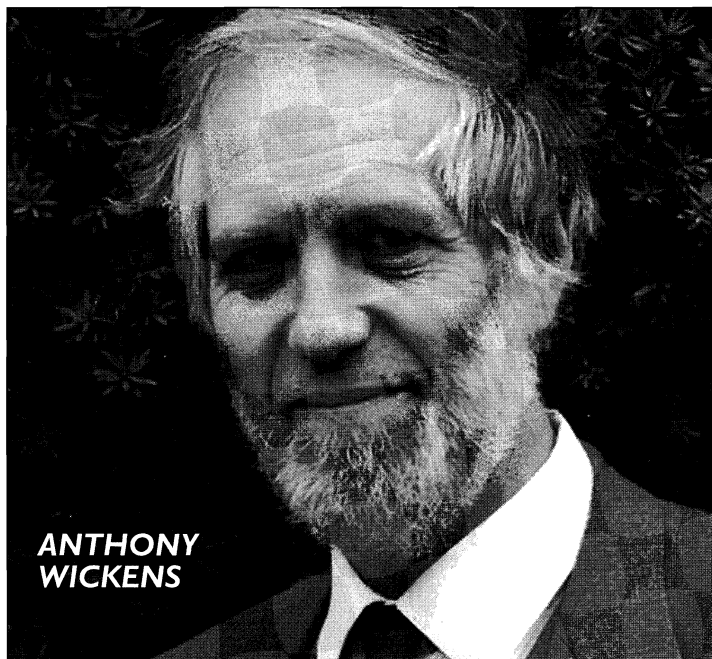
Division 2A

Worcestershire	7	6	1	0	44	26	13
Essex 2nd	7	5	1	1	47	23	11
Nottinghamshire	7	3	3	1	43	27	9
Bedfordshire	7	3	1	3	37	33	7
Essex 3rd	7	3	0	4	37	33	6
Warwickshire	7	2	1	4	32	38	5
Yorkshire 3rd	7	2	1	4	27	43	5
Durham	7	0	0	7	13	57	0

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ANTHONY WICKENS

by Ron Washington



ANTHONY JAMES HERBERT WICKENS died suddenly of a heart attack, at the age of 70, on 7th May 2004, at his home in Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire.

Tony Wickens will be best remembered in table tennis for the exceptional work he did in helping with the administration of the ETTA over a period of 43 years. In 1961 he became a member of the Rules Committee and later a member or Chairman of a variety of bodies for varying periods of time: National County Championships Committee; Open Tournaments Committee; National Umpires and Referees Committee; Development Committee; Membership Services Panel; Advisory Equipment Panel; Equipment Committee and Handbook Committee. He served in other positions, from when first appointed to the day he died: Standing Orders Committee from 1964; Nominations and Returning Officer from 1968; Clerk to the Board of Appeal from 1969; solicitor to the ETTA from 1969.

Tony's involvement with table tennis spanned more than 50 years. He first played at school, before becoming a more serious player when at King's College, London and playing in the local league at Woolwich. During vacations from college, and later when on leave from the RAF, he played in the Norwich & District League. Moving to work in Buckingham he played there until marrying in 1961, and

then moved to Slough where he played for the Slough Community Centre Club and in the Slough League. He had success as a player, winning several singles championships: at school, college, and when playing in the Norwich and Buckingham leagues. He won the Norfolk Closed Mens Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships and played for Buckinghamshire in County teams for several years.

Tony's career in table tennis administration began when he became a County Umpire and then a Tournament Referee. He ran tournaments in Buckingham and later Slough, where he was associated with the Bucks Open and Closed Championships for many years. He held office in the Slough League and became Chairman. He became prominent in the Buckinghamshire County Table Tennis Association: Treasurer from 1960 for seven years and Umpires Secretary for a short time. He became General Secretary in 1969 and National Councillor in 1987; posts he held at the time of his death.

In 1976 Tony was elected an Honorary Life Member of the English Table Tennis Association in recognition of his outstanding contribution to its work. He was also an Honorary Life Member of the Buckinghamshire County Table Tennis Association.

Tony was greatly admired by his colleagues as an exceptional and dedicated administrator, whose

contribution to English table tennis will be evident for many years. He will be remembered as a man of integrity, rectitude and reliability, with a clarity of thought and skill with words which made his contribution to so many aspects of the ETTA invaluable. His initials AJHW will long remain on ETTA documents, serving as a reminder of Tony and the excellence he represented.

Outside table tennis, over a period of 38 years he sat on several sports committees: Central Council of Physical Recreation; Southern Council for Sport and Recreation; The Southern Sports Federation; The Standing Conference of Southern Sports, of which he was Chairman for three years, and Slough Sports Council. In his early days he played tennis at Buckingham Lawn Tennis Club.

Music was another passion and Tony became a member of several music societies and a prominent member of the Windsor and Eton Choral Society where his administrative skills were again put to good use when he became a

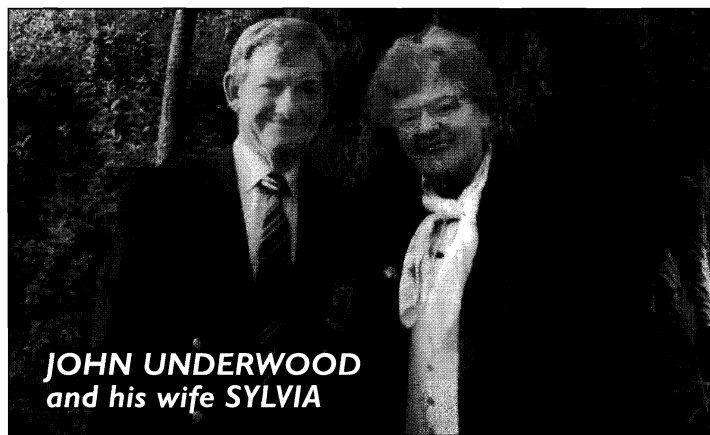
committee member, Treasurer and finally, in 1976, General Secretary until his death.

Tony was born in Buckingham in April 1934, moved to Norwich with his parents for a short period and then to Maidstone where he had his early education. He read Law at King's College, London, 1952-54, before completing two years' National Service in the RAF Police in 1956. He completed his legal training in Buckingham and qualified as a solicitor in 1961 and then moved to Slough to work in the office of a London solicitor. In 1982 he entered into partnership founding Kirkconel & Wickens, a firm which became solicitors to the ETTA.

Tony married Elizabeth Moon in 1961, with whom he shared a loving and mutually supportive relationship. Beth was a great help to him with his table tennis activities and was frequently seen at Bucks and ETTA events. He had two sons, Simon and Edward, and three grandchildren.

JOHN UNDERWOOD

by John Vincent



ALL connected with table tennis in Plymouth were shocked to learn of the sudden death of John Underwood.

John was playing for Inter-City 'B' in a Cup match at his home venue on Tuesday 24 February 2004 when, after his singles sets, he collapsed and died during the doubles.

John started playing table tennis in 1960 whilst working for the General Post Office. He had played in the Plymouth and District Table Tennis League for over 40 years and his team were in second place in Division 2 of a 7-Division League.

John qualified as an ETTA Level 2 Coach on 27 September 1993. He

was a very popular member of the Plymouth coaching team, helping youngsters and also many older players. For a period of time he coached children at Coombe Dean School and also for a season was Fixture Secretary for Inter-City Table Tennis Club.

John was genuine, reliable and extremely enthusiastic about his sport, always giving 100%. He will be greatly missed.

Around 200 people attended the funeral service at Efford Crematorium. Our condolences go to his wife Sylvia and all his family.

BERKSHIRE

by John Cunningham

BERKSHIRE VETERANS PROMOTED?

BERKSHIRE Veterans' second team took on Surrey and Somerset at the Spicers' Club in Surrey, needing just one point to gain promotion. The team beat Surrey 6-4 in a great match and Somerset 10-0 to claim the divisional title (yet to be confirmed by the ETTA). The remaining Veterans' teams had mixed fortunes; the third team lost out to Glamorgan by a 7-3 scoreline. The 4th and 5th teams, playing at Kingfisher TTC, had two very good nip and tuck matches - the 4th team beating Kent 6-4 and the 5th just losing to Cornwall by the same score.

OUR LADY OF PEACE PLAYERS MAKE IMPACT IN BRITISH LEAGUE

Despite having to settle for mid table places in their respective British League divisions, OLOP IMPACT players won a club record of Player of the Match awards. In Division One South, team captain David Barr took three awards and won 19 sets out of 24. The team number one Nigel Eckersley took one award and won 22 sets out of 26. Hari Gehlot weighed in with three player awards and Steve Murgatroyd one. OLOP IMPACT first team finished in 5th position with 59 sets against 53 and 13 points.

The second team finished a clear fourth in the South and West Division 3 with a creditable 17 points - 65 sets won against 47 lost. Mark Banks led the way with three player awards and 17 wins from 28. Team captain Graham Outrim, Tony Reynolds and Bob Davis took two player awards each and Ramesh Gehlot one.

With the First and Second teams winning now fewer than eighteen Player of the Match awards for outstanding performances they have all made a great IMPACT in England's top table tennis leagues.

READING FALL AT FINAL HURDLE

Reading Cadets were beaten by a strong North Middlesex side in the semi-final of the Johnny Leach Cup in the National Team Championships held at the our lady of Peace community Centre. Tom Maynard was the Reading star Beating Craig Thompson 12-10, 11-4, 11-8, and going down in a thrilling five game set to Joseph Chacholades by an 8-11, 7-11, 11-5, 11-2, 11-5 scoreline. Shortness of match practice proved costly for

COUNTY NOTES



Stephen Ayres who earlier lost out to Choacholades 11-6, 11-8, 11-6 while David Fudge, after a tentative start, did well to hold Thompson to an 11-3, 11-9, 11-9 score. Suchira Gallage completed a good double for North Middlesex, beating Fudge and Ayres in straight sets, to give his side a 5-1 win and a place in the National finals.

Junior Co-ordinator, John Cunningham would like to thank the boys for their efforts; all the parents for their support; Lysuja Kuzmina for providing such fantastic refreshments and OLOP TTC for hosting the event.

Life Means Life for Mike

Mike Stickland was awarded the honour of Life Vice President for outstanding work, over many years, at the Bracknell and Wokingham District Table Tennis Association Presentation Evening, held at Broadmoor Social Club. The long-standing committee member and regular player for Royal Ascot Club achieved a well-deserved double when he also received the John Stickland Award, donated by his father some years ago, for Services to the League.

The William Hill Sportsmanship Trophy went this year to yet another Ascot player - Ron Wale. On the playing front Broadmoor 'A' are this season's Premier Division Champions holding off a strong challenge from Wokingham 'A'. Clive Banham led the way for Broadmoor while the evergreen Phil Prady was the Town's star. That

Man Stickland was a key member of the Royal Ascot 'B' team who ran away with the Division One title ahead of Wokingham 'B'. Maidenhead Club - Wamdsad, with Colin Byers, Carol Byers and Chris Davis in outstanding form, were the champions of Division Two, fighting off the strong Royal Ascot's 200 Club, who had to settle for the runner up spot.

This season's top club Broadmoor TTC made it a treble by taking the Division Three and Four titles with their 'B' and 'C' teams respectively, winning by a street. Wamdsad ran them close for top club as their 'C' team held on to win the basement Division Five.

Finally to round off the 2003-4 season, one of the closest fought Howard Shield Team handicaps for many a season was won by Broadmoor 'B' with Wamdsad 'B' runner-up. Royal Ascot 'C' won the Howard Shield Plate and Wokingham 'E' were the runner-up team.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

by Martin Livermore

Cambridge TTA Closed Championships 2003/2004

KEITH RICHARDSON (Cambridge TTC) regained the Cambridgeshire Table Tennis Association Mens Singles title at the Ross Peers Sports Centre on Saturday beating his old County colleague and rival Mick Harper (NCI) in the final.

Richardson had knocked out top seed County No.2 Martin Gray (St. Georges) in the semi final and Harper had got the better of Kevin Gray (St Georges).

Harper had earlier beaten Richardson 3 legs to 1 in the final of the Veterans singles.

Clare Macrae (St. Georges) became Ladies Singles Champion for the first time overcoming Harlow based Caroline Goatly in the final. Top seed Goatly took the first leg 11-9 before Macrae hit back with the next three legs.

The Harper/Richardson combination was too strong for the Gray brothers in the Mens Doubles in three straight games.

Caroline Goatly teamed up with sister Helen to comfortably take the Ladies doubles over St. Georges pairing Macrae and Janette Klinke.

The Gray brothers and Goatly sisters paired up in the Mixed doubles final. Martin and Caroline overcame the challenge of Kevin & Helen. Caroline won her third title of the day in the



BERKSHIRE: Front Row: David Fudge, Suchira Gallage, Stephen Ayres, Tom Maynard. Back Row: Joseph Chacholades, Craig Thompson



BERKSHIRE: The major prize winners at the Bracknell League Presentation Evening.

COUNTY NOTES -2

Unseeded Doubles along with Darren Wakerley where they triumphed over Macrae and Fulbourn's Ju Young Jeon.

Reno Phyo had a straight games win over Impington colleague Jeff Catlin the Restricted Singles, while his son Kieran Phyo provided an upset when he proved to be too strong for County Junior No.1 Chad Bassett from Wisbech in the Junior Boys Singles final.

However, another junior Soham's Kieran Mohan (+29) got the better of Kieran Phyo (+25) in the Handicap Final.

Christian Mohan (Soham) took the Cadet Boys Singles overcoming his brother Kieran 3-1 in the final.

The same pair were runners up in the Junior Doubles final against their younger brother Patrick who had joined forces with Chad Bassett.

Kayleigh Hubbard (Ellesmere) completed a hat-trick of wins over Club colleague Charlotte Edwards in the Under 21, Junior and Cadet Girls Singles.

Alex Austin (Haverhill) became the Under 21 Boys champion in the Constable Cup final. He beat Richard Gagen from Wisbech in a closely contested final.

The day was sadly marred by the recent death of Cambridgeshire County President Geoff Waters. The players and spectators paid tribute to Geoff with a minutes silence before the start of play.

Results:

Mens Singles: Keith Richardson bt Mick Harper 11-2, 9-11, 11-7, 11-6

Ladies Singles: Clare Macrae bt Caroline Goatly 9-11, 11-9, 11-8, 11-4

Mens Doubles: Mick Harper/Keith Richardson bt Kevin Gray/Martin Gray 11-4, 11-8, 11-9

Ladies Doubles: Caroline & Helen Goatly bt Clare Macrae/Jannette Klinke 11-5, 11-5, 11-6

Mixed Doubles: Caroline Goatly/Martin Gray bt Helen Goatly/Kevin Gray 11-9, 11-2, 11-8

Under 21 Boys (Constable Cup): Alex Austin bt Richard Gagen 11-6, 11-13, 11-3, 13-11

Under 21 Girls (Keki Mistry Trophy): Kayleigh Hubbard bt Charlotte Edwards 13-11, 11-4, 11-9

Junior Boys: Keiran Phyo bt Chad Bassett 11-8, 7-11, 11-6, 11-6

Junior Girls: Kayleigh Hubbard bt Charlotte Edwards 11-4, 6-11, 11-9, 12-10

Cadet Boys: Christian Mohan bt Kieran Mohan 14-12, 12-10, 8-11, 11-9

Cadet Girls: Kayleigh Hubbard bt Charlotte Edwards 11-4, 11-9, 11-3

Junior Doubles: Chad Bassett/P Mohan bt C. Mohan/K. Mohan 11-7, 9-11, 11-6, 11-9

Veterans: Mick Harper bt Keith Richardson 12-10, 11-7, 5-11, 11-8

Handicap: Kieran Mohan (+29) bt Kieran Phyo (+25) 41-35

Restricted Singles: Reno Phyo bt Jeff Catlin 11-5, 14-12, 11-7

Unseeded Doubles: Caroline Goatly/Darren Wakerley bt Clare Macrae/Ju Young Jeon 11-9, 6-11, 11-3, 11-2

CHESHIRE

by Alan Blears

Junior/Cadet Nationals

"Karen Shepherd can't handle pressure!" Proof, if any were needed, that this pearl of wisdom – from someone who has probably never seen her play in a tournament – is utter drivel came in the

Junior Nationals.

Coming into the event in relatively poor form she left it with a national title, when she won the doubles with Kelly Sibley. This was her fourth national triumph, following singles at U-11 and doubles at U-12 and U-14.

In the singles Karen reached the semis, where she fell to England No. 1 Joanna Parker, and has now been selected to play in the Spanish Open.

Also from Stockport, and doing well, is Caroline Hallows, who with Emma Vickers came runner-up in the Cadet Doubles, and played for England in the Cadet Six Nations tournament.

Schools' Individuals

In the schools' finals Caroline, and Fiona Dennett were semi-finalists in the U-13 girls section, Fiona losing to Emma Vickers and Caroline falling victim to an inspired fight-back by Rachel Jamieson just when a place in the final seemed assured.

Stiga Hyndburn Junior Grand Prix

At the end of another excellent series of tournaments in Accrington, Caroline was cadet winner and overall runner-up. It is surprising that more girls do not play in these events, as prize money is substantial. I am not saying how much Caroline won, but it should be enough to keep her in bat rubbers until well into middle age.

Also, in the money were Rebecca Yip and nine year-old Joshua Boulton, who was fourth in the U-13 boys' section.

Josh also did well in the Lancashire Junior 3 Star, where he reached the semi-final of the boys' Band Two event.

National Regional Squad Championships

Josh was in this event too, playing at U-11 for the North-West, where the team finished a disappointing seventh after being champions last season. The older girls – Sophie Byron, Hayley Parker, Reena Ardesana and Rachel Baker – were superb, but the U-11 girls and many of the boys were much less experienced.

Junior County Teams

I shall include a full report on the junior teams' results next time. For now, it is good to see the junior first team retaining their place in the Premier Division, the second team finishing third in Div. 2A, and the cadets moving from sixth to fourth in cadets Div. 1A.

Finally, it is very flattering that the powers-that-be were so impressed by my March report that they repeated it in April. Oooh, you are awful, but please no, not again – I insist! Seriously, space is precious.

CLEVELAND VIEW

by Alan Ransome

Table Tennis Academy in Middlesbrough

MIDDLESBROUGH College, in association with Ormesby Table Tennis Club, has reached agreement to run a Table Tennis Academy to commence in September of this year. Middlesbrough College already run academies in five other sports including basketball and cricket and have added table tennis for the forthcoming season. The new Ormesby Club will be the venue for all the daytime sessions during the week with Carole Moore being nominated as the Head Coach. The youngsters who enrol need to be between the ages of 16 – 19 and will be able to study courses from A Levels to BTEC and GNVQ. A Sports Injury Clinic and Coaching

Qualification awards will also be part of the course.

Students who enrol for this Academy will also have the opportunity of joining the appropriate level squads at the Ormesby Club for training in the evenings and will have the opportunity of representing the College or the Club in appropriate leagues and competitions. Students from outside the Middlesbrough area are welcome and assistance with seeking accommodation can be provided. For further information contact Carole Moore on 01642 712000 or 07775 537965 or Andy Toman the Academy Manager on 01642 333410 or 296 6001

European Selection for Paul and Danny

Following successful appearances for England in the six Nation Cadet Championships in Canterbury last month, Paul Drinkhall and Danny Reed from the Ormesby Club have been selected to represent England in the European Youth Championships, which will take place in Hungary in July. Paul's selection with the excellent results that he has produced was no surprise, but it was gratifying to see how much improvement Danny has made over the season to clinch a seat on the plane to Budapest.

U Turn Appreciated

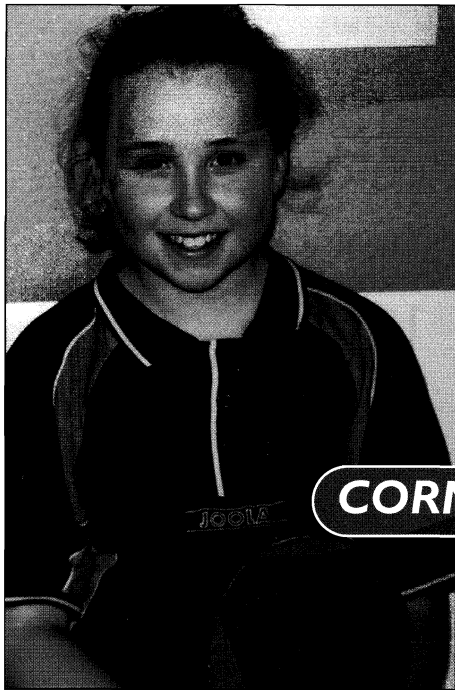
As a county association, Cleveland was deeply concerned when our Regional Coaching Co-ordinator received a letter from Gail McCulloch telling us that the National Trials had been abandoned for the coming season, and even more worried when this was confirmed in the ETTA Management Committee Minutes of 17/18 January 2004. We lodged a protest with the Vice Chairman Competitions, Peter Bradley, on the basis that we felt that without the National Trials, our Regional Trials would lose their momentum and that the system that has operated for more than forty years of County trials, Regional trials and then the National Trials would be lost to the sport.

Throughout the country more than 500 youngsters benefit from this system. The Regional trials are always a good day at low cost and often cater for youngsters who cannot afford to participate on the open tournament scene. The National trials are also a worthwhile competition giving players 6 or 7 singles matches plus the knock out rounds for those who are successful and the chance to qualify for the Masters.

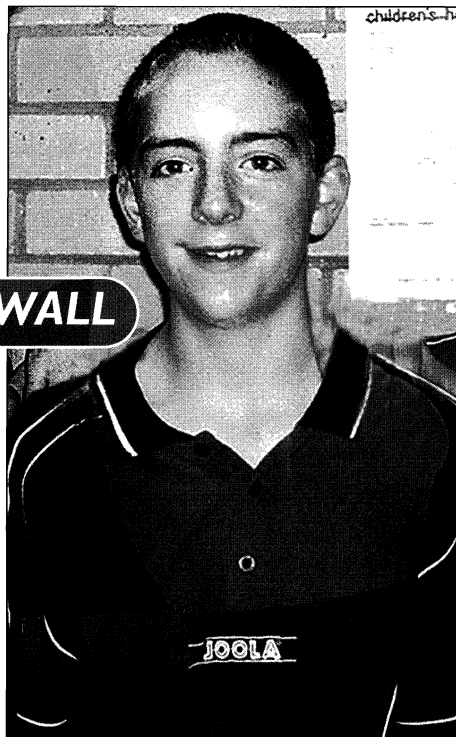
This matter was due for discussion at the last National Council meeting and I was aware that several other Councillors had similar comments from their own members. Fortunately good sense prevailed and Peter Bradley withdrew the proposal and the trials are safe for another year at least. We are grateful to Peter for listening to our concerns and arguments and for acting in the interest of table tennis.

Tees Valley Youth Games

Cleveland County were delighted to co-operate with the Tees Valley Sports Partnership and for table tennis to be introduced into the Tees Valley Youth Games. Six teams of up to 4 players at Under 16, 13 and 11 age groups for boys and girls from the boroughs of Middlesbrough, Stockton, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland and Darlington, participated in the Games on 24 tables at Eston Leisure Centre held on the 20th June. Players who represent the County or are in the top 50 of any ETTA ranking list were ineligible to



CORNWALL'S MARTHA TRAVIS (left) who has won the Under 11 National championships, whilst pictured below is DARREN REED who was selected to play for the England Under 16 team at the British Schools Home Countries Championships



participate in this competition. Therefore, it provided an excellent opportunity for youngsters from all parts of the Tees Valley for experience in a high profile multi sports event and the opportunity to participate more fully in table tennis. The competition has also assisted greatly with development of the sport in some areas of Tees Valley that our normal programmes have difficulty reaching.

CORNWALL

by John Wood

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

CORNWALL'S Junior 1st team majestically won the Junior Division 3c title of the ETTA County Championships.

The Junior Champions, Nick Smale, Adam Tatlow, Jonathan Randall, Daniel Putt, Lisa Reed, Amy Burton, Georgina Credland and Martha Davies, won their last two matches of the season, beating Devon III's 8-2 and Devon IV's 10-0.

Cornwall's 8-2 victory over Devon III's gave them the trophy by three clear points.

The Junior 2nd team finished in fourth position in the same division.

Our Senior 1st team, Jeremy Williams, Adrian Noott, Matthew Nichols, Graham Worth, Graham Reed, Nick Smale, Shirley Luckhurst, Kate Elkin and Michelle Turner, were pipped at the post in an exciting battle for the Senior Division 2B title. Cornwall eventually finished in the runners-up spot just one point behind Gloucestershire.

Unfortunately, our 2nd team finished bottom of the same division.

Although our Veteran team, Bob House, Gary Hall, Derek Lucas, Austin Chapman, Mike Fisher, Elaine Shaw and Di Jermyn, in Division 4D won their last match of the season 6-4 against Devon III's, they were also narrowly pipped at the post by one point by Hampshire.

CORNWALL SCHOOLS INDIVIDUALS

There was a good turnout with 70 entries. Everyone had a good day and the event finished on time.

The winners were: Boys: Under 19 winner Nick Smale, runner/up Jacob Kodicek; U16 winner Darren Reed, r/up Neil Phillips; U13 winner

Matthew Trevorrow, r/up Ryan Reed; U11 winner Ryan Bowler, r/up Alistar. Girls: U16 winner Georgina Credland, r/up Kaye Stenner; U13 winner Farah Ali, r/up Elle Treener; U11 winner Martha Travis, r/up Rachel Trevarrow.

All the winners went on to the National Schools Individual Championships, at Stoke-on-Trent in April, where Darren Reed reached the semi-final stage of the Boys Under 16 event.

SUMMER LEAGUE

This year's Summer Handicapped League started last month at the Tregorrick Table Tennis Centre. There are 13 pairs competing and the league is scheduled to finish week commencing 13th September 2004.

STOP PRESS

- LATE fantastic news at the ETTA National Under 10/11/12/13 Championships in Kings Lynn, where Martha Travis won the National Girls Under 11 crown, beating Sarah Russo of Sussex in the final. This is a marvellous achievement following on from last year's success when she won the U10 title.

- DARREN Reed, who has returned to play for Cornwall Juniors next season, was selected to play for the England Under 16 team, in the British Schools Home Countries Championships, on 26th/27th June 2004.

- CORNWALL have entered a team in next season's British League. It's name will be 'Club Cornwall', and it's players will be Adrian Noott, Jeremy Williams, Graham Worth, Graham Reed and Darren Reed. 'Club Cornwall' will play in Division 4 South & Midlands.

- EXCITING news. Cornwall will be staging two open tournaments next season, which is great news for the South West.

Firstly we will be running the Cornwall Senior

2 Star Banded Satellite Grand Prix tournament, on the 13th/14th November 2004. Secondly, the Cornwall 1 Star Cadet/Junior tournament, on Sunday 8th May 2005.

Both tournaments will be held at the Tregorrick Table Tennis Centre in St.Austell

DERBYSHIRE

by Colin Deaton

BURTON'S number one club, Uxbridge, is to close for a short period during the summer for renovation work.

This club has undeniably developed to be the top club in the area, which is on the Derbyshire/Staffordshire border.

Two young school players in the area recently qualified for the English Schools individual finals. James Ward in the Under 11 boys and Laurie Shand in the U13 girls.

Intense coaching continues in the Burton area with Neil Houghton and the Regional Development Officer, Chris Newton, and it is encouraging to note that the Boys Scout Tournament at Uxbridge is now to become an annual feature.

Perhaps the best player the Burton League has ever produced is Stephen Shaw. Steven rose to be as high as the England ranked number eight, eventually quitting the game to concentrate on running the family business.

The Burton area could do with one or two more Steve Shaw's.

In the Matlock League's strong top division, B.R. Insurance have won a very creditable double and star performer was no other than Derby's young England star, Emma Vickers who won a super max in the handicap final and was well supported by Steve Porter and her mum, Jane Vickers, who is a regular player in the Matlock League.

Cromford Community Centre is to stage the presentation evening with guests stars, Nicola Deaton and Alex Perry.

Throughout the summer a summer league is going to be feature, comprising of two players in a team. Early response to this suggests that this event is going to be very popular.

Youngsters from the Chesterfield League representing Brimington Junior School, lifted the National Under 11 boys team event in the English schools Championships. They were Liam Pitchford, Daniel Lowe and Shaun Cullen.

Their number one player, Liam Pitchford, was chosen to represent the English Schools in the Under 11 age group category which was held in Guernsey.

Apparently Liam, who has been having advanced coaching sessions from Nicola Deaton, is showing a good high ranking in the Under 13 age group.,

Much is expected of the talented young Brimington schoolboy.

Nine year old, Lucy Davidson has won the last two Under 11 girls one star tournaments at Grantham and it is no surprise that this young whiz kid has been invited to the England training sessions at Lilleshall. Whilst she continues to fly the Chesterfield flag in junior table tennis circles, one can imagine how we are all proud of Alan Cooke's achievements this summer. His professionalism will act as a real strengthener to the England Men's team.

Amidst all his playing commitments in the UK this season Cookie has still got the time and energy to help along the younger players.

COUNTY NOTES - 4

Needless to say the Alan Cooke/Nicola Deaton summer school held at Grantham in August is now completely sold out.

As one ETTA coach said to me the other week "It is all about value for money".

The Derby League continues to thrive on competition and the final round of the Walter Reeve's Handicap team competition has been played at the Long Eton and Draycott club between Highview 15 and Long Eaton 4th

Long Eaton, led by Will Yeomans, were hoping to win the trophy for the fourth year running.

The cup is presented each year in memory of the association's long serving secretary, Walter reeves, and all teams in the League are entered with handicaps intended to balance the relative strengths of the players.

High View 1st team were the winners which completes a successful season for them with the team of Robert and Adam Frost and Steve Yallop also being the season's premier division winners.

One piece of very good news for the Derby Association is that they have won £50 on ERNIE.

Finally the new Derbyshire Cadet team finished runners up on the division of the National County Championships.

Derbyshire had a strong all-round team and with some of our cadet players coming through the ranks in the future means that Derbyshire could well be a force for the future.

DEVONSHIRE

by John Vincent

CONGRATULATIONS to Paul Giles and Elaine Short on becoming National Veteran Champions at Thornbury, Bristol. Paul did exceptionally well defeating higher ranked players, Nigel Eckersley, Joe Kennedy and John Hilton in the final. Elaine won two titles, the Individual from Jan Dunning and Mixed Doubles with her partner, Joe Kennedy. Both our champions play for the China Fleet Club in the Plymouth & District T.T. League.

Congratulations are also due to the Devonshire Veteran's team of Paul Whiting, Paul Giles, Mike Short, Tony Swelt and Elaine Short who won Division 1B of the Veteran's County Championships. They are looking forward to playing in the Premiership next season.

China Fleet's Ladies team of Marketa Myskova, Helen Lambert & Liz May came third in the Women's Bristol League Premier Division. Although they lost 6-0 to a very strong Grove I team who became champions they drew 3-3 with runners up Irish Ladies I. Well-done team.

Devon Senior Closed Championships

Champions Runners Up

Men's Individual:

James Whiteman Mike Hugh

Ladies Individual:

Sonia Wicks Lisa Radford

Veterans:

Dennis Gibbs Kevin Taylor

Men's Doubles:

Kevin Buddell/ James Whiteman/
Chris Brown Mike Hugh

Ladies Doubles:

Sonia Wicks/ Liz May/
Sally Smith Lisa Radford

Mixed Doubles:

Kevin Buddell/ Chris Brown/
Liz May Lisa Radford

In the plate competition, 13-year-old Richard Marshall did well to beat the more experienced Joe Clifford (Senior) 11-8, 11-8, and 11-7 in the final.

National Schools

Craig Bryant, Chris Brown, Lisa Radford and Darren Reed all had good performances at the National Schools Individual Championships and were selected to represent their Country in the Home Internationals in Limerick, Ireland in June 2004.

National Trials

Chris Brown reached the final of the Junior Boys where he lost to the highly ranked Adam Bleakley (Lancashire).

Darren Reed qualified for both the Juniors and the Cadets. In the Cadets he reached the quarter-final stage where he lost to the higher ranked Ben Barlow, Yorkshire. Both boys received invitations to the prestigious "Masters Tournaments" where they each finished in 10th place.

Sally Smith also received an invitation to the Junior Masters after her fantastic triumph in the Derby 4 Star Junior Select tournament when she defeated Karen Shepherd (Cheshire) in the Junior Final.

ESSEX

by Steve Kerns

BRAINTREE CLOSED

David Cole, added the Braintree Mens Singles title to his recent win in the Colchester Mens Singles with an impressive 3-0 win over Fred Dove. Cole had experienced rather more difficulties in his Semi-Final against all-action Colchester Junior Anthony Greenwood who only succumbed 11-9 in the fifth end. Hamish Innes, the runner-up in the Veterans Singles Finals in Ilford, Southend and Chelmsford went one better by taking the Braintree title with a superb win over Dove. The decision to play Finals Night on two tables was a resounding success with a bumper sized crowd turning up to cheer their team-mates on.

Selected results included -

Mens Singles - David Cole beat Fred Dove 8,8,8.

Ladies Singles - Kelly Skeggs beat Becke Jackson - 6, 4, 7, -6, 6.

Mens Doubles - David Cole and Jon Hill beat Fred Evans and Rob Hellaby 9, 8,10.

Mixed Doubles - Kelly Skeggs and Paul Davison beat Becke Jackson and Fred Dove 4, -6, 5, 7.

Veterans Singles - Hamish Innes beat Fred Dove 7,8, -8, -8, 9.

Junior Boys Singles - Ashley Skeggs beat Ryan

Pitt 8,9, 12.

CLACTON CLOSED

Isabel Barton became only the third player in League history to win the Ladies Singles title four times in a row. Edell Ruddy, almost made it a "fairy tale Championship return" after a 19 years absence but after two keenly contested games it was Isabel who ran out a decisive winner in the third end to take the title 12-10, 12-10, 11-2. Gary Young captured his first Mens Singles title with a superb 11-6, 12-10, 7-11, 11-5 win over three times former Champion Martin Hogg. Other results included -

Mens Doubles - Gary Young/Paul Adams beat Martin & Kevin Hogg 5, 6, 3.

Ladies Doubles - Isabel Barton/Annabelle Rodriguez beat Cris Edwards/Jenny Higgins -7, -8, 1, 10, 4.

Mixed Doubles - Paul Adams/Edell Ruddy beat Martin & Cris Edwards -8, 8, 7, 3, 8.

ROMFORD JUNIOR INVITATION

TOURNAMENT

The Romford & DTTL have generously opened their Junior Closed Tournament up by inviting neighbouring Clubs and Leagues to take part and they were rewarded with an excellent entry of 65 players. Fittingly Havering players picked up a major share of the spoils with County Junior Michael Copleston taking three titles. Michael came through a hard-fought Under 18 Boys Final with a 3-1 victory over Rashid Benallal. Elsewhere Simon Hoang impressed by winning an even closer Boys Under 15 Singles Final with a superb win over Southend Junior Boys Champion Joshua Lovett. Results included -

Boys Under 11 Singles - Anai Patel (Mossford) beat Joe Biscoe (Morpeth) 6, -6, -8, 4, 9

Boys Under 13 Singles - Jadgeet Singh Mudhar (Langdon) beat Matthew Mulley (Langdon) 9, -8, 6, 9

Boys Under 15 Singles - Simon Hoang (Morpeth) beat Joshua Lovett (Havering) -9, 7, -7, 9, 6

Boys Under 18 Singles - Michael Copleston (Havering) beat Rashid Benallal (Morpeth) 7, -4, 7, 12

Girls Under 18 Singles - Rachel Ariya (Havering).

Boys Doubles - Michael Copleston/Jamie Bond (Havering) beat Raihan & Sarghahan Muith (Morpeth) 7, -9, 7, -8, 8

Girls Doubles - Kelly Drewry/Jade Cornhill (Havering) beat Rachel Ariya/Kalyani Copal (Havering/Mossford) 8, -8, 9, -12, 9

Mixed Doubles - Kelly Drewry/Michael Copleston beat Jade Cornhill/Joshua Lovett -4, 1, 4, 9.

WEST ESSEX CLOSED

There was a double success for Marion Sweeney as she claimed the Ladies Singles and Mixed Doubles titles, with Tracy Smith the Runner-Up on both occasions. Results included -

Mens Singles - Carl Johnson beat Philip Walker - 10, 5,7,7.

Ladies Singles - Marion Sweeney beat Tracy Smith -5, 11,6, 10;

Mens Doubles - Dave Page/Paul Pells beat Dennis Sweeney/Martin Marcus 7,8,-11, 9,

Mixed Doubles - Dennis & Marion Sweeney beat David Charles/Tracy Smith 8,9,8,

Veterans Singles - Stuart Spurling beat Dennis Sweeney 11,-9,8,9,

Restricted Singles - David Charles beat Ayub Khan -6,3, 6, 4.

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HAMPSHIRE

by **Jeremy Wilson**

JOHN McBeath underlined his status as one of Hampshire's most promising young player by picking up a hat-trick of titles at the Kings Volvo Southampton closed championships.

The Southampton West youngster beat fast improving team-mate Garth Kinlocke in the final of both the cadet and junior boys, singles, before completing his triple-crown with victory in the Division One singles.

In that final, he beat Waterside's Steve Hemmings 11-7, 13-11, 11-6.

Almost 100 players took part in the annual championships, with numbers boosted on recent years by an encouraging influx of young players, thanks largely to the coaching this season of Southampton West's Gary and Anne Longland, as well as Ken MacLeod at the Waterside club.

In the men's singles, defending champion Victor Imiseev reached the final with a nail-biting five-set victory over Christos Hannides.

But he was denied another Southampton title as Snows, Jeremy Wilson beat him 10-12, 11-6, 10-12, 10-12.

Multi-champion Anne Longland was then crowned women's champion with an exciting four-set victory against Sue Hibberd.

Sarah Warwick was another going for a cadet and junior double in the girls' singles, but lost 12-10 in the fifth to Waterside's Katie Bradford in a thrilling under-14 final, before beating Southampton West team-mate Nicola Dunkason to the under-17 singles.

The Isle of Wight's Alex Rorke and Fareham's Rod McMullan teamed up to beat Hannides and Howard Davies to the men's doubles title in three-straight games, with Anne Longland and Warwick teaming up to take the women's doubles.

Davies slipped to another straight sets defeat in the veterans, event against Snows, former men's singles champion Chris Wilshere.

Husband and wife Gary and Anne Longland found themselves at opposite ends in the mixed doubles final, with Gary alongside Sue Hibberd beating favourites Chris Wilshere and Anne in a five-set final.

In other action, junior table tennis players from Bournemouth topped the table in the Hampshire inter-town Division One championships.

The team of Tom Andrews, James Whitehorn, Neil Cartwright, Mark Grimley and Joy Whitehorn were unbeaten throughout the entire season, losing just two individual sets along the way.

Basingstoke just pipped Portsmouth A by the narrowest of margins for the runners-up spot.

Both teams finished on identical points and individual matches won and lost.

But following a countback of every leg played, Basingstoke emerged winners by 283 to 278.

Winchester took the Division Two title from Andover, with Martyn Reeves unbeaten.

Almost 100 young players took part in the Bournemouth Cadet Open Tournament with Matthew Ware taking the cadet boys, singles and Nicola Dunkason beating Katie Bradford in the girls, event.

A special sportsmanship prize went to Southampton's Shaun Patterson.

HERTFORDSHIRE

TTN • JUNE/JULY 2004

by **Doug Tomsett**

IT HAS been a funny old season, the Senior 1st team were withdrawn after failing to turn out a team. The 2nd team won their last two matches to get off the bottom of their division.

The Juniors found it hard this season, having been promoted to a higher division. The boys were all under 15 years of age, have youth on their side and hope to stay in the same division. They did not finish bottom as they won one match.

The Veterans had a mixed season finishing midway in Division 1A, whilst the 2nd team were also halfway in Division 2B. All the men finished with 50% averages. The 3rd team ended up with the following statistics P7, W4, D1, L2, finishing in third spot of Division 3B. The 4th team finished 3rd in Division 4A with the same number of points as the winner and runner-up, but with an inferior games difference. Our 5th came bottom of Division 4B having lost all their matches. The 6th team won 2 and drew one, whilst our 7th

team won two matches. The Over 60s team played 5 and won 2, and they were represented by Alan (Digger) Lamprell, Geoff Bax,, Keith Hartridge and Anne Fereday.

Anne will be taking over from Brian Gale as Hertfordshire Veteran Secretary, next season.

WATFORD & DISTRICT CLOSED FINALS

The Watford League held their tournament finals on the 29th April 2004.

The finals turned out to be a Maybanks tournament, with mother, son and daughter in most of the finals.

The results, compiled by Gordon Hitchman, were as follows:

Division Two Singles: Abdul Rahim bt Karl Sedden 11-5,6-11,13-11,14-12

Junior Singles: William Maybanks bt Darius Atashroo 11-0, 11-4, 11-4

Mixed Doubles: William & Jeanette Maybanks bt Geoff & Sally Bax 9, 6, 5

Men's Doubles: Max Bonyardi & Roland Stanbridge bt Trafford Coker & Alan Thomas

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7,6,5

Division One Singles: William Maybanks bt Howard Davies 2, 6, 8

Ladies Singles: Jeanette Maybanks beat Sally Bax 9-11,11-6,8-11,14-12,11-6

Men's Singles: William Maybanks Beat Anthony Budden 11-4,9-11,11-8, 6-1 1,13-1 1

Veterans Singles: Ken Stonebridge bt Larry Gregory

Girls Singles: Kate Maybanks bt R.Clarke

Cadet Boys Singles: William Maybanks bt Darius Atashroo

Junior Doubles: William & Kate Maybanks bt James Banfield & Jon Adlard

Division 3 Singles: Darius Atashroo bt Laveen Nadoo

Handicap Singles: Abdul Rahim beat A. Atashroo

LEICESTERSHIRE

by Derek Butt

WELL here we are at the end of another season; I'm sure they get shorter or perhaps it's my age. Seems a lifetime since I started playing table tennis at the Grovenor TTC in Southsea. There are one or two names still around who will remember that great club, where you had a job to get on the tables for the large number of people present. Not that I have been a very good player, but I have always enjoyed playing the game and have met a lot of interesting and well-respected people in our sport. A competition I will always remember was put on nationally by the Daily Mirror open to anybody who could hold a bat, but there were some very good players by the latter stages. Pity they don't do it now, but then there were thousands entering in those days, I wonder what the response would be today. Any rate that's enough about me.

As was expected Electricity first won the Division One championship finishing with a 100% record, with Alan Hewitt, Dave Grundy, Matthew Hobday and Andy LeButt having an excellent season. Knighton Park first finished as runners up losing just two matches, they were well represented by Karen Smith, Cosmo Graham, Daniel Marriott and one or two others. Karen Smith once again took individual title, well done Karen.

In Division Two Loughborough Kingfishers seconds finished as champions with Goons as runners up. The Loughborough squad made up of Paul Bumpus, John Szostak, and Adrian Stevenson. Birstall finished at the foot of the table while Arnesby's Darren Bramhall won the individual title. In Division Three the Electricity teams had their fifth team finishing as champions while their third team were runners up. Well done to both. Nomads were relegated.

The cup competitions all completed and in the Rose Johnson Cup we saw Electricity beat Knighton Park 5-1. The Corral Cup saw Blaby & Whetston beat Great Glen 5-3. The Saracen Cup was won by Knighton Park who beat Syston Casuals 5-0. In the Frith Trophy G.E. Sports beat Nomads 5-2 and finally in the Lillian Williamson Trophy final saw Abbots Road beat Electricity 5-3.

The Leicester Closed Championships held at Rushey Mead School was a big success with 121 entries in 15 events, regrettably there were no entries for Ladies and Girls events. The Men's singles was won by Matt Hobday of Electricity beating his club mate Dave Grundy. Electricity's

Andy LeButt had a busy time as he won four events, the Under 40 and 30 graded events and the Veterans singles plus a hand in the doubles success with Dave Grundy. Well done to the team of Peter Wilson, Tony Lapworth, Andy Wright and Bill Newbold who organised and worked hard throughout the weekend.

In the Rose Johnson Memorial Trophy a handicap event open only to females there were ten entries split into two groups playing each other, the winner from each going into the final. Glenys Odams of Knighton Park won her group while club mate Jose Rogers won the other. The final saw Glenys receiving a five-point start playing some tremendous table tennis and winning in two straight. Having attended the event and presenting the Trophies I could see everybody enjoyed from the youngest to the oldest. Thanks to the organiser Shirley Pickering who also played for a job well done. In the Hinckley League Division One the leaders Queen's Head clashed with nearest rivals Nalgo and duly thrashed them 9-1, Pete Morris and Mick Allsop with maximums, Bob Whittaker chipping in with a brace. Barleston are finding it tough in the top flight and have got just one draw from seven matches. Leicester Goons are third. Its close at the top of Division Two just two points separating them Market Bosworth just lead with William Bradford 'A' just behind them. N. Sharpe leads the individual averages having lost just two so far. The Junior Division has sixteen pairs playing and at the last report two pairs are joint top, Rob Reeds and Naomi Saigal and Ben Wright and Simon Reeds. Dave Blaney has made a brilliant job of this Junior League and he will be missed when he moves, lets hope there is someone who can continue his good work. Good luck Dave.

Finally, at the AGM of the Leicester League held recently we have a new chairman in Peter Wilson and a new Secretary in Trevor Wright replacing Tony Lapworth who held the post for some thirteen years and has been a committee member for around thirty-two years.

It was nice to see the ETTA chairman Alex Murdoch present at this meeting.

NORFOLK

by Ray Hogg

IN ALL my some 60 years connected with T.T., from beginner knocking up in the local youth centre to President of the County, I have never known such a furore than over the 11-up rule. There are some very upset players in this County – players who have spent probably 40 plus years playing in the local leagues and who all have indicated that they are retiring as of now. The next few weeks will tell what our various leagues decide and there are going to be some bitter arguments at their AGM's. We in Norwich are being blessed with a visit of Chairman Alex at the AGM which make it interesting. The arrival of Mark Dare in the County along with Dale Ajeto should make a considerable impact on the Junior County Scene. They have started Wensum T.T. Club and have 6 tables available on Friday nights and Sunday mornings.

Congratulations to North Norfolk T.T. league on their 40th anniversary. Started as Cromer League with 2 divisions and altered to North Norfolk when the teams spread well over the Cromer

boundaries. Have suffered many losses of teams over the years like most of us, but still keep going with some useful juniors coming through. We have entered 3 Veterans, 3 Juniors and possibly 1 Senior in 2004-5 County Champs. Regret no over 60 team, as one of the key members will not play 11-up and no cadet team, as all our players are 'in-betweeners' this season.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

by Dennis Millman

ANDY TROTT retained his Men's Singles title when the County Closed Tournament reached its successful conclusion. At the same time he completed his eighth victory – thereby beating the record set by Colin Hogg who won the trophy seven times between 1957 and 1971.

John Fuller, that master of defence, produced the shocks in the early stages; beating the No. 4 seed Ryan Keates, the No. 15 seed Dannel Pang and the No.5 seed Richard Elliott, on his way to a semi-final clash with triple winner Kieron Dabbs. A close contest ensued but though Dabbs was fully extended he scraped through on a fourth end deuce.

Trott meanwhile had been put to the test by both Greg Yarnall and Dave Gatiss but emerged safely to a repeat of the 1993 final, when Dabbs had gained the verdict.

This time Trott was in control and though Dabbs hit some tremendous winners on both wings Trott's accuracy and frequent attacking forays, were always going to win the day.

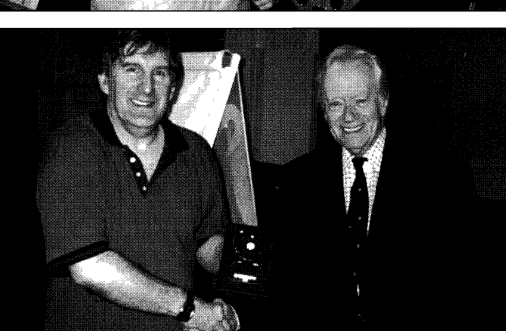
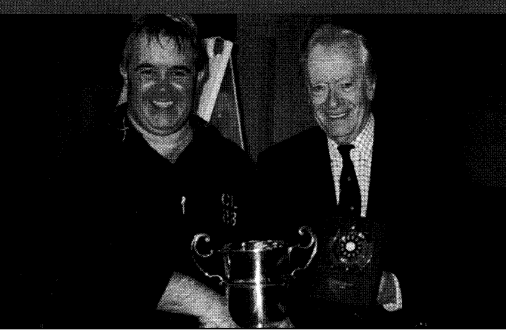
It was a different story in the men's doubles after Dabbs and Ken Philipson, paired together at the eleventh hour on the withdrawal of Keats, reaching the final after accounting for the Gatiss brothers Paul and Dave in straight games. Trott and Silk's penultimate opponents fared even worse – picking up just fourteen points in three games. Holders' Trott and Silk started well to go two games up but the experienced former RAF player Philipson then matched the positive play of Dabbs and in the best game of the night took three games in a row to become the new champions.

In the ladies events it was always going to be a case of youth against experience and two of each kind survived the group stages. When Sarah Hollis faced Viv Smiley youth gained the decision as the holder was eliminated in straight games, but it was a closer call when Katie Mansfield and Clem Little did battle with the experienced campaigner, the only player to have performed at all twelve finals nights, going through. The final was defence against attack and it was the penetrating forehand of Hollis that took the honours – the first time that a junior had won the crown since Sally Russell ten years ago.

The doubles followed suit and this time it was the attacking approach of Melissa Price and the left-handed Mansfield that won the day against the wiles of Smiley and Little who had previously won five of the eight finals they had appeared in. For the younger pair it was almost certainly the first time two juniors had proved successful.

The mixed doubles were easily the most intriguing event of the tournament, with the seeds comprising the holders, two previous winning pairs and last year's runners-up. None of the seeds reached the semi-finals with Trott and Muriel Cox edged out by Richard Elliott and Shonah Keeling, Greg Yarnall and Melissa Price

SHROPSHIRE CHAMPIONS



SHROPSHIRE'S Open Singles winner for the third time Telford's TONY ACKEROYD (top), Womens Singles winner Shrewsbury's JANE BEVAN (middle) and Open Singles runner-up TERRY RIDGEWAY. Trophies were presented by Shropshire legend MOTTO JONES who was county singles champion in 1954

beaten by Michael Edwards and Janet Wright, the Silk/Smiley pairing duly despatched by Gary Webb and Mansfield, while Dave Gatiss and Little became fifth end losers to the eventual winners Dabbs and Hollis who beat the tried and trusted Edwards and Wright in a closely fought final.

In one of the best games of the weekend Greg Yarnall just shaded Daniel Pang 13-11 in the fifth end to win the Rod Marchant Memorial Trophy for 18's to 21's. Daniel's younger brother Dickson fared rather better as he retained the Under 18 event at the expense of Ben Starmer who had earlier eliminated No.2 and No.4 seeds Keith Lucas and David Gibbons.

Starmer gained some consolation when he took the Class One Singles against Sarah Hollis while Lucas also had his moments when he and Martyn Hancox won both the Under 18 doubles against Pang and Gibbons and the Class One event, where the Smiley/Little pairing were a shade unlucky to lose 16-14 in a decisive fifth end.

Hollis made sure of retaining the Junior Girls

Singles in a repeat of last year's final with Mansfield, while the Mansfield/Price partnership made it three doubles in four years when they got the better of Hollis and Shonah Keeling, winners last time round.

At veteran level Steve Silk used his quick blocking game to sensational effect when he comfortably retained his Over 40's title for a third year against first-time veteran Chris Ross, and then teamed up with Philipson to add the doubles with Ross and Gordon Shaw the beaten finalists.

Philipson's third title came in the Over 50 Singles where his final victim was Shaw, who partnered by Edwards turned the tables in the doubles against Philipson and County President John Palmer.

Palmer, with long term partner Dennis Millman, also ended on the losing side against perennial Over 60 Doubles winners Bill Fletcher and Greg Dobrowolski, but finally got on the winners rostrum when he brought Bill Fletcher's eight year reign to an end in the corresponding singles. It was pulsating encounters with a third end 18-16 scoreline instrumental in the final showdown.

The Under 15 Singles winners were Lee Dikes and Katy Armstrong; at Under 13 level Matthew Tan and Beth Walter triumphed, while Grant Stevens came out on top in the Under 11's. Matthew Carter and Matthew Burgess were successful in the Under 15 Doubles, while Rothborough's Jordan Dainty and Luke Saywood made no mistake in the Under 13 event.

Additional winners were Class 2 Singles – Matthew Carter, Class 3 Singles – Karl Tressler, Class 4 Singles – Peter Hill, while in the final of the Junior Classified Singles Daniel Smalley turned the tables on Lee Dikes who had beaten him in the Under 15 event.

NORTHUMBERLAND

by Pauline Long

MY apologies are extended to all who were expecting to see my usual report in the April edition of TT News. It appeared to have been lost somewhere in the relevant system, despite it being completed and submitted in time for that issue. However, I was assured that May's report had been received and would be published, so fingers crossed!

The main topics of that report (now to appear in the June/July issue) were firstly the double success for the County and British League veterans' teams. The County veterans' team of Dave Godbold, Malcolm Lusk, Geoff Salter, Rob Dodds and Christine Robinson - "Benny" Robertson was unavailable owing to work commitments - won the Division 1 A championship and promotion back to the Premier Division following their final series of matches at Halifax.

Dave, Malcolm and Geoff, together with Joe Kennedy and Wayne Percival, all played for Thompson Insurance, who were the British League Division 1 winners. The second team took second place in Division 5, and both teams will be promoted.

At the other end of the age scale, the Northumbria team of Kevin Watson, Alan Sibley and Jason Pu competed in the National Cadets' League at Billingham, and were currently lying fourth in the table, led by Northfield "A".

Back now to the current report and in particular to the Northern Masters at Blackpool.

Unfortunately, Malcolm, "Benny" and myself had left the venue for our journey home as soon as our events had finished, and it was not until some time later that I heard about Geoff's great performance in winning his first over-50's singles title, and also that John Williamson was runner-up in the over-40's singles plate event.

I noted the comments in April's TT news about Geoff's final being played in front of just six people, including his own family, and the various suggestions being made about "keeping the crowds from going home early". I should point out that on the night in question, bad weather had been forecast for later that evening - it actually started to snow on our own journey home - and most of the over-40's at least would have to allow time to arrive home at a reasonable hour before a hard day's work on the Monday. Perhaps the extra tables being brought in next year will help towards an earlier finish to this extremely popular and well-run tournament.

COUNTY CLOSED

The County Closed Tournament was held at the Sporting Centre of Cramlington at the High School on March 21st, but the entry of 49 men and only four women was extremely disappointing. Andrew Wilkinson regained his open singles title, beating Eddie Smith in the final, while Lynne Herrington won the women's singles group.

Results were as follows:

Open Singles: Andrew Wilkinson beat Eddie Smith 11-8, 9-11, 7-11, 11-5, 11-9.

Women's Singles: Lynne Herrington beat Pauline Long 11-3, 11-7, 11-4.

Open Doubles: Smith and Wilkinson beat Geoff Salter and John Williamson 20-18, 11-4, 10-12, 11-5.

Veterans' Singles: Salter beat Williamson 11-9, 11-9, 7-11, 12-10.

Junior Singles: David Graham beat Andrew Dryden 11-3, 11-7, 9-11, 11-4.

Cadet Singles: Kevin Watson beat Steven Griffiths 11-5, 11-7, 11-9.

Grade 1 Singles: Steve Penman beat Kevin Wilson 11-5, 7-11, 16-14, 11-9.

Grade 2 Singles: Peter Wilkinson beat Mick Bull 9-11, 11-8, 13-11, 5-11, 11-6.

Grade 3 Singles: Stephen Ross beat Dryden 8-11, 11-5, 11-9, 11-8.

Grade 4 Singles: John McRoy beat Mick Hood 11-4, 11-8, 5-11, 9-11, 11-4.

Handicap Singles: Dryden (+4) beat Colin Davison (scratch) 19-21, 21-8, 21-11.

NORTHUMBRIA LEAGUE

The Northumbria League season has now been completed, and details are as follows:

Premier Division: Winners: Birtley "A", Runners-up: North Shields YMCA "A"

Division 1 Winners: North Fire "A", Runners-up: Cramlington Stingers

Division 2 Winners: Newton "C", Runner-up: Whitley Chapel

Division 3 Winners: DWP "B", Runners-up: North Shields YMCA "D"

Division 4 Winners: Cramlington Colts, Runners-up: Dunston CC

TEAM HANDICAP COMPETITION

The Team Handicap Knockout Cup competition had at the time of writing reached the semi-final stage, with Premier Division side Newton "A" due

continued on page 36



ETTA NATIONAL RANKING LIST

TOP OF THE TABLE

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Further details please ring Doreen Nightingale 01424 722525

Senior Men

Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(2)	1 COOKE, Alan (DY.)	5046	
(1)	2 SYED, Matthew (BK) (SY.)	5012	
(3)	3 HERBERT, Gareth (BK.)	4836**	
(5)	4 PERRY, Alex (DV.)	4794**	
(6)	5 YOUNG, Terry (BK.)	4672**	
(7)	6 BILLINGTON, Bradley (DY.)	4599**	
(8)	7 PLEAN, Carl (IW.)	4558****	
(10)	8 RUSHTON, Andrew (LA.)	4467	
(11)	9 EDEN, Andrew (LA.)	4359****	
(15)	10 BRYANT, Craig (DV.)	4122	
(1)	11 DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)	4087	
(18)	12 HOLLAND, John(DY) (E.)	4039	
(4)	13 YARNALL, Tim (NP.)	4008*	
(2)	14 KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)	4004	
(23)	15 HILTON, John (CH.)	4000	
(22)	16 TAYLOR, Jonathan (LA.)	3976*	
(33)	17 JAMES, Michael (Y.)	3954	
(24)	18 AGUNBIADE, Tajudeen (MI.)	3902***	
(25)	19 DRINKHALL, Bryn (CV.)	3894*	
(5)	20 BLEAKLEY, Adam (LA.)	3866	
(26)	21 KENNY, Matthew (Y.)	3861*	
(27)	22 BLAKE, Darren (SY.)	3860*	
(29)	23 WURAOOLA, Abdul (CV.)	3818	
(32)	24 VENNOR, Ritchie (SK.)	3784	
(31)	25 BAKER, Gregory (ST.)	3780**	
(6)	26 EVANS, Bradley (BU) (NG.)	3759	
(35)	27 CLEMINSON, Peter (E.)	3720*	
(36)	28 SMITH, Eddie (ND.)	3718*	
(37)	29 WILKINSON, Andrew (ND.)	3698	
(43)	30 MARSDEN, Michael (DU.)	3670	
(38)	31 PYE, Leeroy (NK.)	3662*	
(41)	32 DODDER, Kevin (LA.)	3640*	
(42)	33 WHITING, Paul (DV.)	3638**	
(44)	34 ATKINSON, David (CA.)	3633	
(39)	35 BEERLING, Stephen (K.)	3633*	
(45)	36 MOORE, Adrian (K.)	3632*	
(46)	37 CHARLES, Neil (MI.)	3607*	
(47)	38 SATCHEL, Kevin (WL.)	3597*	
(49)	39 ROSENTHAL, Louis (CH.)	3587**	
(54)	40 PAPANTONIOU, Costas (MI.)	3586	
(50)	41 ROGERS, Chris (LE.)	3579**	
(52)	42 KENNEDY, Joe (K) (E.)	3570	
(48)	43 ECKERSLEY, Nigel (SK.)	3557	
(174)	44 STANES, Matthew (E.)	3554	
(55)	45 BAILEY, Steven (CY.)	3529	
(57)	46 BARR, David (BK.)	3518**	
(56)	47 HORSFIELD, Andrew (YS) (Y.)	3518**	
(58)	48 CHAN, Michael (SY.)	3512**	
(62)	49 TENDLER, Gary (E.)	3502	
(10)	50 GREGORY, Christopher (SP.)	3497*	
(8)	51 MEADS, David (DU.)	3472*	
(64)	52 GODDOLD, David (DU.)	3473*	
(66)	53 WHITEAMN, James (DV.)	3438**	
(9)	54 NOUCH, Simon (Y.)	3426***	
(70)	55 STEAD, Michael (Y.)	3417**	
(71)	56 BROWN, Mark (K.)	3413****	
(72)	57 SMITH, Richard A (Y.)	3405*	
(63)	58 HORSFIELD, Stephen (YS.)	3398	
(73)	59 NEIL, Lee (NG.)	3393**	
(75)	60 HARVEY, Dave (GS.)	3386	
(12)	61 REED, Daniel (CV.)	3386	
(78)	62 BARTRAM, Peter (SK.)	3381	
(79)	63 GRIFFIN, Darren (GS.)	3376*	
(80)	64 GASCOYNE, Craig (NG.)	3373	
(86)	65 CARTER, Paul (SY.)	3363	
(86)	66 HALEY, Terry (SY.)	3347	
(67)	67 MARPLES, Shaun (DY.)	3346	
(81)	68 ADAMS, Martin (BK.)	3345	
(82)	69 RANKIN, John (LA.)	3345*	
(83)	70 DENNY, Stephen (Y.)	3344*	
(84)	71 WILLIAMS, Keith (LA.)	3342*	
(74)	72 CARTH, Clive (E.)	3340	
(85)	73 HENRY, Andy (DY.)	3335**	
(88)	74 GREEN, Mark (NG.)	3315*	
(11)	75 HAUTHOOR, Umair (E.)	3314	
(87)	76 CORBIN, Anthony (HE.)	3309	
(90)	77 BARATY, Eli (MI.)	3297	
(89)	78 ADEMAKINWA, Ayoade (E.)	3286	
(139)	79 BROWN, Christopher (CO.)	3285	
(91)	80 GANNON, David (LE.)	3276**	
(94)	81 WALSH, Jimmy (HE.)	3275	
(93)	82 JAMESON, Christopher (E.)	3271**	
(95)	83 LIGHTOWLER, Richard (Y.)	3265**	
(97)	84 ROOFE, Eddie (WI.)	3259*	
(99)	85 WILLIAMS, Trevor (YS.)	3252	
(100)	86 CHADWICK, Jim (LA.)	3251***	
(103)	87 POINTNEY, Robert (SY.)	3239****	



ALAN COOKE takes over the No.1 spot from Matthew Syed

Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(104)	88 GIRDLER, Ian (SY.)	3236****	
(106)	89 SHORT, Mike (DV.)	3229**	
(108)	90 FORD, Christopher (LA.)	3228**	
(110)	91 MEREDITH, Darryll (LA.)	3224**	
(109)	92 BUTLER, Mark (DO.)	3220	
(111)	93 TILFORD, Richard (HA.)	3211**	
(112)	94 CICHHELLI, Paul (SK.)	3210**	
(113)	95 KERRY, Trevor (NG.)	3200*	
(115)	96 COX, Philip (K.)	3195**	
(116)	97 TROTT, Andrew (NP.)	3192**	
(121)	98 BUDDLELL, Kevin (DV.)	3188	
(114)	99 JAMES, Simon (Y.)	3188	
(117)	100 JOHNS, Mike (CH.)	3178**	
(119)	101 JONAH, Jerome (K.)	3174	
(118)	102 SPRACKLING, James (ML.)	3173**	
(120)	103 HARDING, David (SY.)	3168****	
(122)	104 WIGNALL, Andy (LI.)	3156	
(123)	105 GREEN, Alec (LI.)	3150	
(124)	106 DABBS, Kieron (NP.)	3147**	
(132)	107 MAJTHIA, Mayur (SK.)	3136	
(127)	108 WELSHMAN, Dave (NP.)	3133**	
(128)	109 GRAY, Martin (CA.)	3130*	
(130)	110 PAYNE, John (MI.)	3126	
(131)	111 LEIGHTON, Andrew (DU.)	3126	
(131)	112 HALL, Dominic (K.)	3124*	
(129)	113 PHILLIPS, Simon (SY) (K.)	3112	
(133)	114 WILLIAMS, David (MI.)	3111**	
(134)	115 HANSELL, Robert (BU.)	3107	
(135)	116 BIGGS, Phil (CH.)	3104***	
(136)	117 BOWEN, Philip (LA.)	3102****	
(141)	118 PAYNE, Clive (HA.)	3100	
(126)	119 WRIGHT, Neil (WAL)	3096	
(137)	120 ROBSON, Dave (DU.)	3094**	
(125)	121 ISAAC, Anthony (ST.)	3093	
(140)	122 TAYLOR, Scott (Y.)	3089**	
(142)	123 LUSK, Malcolm (ND.)	3087**	
(138)	124 MEDLEIN, Henry (SY.)	3081	
(143)	125 BOULT, Jack (SK.)	3081	
(144)	126 CLARKE, Martin (CV.)	3073**	
(146)	127 DYSON, Tim (Y.)	3065**	
(147)	128 FERGUSON, Ian (WA.)	3064**	
(148)	129 PUGH, Simon (Y.)	3062*	
(149)	130 GHELLOT, Hari (BK.)	3055**	
(150)	131 CAMPBELL, Selwyn (SY.)	3054****	
(154)	132 RICH, Andy (ST.)	3034**	
(152)	133 LAWS, Adam (SY.)	3030	
(155)	134 ELLIS, Shaun (Y.)	3017**	



HELEN LOWER is No.1 on the Women's list

(15)	135 FROST, Adam (DY.)	3013*	
(157)	136 HOLLAND, John (Snr) (E.)	3005****	
(187)	137 CARSLAKE, Colin (E.)	3003	
(3)	138 EVANS, Gavin (NG.)	2999**	
(159)	139 CHERRE, Arnaud (MI.)	2997**	
(160)	140 MOIR, Michael (LA.)	2996**	
(161)	141 BREWER, Adam (NK.)	2994****	
(163)	142 SPERO, Matthew (E.)	2993**	
(164)	143 RAMSBOTTOM, Mark (LA.)	2992**	
(165)	144 DAVIES, Stephen (LI.)	2986**	
(166)	145 KNIGHTS, Garry (ST.)	2984**	
(167)	146 KING, Russell (NK.)	2980***	
(171)	147 COLE, David (E.)	2978	
(168)	148 BUSHLETT, Karl (CO.)	2976**	
(170)	149 BUIST, Henry (K.)	2971****	
(172)	150 COCKBURN, Jon (NK.)	2969**	

Senior Women

Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(3)	1 LOWER, Helen (ST.)	4293	
(5)	2 PARKER, Joanna (SY.)	4192	
(2)	3 WALKER, Georgina (DY.)	4153	
(6)	4 SIBLEY, Kelly (WA.)	3999	
(8)	5 HOLT, Andrea (LA.)	3963*	
(9)	6 EMBLING, Abigail (E.)	3919	
(11)	7 BAWDEN, Natalie (E.)	3911	
(12)	8 OWOLABI, Kubrat (MI.)	3690**	
(14)	9 SPINK, Lauren (NK.)	3634	
(13)	10 DURRANT, Louise (NG.)	3580	
(15)	11 ADOMEYELTE, Egile (MI.)	3497	
(16)	12 WHITE, Nicola (Y.)	3465**	
(18)	13 SHEPHERD, Karen (CH.)	3452	
(24)	14 CHAPMAN, Gemma (BK.)	3427	
(17)	15 SPRINGTHORPE, Lauren (LI.)	3407	
(19)	16 SMITH, Karen (LE.)	3402**	
(22)	17 PEERS, Clare (CH.)	3392	
(20)	18 HARRIS, Jill (ST.)	3349*	
(31)	19 ROBERTS, Joanna (Y.)	3330	
(23)	20 DUNNING, Jan (WO.)	3298*	
(27)	21 BRISTOW, Angie (K.)	3283	
(26)	22 COHEN, Michele (AV.)	3267	
(25)	23 WESTON, Sally (SY.)	3251**	
(28)	24 RAINTON, Rosemary (SK.)	3244	
(29)	25 KEAT, Lesley (LI.)	3203**	
(30)	26 WILSON, Naomi (SO.)	3197**	
(32)	27 LAMBERT, Helen (DV.)	3176****	
(33)	28 BONGERS, Jose (ST.)	3161*	
(35)	29 HARPER, Sandra (BD.)	3148**	
(37)	30 SEYHOOR, Tamar (OK.)	3127*	
(34)	31 WILSON, Claire (DU.)	3116	
(40)	32 LLOYD, Gemma (CH.)	3092*	
(41)	33 HOWARD, Alice (CH.)	3089*	
(42)	34 BUOYEY, Brenda (LA.)	3075*	
(39)	35 DENNETT, Elizabeth (CH.)	3074	
(36)	36 BALDI, Andrea(YS) (Y.)	3074	
(43)	37 STEVAMN, Sarah (CV.)	3071**	
(46)	38 WANG, Lucy (E.)	3043**	
(48)	39 WEL, Emma (E.)	3032**	
(51)	40 GRAHAM, Cherish (LA.)	3005*	
(52)	41 CHEESMAN, Zoe (Y.)	2983*	
(47)	42 HUDGE, Kim (K) (SY.)	2983	
(54)	43 PEARCE, Diane (K.)	2973****	
(55)	44 MASSINGHAM, Nicola (LI.)	2971***	
(57)	45 KING, Sheila (JK.)	2960	
(61)	46 HARRISON, Jennifer (E.)	2955	
(45)	47 HORSNELL, Sarah (MI.)	2955	
(59)	48 HARLING, Samantha (MI.)	2954****	
(58)	49 MAY, Elizabeth (DV.)	2937	
(62)	50 STEDMAN, Sarah (SK.)	2932	
(64)	51 VAJDI, Carmen (SY.)	2928****	
(65)	52 DEARING, Emily (Y.)	2911**	
(66)	53 INGHAM, Katy (CH.)	2905**	
(68)	54 LANGFORD, Clare (CH.)	2904	
(55)	55 PERRY, Lucy (DV.)	2902**	
(71)	56 BENNETT, Teresa (SK.)	2899	
(69)	57 COGGON, Sara (HE.)	2896**	
(70)	58 NOLAN, Terri-Anne (CH.)	2895*	
(75)	59 SILBURN, Nicola (Y.)	2867**	
(76)	60 SMITH, Rachel (BK.)	2865****	
(77)	61 HALES, Linda (DO.)	2863***	
(78)	62 BROWN, Sarah (E.)	2863**	
(80)	63 BARELLA, Jane (SY.)	2850**	
(81)	64 BROWN, Grace (E.)	2830	
(82)	65 SPARKES, Aimee (SK.)	2824**	
(84)	66 VICKERS, Jane (DY.)	2817	
(82)	67 SORRENTINO, Annabelle (CH.)	2816****	
(85)	68 CRICK, Lisa (BK.)	2798**	
(90)	69 JOHNSON, Susan (BK.)	2776**	
(93)	70 NOUTCH, Sarah (Y.)	2765**	

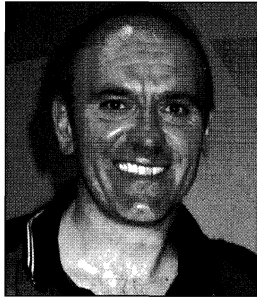
(94)	71 DIGNUM, Margaret (WO.)	2763**	
(87)	72 ROBINSON, Suzanne (GS.)	2755	
(97)	73 MEADS, Joanne (DU.)	2752	
(167)	74 VICKES, Emma (DY.)	2745	
(95)	75 WILLIAMS, Jackie (K.)	2735*	
(96)	76 BROWN, Janet (OX.)	2729**	
(98)	77 BENTLEY, Ruth (NG.)	2716**	
(99)	78 BALDWIN, Brenda (WI.)	2715**	
(112)	79 YARNLEY, Gemma (K.)	2714	
(103)	80 MITCHELL, Sharon (BK.)	2699****	
(106)	81 LANE, Sarah (SY.)	2693****	
(107)	82 HOOKER, Muriel (BU.)	2688**	
(102)	83 REID, Lynda (WO.)	2678	
(110)	84 HOWARD, Clara (CH.)	2678**	
(111)	85 DARE, Lindsey (HE.)	2669*	
(113)	86 TODD, Nicole (E.)	2661**	
(115)	87 STRAWSON, Jane (LI.)	2651**	
(116)	88 STEEL, Pauline (SK.)	2645****	
(118)	89 GRAY, Victoria (SK.)	2617**	
(120)	90 WILKES, Caroline (HE.)	2610**	
(172)	91 FARQUHAR, Melanie (BK.)	2607	
(124)	92 SPENCER, Tracy (ST.)	2589**	
(119)	94 HARRISON, Andrea (LA.)	2577	
(129)	95 DARK, Shirley (SO.)	2556	
(127)	96 LAING, Janice (HE.)	2552	
(132)	97 EMERSON, Clair (SK.)	2545	
(34)	98 PERKS, Sarah (NG.)	2531	
(135)	99 PHILLIPS, Alison (ST.)	2512	
(131)	100 SENEVIRATNE, Anusha (K.)	2492	

Junior Boys

Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(2)	1 DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)	4412	
(4)	2 KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)	4159	
(3)	3 BRYANT, Craig (DV.)	4146*	
(5)	4 YARNALL, Tim (NP.)	4049	
(6)	5 BLEAKLEY, Adam (LA.)	3978*	
(7)	6 BAKER, Gregory (ST.)	3749**	
(7)	7 EVANS, Gavin (NG.)	3654	
(10)	8 MEADS, David (DU.)	3543	
(8)	9 EVANS, Bradley (BU) (NG.)	3539	
(11)	10 DENNY, Stephen (Y.)	3436**	
(12)	11 NOUTCH, Simon (Y.)	3394**	
(13)	12 MARPLES, Shaun (DY.)	3367*	
(14)	13 GREGORY, Christopher (SP.)	3331*	
(18)	14 REED, Daniel (CV.)	3320	
(15)	15 HAUTOOR, Umair (E.)	3242	
(16)	16 BROWN, Christopher (CO.)	3205*	
(17)	17 MOSS, Richard (Y.)	3166	
(19)	18 LEIGHTON, Andrew (DU.)	3061*	
(21)	19 FROST, Adam (DY.)	2971*	
(23)	20 HARLEY, John (K.)	2877*	
(24)	21 PAGE, Tom (CH.)	2739**	
(25)	22 NICHOLLS, Damien (SP.)	2631	
(26)	23 CARTWRIGHT, Neil (DO.)	2571*	
(34)	24 LEWIS, Christopher (SY.)	2567	
(29)	25 BARLOW, Ben (YS.)	2547	
(27)	26 KODICEK, Jacob (CO.)	2544***	
(28)	27 LEMON, Robert (SY.)	2524*	
(31)	29 HILTON, James (BU.)	2370**	
(32)	30 WOODHEAD, Andrew (Y.)	2363*	
(33)	31 HALLING, Tony (E.)	2309*	
(35)	32 ARMSTRONG, Marc (MI.)		

ETTA NATIONAL RANKING LIST

(135)	127	TATLOW, Adam (CO.)	884	**
(136)	128	BISSELL, David (WA.)	883	1***
(137)	129	BULMER, Daniel (SK.)	882	***
(138)	130	HODGES, Andrew (WV.)	864	*
(140)	131	SMITH, Christopher A L (DL)	835	
(141)	132	WATSON, John (LI.)	835	**
(142)	133	BOND, Jamie (E.)	825	***
(143)	134	COOPER, Stephen (E.)	819	*
(144)	135	PEGG, Billy (SP)	798	***
(145)	136	GARLICK, Alex (HA.)	786	*
(146)	137	GROKHOTOV, Alexandre (WO.)	778	1*
(147)	138	WOODACRE, David (HA.)	775	*
(148)	139	ANDREWS, Michael (E.)	769	***
(149)	140	KEARNEY, Alex (AV)	768	*
(150)	141	LE PREVOST, Simon (HU.)	765	**
(152)	142	ARLISS, Stephen (YS.)	762	*
(154)	143	COOK, Micky (NK.)	744	**
(153)	144	PARKER, Christopher (Y.)	744	*
(151)	145	FLASH, Daniel (MI.)	742	*
(155)	146	KARAAGAC, Hakan (SY.)	722	*
(156)	147	MCEATH, David (HA.)	720	*
(157)	148	SMITH, Jamie (DV)	717	*
(158)	149	SHIPP, Callum (HA.)	714	*
(159)	150	LUCAS, Keith (NP.)	705	*



PAUL GILES moves up the Mens Veterans list following his great victory over John Hilton in the Over 40 final at the VETTS Nationals

Junior Girls			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 PARKER, Joanna (SY.)	4424	
(4)	2 SIBLEY, Kelly (WA.)	4023	
(5)	3 EMBLING, Abigail (E.)	3923	
(6)	4 WHITE, Nicola (Y.)	3570*	
(7)	5 SPRINGTHORPE, Lauren (LI.)	3527	
(8)	6 SPINK, Lauren (NK.)	3467	
(9)	7 SHEPHERD, Karen (CH.)	3375	
(10)	8 CHAPMAN, Gemma (BK.)	3305*	
(11)	9 WEIL, Emma (E.)	3038*	
(12)	10 LANGFORD, Clare (CH.)	2892*	
(14)	11 WILSON, Claire (DU.)	2867*	
(15)	12 MEADS, Joanne (DU.)	2726*	
(16)	13 YARLEY, Gemma (K.)	2660*	
(17)	14 HOWARD, Clara (CH.)	2655***	
(18)	15 BROWN, Sarah (E.)	2631*	
(19)	16 WANG, Sarra (E.)	2578*	
(20)	17 FARQUHAR, Melanie (BK.)	2565	
(21)	18 TUCKER, Emily (BU.)	2540*	
(22)	19 PERKS, Sarah (NG.)	2485*	
(23)	20 SMITH, Sally (DV.)	2437*	
(24)	21 VICKERS, Emma (DY.)	2362	
(25)	22 SENEVIRATNE, Anusha (K.)	2314*	
(26)	23 RADFORD, Lisa (DV.)	2121**	
(27)	24 WEIL, Lucy (E.)	2091*	
(30)	25 BYRON, Sophie (CH.)	2017	
(28)	26 DAVIS, Stella (GS.)	2007***	
(29)	27 CRAVEN-GRIFFITHS, Kelly (LE.)	1979***	
(32)	28 PARKER, Hayley (CH.)	1962	
(35)	29 HALLIAMS, Caroline (CH.)	1921	
(31)	30 REES, Bethany (E.)	1916*	
(33)	31 STEEPLES, Susie (LI.)	1811*	
(34)	32 LIGHTWLER, Katie (E.)	1762**	
(37)	33 JAMIESON, Rachel (E.)	1750	
(36)	34 O'SULLIVAN, Emily (DY.)	1737	
(38)	35 LAYFIELD, Jordyn (CH.)	1702	
(39)	36 BIELEC, Sylvana (BK.)	1674	
(40)	37 BOSLEY, Lisa (BK.)	1641***	
(41)	38 PINNELL, Amanda (ST.)	1469*	
(42)	39 KEGGS, Kelly (E.)	1465**	
(44)	40 GREENER, Rachel (DU.)	1455	
(43)	41 STRINGER, Jodie (K.)	1392**	
(45)	42 ROGERS, Gina (SK.)	1360***	
(46)	43 BAYLISS, Sarah (NG.)	1349**	
(47)	44 HOWE, Claire (SO.)	1318**	
(48)	45 CUNNINGHAM, Jeana (YS.)	1311*	
(50)	46 LINZ, Caroline (BU) (ST.)	1283*	
(49)	47 DUNMALL, Chloe (K.)	1281	
(51)	48 HALL, Jessica (LA.)	1247***	
(53)	49 PILGRIM, Rachel (WA.)	1242	
(52)	50 PILGRIM, Nikki (WA.)	1234***	
(56)	51 DENNETT, Fiona (CH.)	1198	
(54)	52 FURNIVAL, Stacey (SK.)	1150	
(55)	53 STANDEN, Lisa (SK.)	1119	
(57)	54 WHITEHORN, Joy (DO.)	1100*	
(58)	55 POTJEWYD, Frances (SO.)	1041*	
(59)	56 HUBBARD, Sarah (K.)	995*	
(60)	57 RIPLEY, Lisa (NG.)	988	
(62)	58 CRAWFORD, Helen (CU.)	909*	
(63)	59 DUNCLIFFE, Sally (LA.)	905	
(64)	60 TAYLOR, Amy (BU.)	854	
(65)	61 HOLLIS, Sarah (NP.)	840	
(66)	62 WALDEN, Kelly-Jayne (WA.)	837	
(67)	63 RULE, Katie (BU.)	832*	
(68)	64 WILKINSON, Hayley (LA.)	830	
(69)	65 MANSFIELD, Katie (NP.)	827	
(70)	66 DOBSON, Jenny (HA.)	824	
(71)	67 SHADBOLT, Lisa (SY.)	809**	
(72)	68 PROCTOR, Louise (LA.)	764	
(73)	69 TARR, Michelle (SP.)	760	
(74)	70 ROPER, Carley (SO.)	746	
(75)	71 SHEPHERD, Nicola (Y.)	741	
(76)	72 ARDESHANA, Reena (LA.)	729	
(77)	73 JACKSON, Becky (E.)	721	
(78)	74 CURRIE, Francesca (Y.)	715	
(79)	75 PRICE, Melissa (NP.)	710	
(80)	76 LOVE, Felicity (E.)	663*	
(81)	77 MCCORMICK, Samantha (DU.)	626*	

(85)	78	WOODLAND, Alison (SK.)	614	
(82)	79	MORLE, Annabelle (HA.)	603*	
(83)	80	TRIMNELL, Jessica (SY.)	601	****
(84)	81	PINNELL, Emily (ST.)	598*	
(86)	82	MACKEN, Jessica (E.)	587*	
(87)	83	ROBINSON, Emily (Y.)	561*	
(88)	84	STANLEY, Rebecca (DY.)	558*	
(89)	85	YARLEY, Laura (K.)	549*	
(90)	86	MEADS, Tina (OX.)	501*	
(91)	87	HANSELL, Jennifer (BU.)	482*	
(92)	88	HUGHES, Sally (E.)	481	
(93)	89	STEEPLES, Cathy (LI.)	464	****
(94)	90	FULLER, Mary (Y.)	459*	
(95)	91	GROOME, Claire (E.)	457	**
(96)	92	GUBBINS, Laura (OX.)	438*	
(97)	93	TRAVIS, Martha (CO.)	435*	
(98)	94	SMITH, Amanda (MI.)	429*	
(99)	95	CHRISTER, Laurel (OX.)	419*	
(100)	96	CALLCUT, Charlotte (E.)	418*	
(101)	97	BROWN, Nicola (E.)	413*	
(102)	98	HART, Leanne (K.)	407	***
(103)	99	RUSSO, Sarah (K.)	404	
(104)	100	PICH, Lynsey (CH.)	394	

Cadet Boys			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)	4412	
(2)	2 KNIGHT, Darius (ST.)	4159	
(4)	3 EVANS, Gavin (NG.)	3654	
(5)	4 MEADS, David (DU.)	3543	
(5)	5 EVANS, Bradley (BU) (NG.)	3539	
(6)	6 REED, Daniel (CV.)	3320	
(8)	7 NICHOLLS, Damien (SP.)	2631	
(10)	8 LEWIS, Christopher (SY.)	2567	
(9)	9 BARLOW, Ben (YS.)	2547	
(12)	10 REED, Darren (CO.)	2117	
(13)	11 EVANS, Myles (NG.)	1928	
(14)	12 REES, Daniel (E.)	1921*	
(16)	13 ROBINSON, Dorian (SY.)	1893	
(15)	14 SIMPSON, Mark (DU.)	1888	
(17)	15 BARNES, Lee (SK.)	1884*	
(21)	16 CHAN, Wing Yung (SY.)	1802	
(18)	17 DORAN, Christopher (NP.)	1690	
(19)	18 DODDS, Matthew (YS)	1687	
(20)	19 MAYBANKS, William (HE.)	1603	
(22)	20 MUDIE, Stewart (LI.)	1544	
(23)	21 SKIPP, Nicholas (CV.)	1397*	
(24)	22 HURDLEY, Joseph (SP.)	1325*	
(25)	23 BROWN, Edward (E.)	1263*	
(26)	24 HARVEY, Michael (GS.)	1249*	
(27)	25 DURHAM, Jonathan (CV.)	1222*	
(28)	26 JOHNSON, Paul (LI.)	1221	
(29)	27 DEVILLE, Billy (E.)	1203*	
(30)	28 HIRJI, Ailim (MI.)	1199**	
(31)	29 GIGLI, Adam (NK.)	1191*	
(33)	30 SWART, Ben (HE.)	1142**	
(32)	31 PIPER, Damien (YS.)	1121	
(34)	32 SHAW, Ashley (BU.)	1078	
(35)	33 LOVETT, Joshua (E.)	1076*	
(36)	34 IVES, Daniel (K.)	1069*	
(37)	35 CHACHOLIADES, Joseph (MI.)	969	

Cadet Girls			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 SPRINGTHORPE, Lauren (LI.)	3527	
(2)	2 WANG, Sarra (E.)	2578	
(3)	3 FARQUHAR, Melanie (BK.)	2565	
(4)	4 VICKERS, Emma (DY.)	2362	
(6)	5 BYRON, Sophie (CH.)	2017	
(5)	6 DAVIS, Stella (GS.)	2007***	
(7)	7 PARKER, Hayley (CH.)	1962	
(8)	8 HALLIAMS, Caroline (CH.)	1921	
(10)	9 JAMIESON, Rachel (E.)	1750	
(9)	10 O'SULLIVAN, Emily (DY.)	1737	
(11)	11 LAYFIELD, Jordyn (CH.)	1702	
(12)	12 BIELEC, Sylvana (BK.)	1674	
(13)	13 GREENER, Rachel (DU.)	1455	
(14)	14 DUNMALL, Chloe (K.)	1281	
(15)	15 PILGRIM, Rachel (WA.)	1242	

(17)	16	DENNETT, Fiona (CH.)	1198	
(16)	17	FURNIVAL, Stacey (SK.)	1150	
(18)	18	WHITEHORN, Joy (DO.)	1100*	
(19)	19	POTJEWYD, Frances (SO.)	1041*	
(20)	20	CRAWFORD, Helen (CU.)	909*	
(21)	21	TAYLOR, Amy (BU.)	854	
(22)	22	RULE, Katie (BU.)	832*	
(23)	23	WILKINSON, Hayley (LA.)	830*	
(24)	24	ARDESHANA, Reena (LA.)	729	
(25)	25	LOVE, Felicity (E.)	663*	
(26)	26	MCCORMICK, Samantha (DU.)	626*	
(27)	27	MORLE, Annabelle (HA.)	603*	
(28)	28	TRIMNELL, Jessica (SY.)	601	****
(29)	29	PINNELL, Emily (ST.)	598*	
(30)	30	MACKEN, Jessica (E.)	587*	
(31)	31	STANLEY, Rebecca (DY.)	558*	
(32)	32	YARLEY, Laura (K.)	549*	
(33)	33	HUGHES, Sally (E.)	481	
(34)	34	FULLER, Mary (Y.)	459*	
(35)	35	TRAVIS, Martha (CO.)	435*	

Under 13 Boys			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 EVANS, Gavin (NG.)	3654	
(3)	2 EVANS, Myles (NG.)	1928	
(6)	3 CHAN, Wing Yung (SY.)	1802	
(4)	4 DIRAN, Christopher (NP.)	1690	
(5)	5 MAYBANKS, William (HE.)	1603	
(7)	6 MUDIE, Stewart (LI.)	1544*	
(8)	7 DEVILLE, Billy (E.)	1203*	
(9)	8 BARBER, Mitchell (CH.)	963	
(10)	9 WARE, Mathew (HA.)	893*	
(10)	10 MARSHALL, Richard (DV.)	888	
(11)	11 SMITH, Christopher A L (DV.)	835	
(11)	12 KEARNEY, Alex (AV)	768	
(15)	13 MCEATH, David (HA.)	720*	
(20)	14 WRIGHT, Anthony (CV.)	699	
(13)	15 MAYNARD, Tom (BK.)	699	
(18)	16 BLEAKLEY, Joshua (LA.)	670	
(14)	17 TREVORROW, Matthew (CO.)	632*	
(17)	18 TRAVIS, Martha (CO.)	622*	
(16)	19 DARBELL, Kim (YS.)	616	
(21)	20 LINZ, Andrew (SY.)	578	
(26)	21 GALLAGE, Suchira (MI.)	557	
(22)	22 SALISBURY, Ben (WO.)	527	
(30)	23 PITCHFORD, Liam (DY.)	516	
(23)	24 KARMAZIN, Nadav (HE.)	488	
(24)	25 COLLINS, Jake (SK.)	441	

Under 13 Girls			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 VICKERS, Emma (DY.)	2362	
(2)	2 JAMIESON, Rachel (E.)	1750	
(3)	3 RULE, Katie (BU.)	832*	
(4)	4 ARDESHANA, Reena (LA.)	729	
(5)	5 MACKEN, Jessica (E.)	587*	
(6)	6 HUGHES, Sally (SK.)	481	
(7)	7 FULLER, Mary (Y.)	459*	
(8)	8 TRAVIS, Martha (CO.)	435*	
(9)	9 CALLCUT, Charlotte (E.)	418*	
(10)	10 RUSSO, Sarah (SK.)	404	**
(11)	11 SPARREY, Megan (MI.)	369	
(12)	12 BREWIN, Hannah (LI.)	258	
(13)	13 OWEN, Kirsty (Y.)	249*	
(15)	14 POTTS, Haylee (HE.)	249	
(14)	15 FARQUHAR, Rachel (BK.)	247*	
(16)	16 WRIGHT, Melissa (YS.)	238	
(16)	17 AJETO, Amy (NK.)	228	
(17)	18 BAKER, Rachel (LA.)	223*	
(22)	19 JONES, Dominique (LI.)	196	
(19)	20 WALTER, Beth (NP.)	163**	
(21)	21 DAVIDSON, Lucy (DY.)	162*	
(20)	22 ROBINSON, Sarah (DU.)	152*	
(23)	23 MCLEOD, Laura (DV.)	137*	
(24)	24 HOLLAND, Tamsin (MI.)	109***	
(25)	25 AIREY, Charlotte (NG.)	102*	

Veteran Men			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 HILTON, John (CH.)	3863	
(2)	2 WHITING, Paul (DV.)	3680*	
(3)	3 JOHNS, Brian (CH.)	3639	
(4)	4 KENNEDY, Joe (K) (E.)	3612	
(6)	5 ECKERSLEY, Nigel (SK.)	3605	
(5)	6 PAPANTONIOU, Costas (MI.)	3601	
(7)	7 GILES, Paul (CO.)	3593***	
(7)	8 ROGERS, Chris (LE.)	3564	
(9)	9 CARTHRY, Clive (E.)	3477	
(12)	10 SATCHELL, Kevin (VL)	3459**	
(14)	11 GODBOLD, David (DU.)	3422***	
(15)	12 HARVEY, Dave (GS.)	3416	
(16)	13 WILLIAMS, Keith (LA.)	3371	
(18)	14 KERRY, Trevor (NG.)	3310	
(19)	15 HALEY, Terry (SY.)	3301*	
(20)	16 GELDER, Tony (DU.)	3300	
(22)	17 ROOFE, Eddie (WI.)	3287	
(27)	18 WIGNALL, Andy (LI.)	3283	
(21)	19 FORD, Christopher (LA.)	3282*	
(23)	20 BARTRAM, Peter (SK.)	3278*	
(24)	21 CLAYTON, Tony (DO.)	3268*	
(25)	22 SHORT, Mike (DV.)	3263	
(30)	23 ADEMAKINWA, Ayodele (E.)	3258	
(497)	24 TURNER, Steven (LA.)	3242 N	
(31)	25 LUSK, Malcolm (ND.)	3227	

Veteran Women			
Pos	Name	Rating	Flag
(1)	1 HARRIS, Jill (ST.)	3471*	
(2)	2 SHORT, Elaine (DV.)	3413	
(3)	3 DUNNING, Jan (WO.)	3308	
(5)	4 HARPER, Sandra (BO.)	3219*	
(6)	5 HALTBY, Margaret (NP.)	3161	
(9)	6 PEARCE, Diane (K.)	3097	
(10)	7 DURHAM, Jane (CV.)	3075**	
(8)	8 KING, Sheila (LA.)	3074	
(7)	9 BUOYEY, Brenda (LA.)	3062	
(11)	10 SIMPSON, Linda (Y.)	3054	
(12)	11 SHIELDS, Helen (Y.)	3044	
(13)	12 RIDER, Sandra (Y.)	3022	
(14)	13 SCHOFIELD, Doreen (CH.)	3018*	
(15)	14 HARRISON, Jennifer (E.)	3003	

COUNTY NOTES - 8

to play the young Division 4 champions Cramlington Colts at North Shields YMCA. The other semi-final between North Shields YMCA "C" (Division 1) and Whitehouse Lane "B" (Division 2) was to be played at the Sporting Club of Cramlington.

The Summer League was due to commence on May 10th and will continue until mid-August.

SHROPSHIRE

by Terry Ridgway

THE final Saturday of the English County Championships season proved to be the most exciting afternoon that Shropshire Table Tennis has ever seen, with the County second team snatching the division four title in the most dramatic fashion after a stunning fight back and a tenacious team performance by all their players.

With visitors Devon 4ths and the County seconds unbeaten all season the stage was set for a classic match but the Shropshire first team also had a chance to grab the honours if they were able Herefords thirds by a good score and the top two sides managed a draw.

Devon stormed into a 2-0 lead but Albrightons Dave Elkin pulled his side back into the match with an 11-6, 6-11, 11-8-9-11, 11-9 win against the highly experienced visiting Captain Phil Goulding, Elkin and Wendy Baggott were unable to hold onto a 2-0 mixed doubles lead and slipped to a five game defeat that almost saw the match slipping away for the Shropshire side but wins for Captain Terry Ridgway (9-11,11-9,11-5,13-11) and Wendy Baggott (11-5,13-11,11-0) drew the match level. The Elkin/Ridgway combination lost in four to leave the Devon side needing one more win to at least have a share in the title trophy but another display of forehand topspin attack gave Chris Tarr his first win of the afternoon 11-6,13-11,11-4 against Phil Goulding and move the card to 4-4 to set up the battle of the No. 1's with Dean Taylor's left-handed power attacks blasting away at Elkins high topspin loops, in an outstanding battle Elkin won the first 12-10 but Taylor grabbed the next two 11-6,11-9 only for the Shropshire star to level it with an 11-3. All looked bleak for the Shropshire seconds as Taylor led 9-2 in the final game but somehow Elkin found his fighting spirit and snatched an incredible 12-10 victory to set up the final mixed doubles match that would decide the result of this amazing game.

Wins for Rob Mansfield, Mike Dudley, Malcolm Langford and Jane Bevan had given the Shropshire first team a 9-1 victory against Hereford on the next table and left them waiting with the county supporters to see if they had a winners or runner up trophy for this seasons campaign.

But Chris Tarr and Wendy Baggott turned in yet another tight display of blocks and steady hitting to take the result 11-8,11-6,12-10 and capture a county veterans title for the first time in their history.

Local Leagues

Albrightons A side of county No's 1 and 2 Tony Ackeroyd and Dave Elkin and Pete Fowell captured the Telford Davison One Trophy by a nine point margin with Bridgnorths first team of Chris Tarr, Mike Dudley and Terry Ridgway grabbing second place.

Leading Individuals:

1 - Tony Ackeroyd P42-W37

- 2 - Dave Elkin P42-W32
- 3 - Terry Ridgway P42-W29
- 4 - Chris Tarr P42-W28
- 5 - John Holding P42-W27
- 6 - Joe Hurdley P42-W27
- 7 - Rob Davies P42-W26

Telfords Division Two

GPO bounced back to the top division with a near perfect record, only dropping major points in their 5-5 draw with also promoted Bridgnorth C who finished twenty points behind but still way ahead of the chasing pack.

100% individual honours for Pete Collins.

Division Three went to Abbey B with 115 points, Mathesons C grabbing the runner up trophy. Roger Kemp (Mathesons C) taking the individual with a 38-42 record. Steve James (Abbey B) 37-42, Kevin Hitchen (Abbey B) 36-39 and Adrian Speke (Bridgnorth E31-42).

Open Singles

Tony Ackeroyd successfully defended his Shropshire open singles title with a superb display of topspin attack against the left-handed Bridgnorth defender and County No. 6 Terry Ridgway Ackeroyd had cruised through the qualifying rounds in style and did not drop a set until his battle with Oswestry veteran champion, Brian Rainford in the Semi-final when he eventually triumphed by 11-9,10-12,11-9,11-8. Ridgway made the final after several battles including a tight 10-12,11-9,11-13,12-10, 12-10 last sixteen victory against Club mate Mike Dudley and a four set win against CPO's highly rated star Pete Collins in the quarter final-A three game victory against former County Champion John Holding in the Semi Final put the Seventh Seed into a surprise final against the County No. 1. Shrewsbury Jane Bevan took the women's trophy for the first time with a fine display of blocks and powerful hitting against last year's winner Michelle Tarr. Tony Ackeroyd teamed up with Albrightons Peter Fowell to beat Abbey A's Paul Maxfield and Wayne Richards in 5.

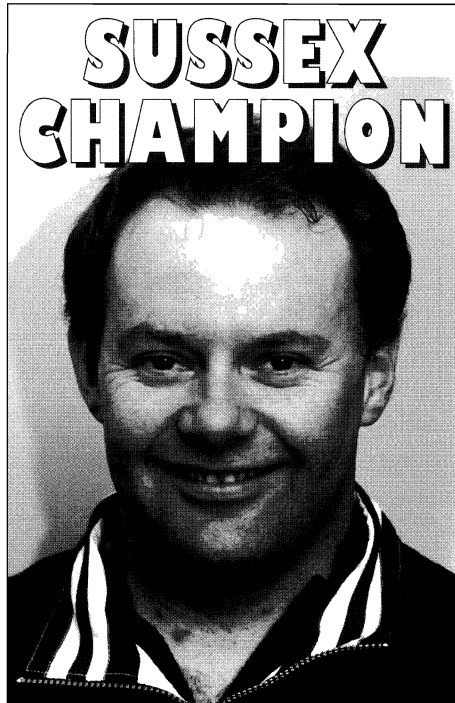
SOUTH YORKSHIRE

by Alan Dunn

IN the National Championships at the EIS Trevor Williams beat Andrew Horsfield to reach the last 32 of the National Championships. Matthew Kenny, after not playing a competitive match for the previous 3 months due to a possible career ending eye injury, reached the last 8. Bill Grant & Stephen Young reached the final of the vets doubles.

Daren Lindley proved to be the class act in the Barnsley Closed tournament. The finals night was held at Barnsley Police and the action started with a repeat of last years Mens final. Defending champions Gary Woodward and Glen Carson (BNE) claimed the first game through Woodward's strong forehand attack whilst challengers Jason Dickinson (YMCA) and Darren Lindley (Woolley) turned the tables taking the second and third games with a fine array of shots from Lindley. An even fourth game finished 12 - 10 in favour of Woodward & Carson who then raced ahead to run out worthy winners 11 - 3 in the final set.

Woodward and Lindley remained at the table to feature in the novelty Handicapped competition where Woodward's greater experience in the traditional game edged the match 11 - 9; 11 - 7. With both players playing off scratch, Ray Hurst



RITCHIE VENNER won the Sussex mens singles title for a record 12th time

(YMCA) and Glen Carson contested the V. Hurst was able to take an early lead in each game through his strong backhand attack and his consistent form coupled with a series of favourable nets and edges saw him through with a points tally of 33 - 22.

A 6 points per game advantage for Peter Morgan Jr (BNE) was insufficient to overcome the in - form Darren Lindley in the Handicap. Both players played an open game with splendid attacking shots from both sides of the table, however Lindley's greater experience overcame the handicapping to claim the title at 33 - 29. In the Graded Singles, Robert Swift (Higham) reflected his league season's vastly improved performance with some brilliant forehand smashes and spin serves against the dogged defence of Garry Armitage (West Melton). Swift's strong attack saw him claim the title in straight games.

In a flowing and open match Lorraine Swift (Higham) and Glen Carson (BNE) claimed the first two games of the M from YMCA Team mates Debbie Williams and Ray Hurst. The YMCA pair gained in confidence to take the 3rd and 4th games to set up a barnstorming final game which see-sawed to deuce before Williams & Hurst edged the final 2 points to take the match 12 - 10 in the decider.

Following the interval, Ray Hurst claimed his third title of the night with a straight games win over team mate Phil Keane in the Consolation.

Resolute defending saw Garry Woodward take the first game 15 - 13 from club mate Glen Carson in the Veterans. In some spectacular rallies from both players, Carson stepped up his attacking game to take the following three games and retain the title from 2003.

Liam Carson (YMCA) and Peter Morgan Jr (BNE) battled through a highly entertaining J. With both players displaying superb table tennis skills, honours were even after four games. Carson drew on his reserves to clinch the final game 7 and take the title for the third consecutive year.

In a repeat of last year, the Ladies was played by Debbie Williams (YMCA) and Lorraine Swift (Higham). Challenger Swift started strongly to take the first game with Williams controlling the second game with clever blocking play. Swift however persevered with her forehand attacking game to claim the title from her rival 11-4, 8-11, 11-1, 11-7.

Darren Lindley defended his title against Glen Carson in the showcase Mens. Lindley opened his account with explosive backhand and forehand shots to take the first two games. Carson rallied to take the third game but, despite some cultured play, could not contain the irrepressible Lindley who powered his way to his second successive title 11-8, 11-4, 5-11, 11-9, 11-6.

In the National Junior League the final 2 weekends competition ended in a farcical fashion with two of the three Hull teams absent on the third week & none of the three Hull teams materialising for the event on the final day. I have been assured that youngsters were available and eager to play but were prevented from playing for political reasons. I hope the administrators of this event hold some sort of enquiry into what happened. The upshot of this much devalued competition was a victory for the Castle 'A' team, with Stavely pushed into runner up position and Scorpions 3rd equal on points. On a brighter note congratulations yet again go to Ben Barlow of Rotherham for his new title of Stiga Grand Prix Champion for 2004, spend your £520 prize money wisely Ben, mine's a pint of Magnat.

Thanks to Brian Heathcote for the Barnsley Closed Report.

Please send any future info on T.T news in S.Yorks to aldunntt@hotmail.com

SUSSEX

by John Woodford

RITCHIE VENNER smashed all previous records by a mile when he clinched the prestigious SeaMAN Invitation Cup at Fontwell, for the twelfth time.

More records were broken when Rose Rainton won the Nicholls cup for the eighth time, even more proof that she should be ranked No.1 in Sussex and not No.2!

The two senior events contained no major shocks in that the top seeds reached the finals and the No.1 players triumphed - Venner and Rainton. However, the Seaman final was a nail-biter as Sussex champion Adrian Moore battled for the double - he was only defeated at 7 in the sixth game by Venner who is not sweeping his victims aside as in years gone by - getting through but often after long battles. Rose Rainton was also taken to five games by Sally Weston in the Nicholls Cup final, winning the decider 3.

The womens semi-finalists were Teresa Bennett and Sara Coggon. In the mens semis Venner stopped the ever improving Gary Wilson whilst Adrian Moore squeezed 4-3 past top-spinner Peter Bartram.

The four junior cup events were hit by four people away on holiday and Stacey Furnival playing away at the Junior Masters - the first Sussex player to reach that stage.

However, Sally Hughes (Worthing) was the brightest performer winning both the junior and

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cadet cups. In the cadet girls, Chelsea Furnival was the youngest ever to reach that final, she is still under 10.

Predictably Michael Simpson was the junior boys winner and Andrew Waddingham clinched the cadets singles title.

• THE Horsham club are shocked to find that their top team is back in Division 1 of the British League, after being "promoted" to the expanded 16 team format.

Apparently, a two-thirds majority was required - Keith Ponting in the chair was correct - but the motion failed when seven people voted against and thirteen for.

Better luck next year. The clubs who are not represented at this annual meeting have a lot to answer for - if one extra person had been present and in favour of the expansion, it would have got through.

WARWICKSHIRE

by Caroline Williams

THE 2003/04 Leamington Spa season is completed and the best individual averages identified. Jon Williams from winning team Whitnash takes the top spot in the whole league with a staggering 51 wins out of 52 in division 1, a fantastic 98%. He also won it in 2002 and shared it with team-mate Mark Woolerton in 2003. This year Mark Woolerton could only achieve a tremendous 94% whilst Andy Cockerill (Wellesbourne) came third with 90%. RNA A team walked away with Division 2 and two of their team reached the top of the individual averages. First came Tony Thomas with 83%, (52/63), just squeezing in front of team-mate Ken Southwell who won 81% (51/63). Derek Harwood, County Council B, and Tom Brocklehurst, Free Church C, were not far behind, both winning 80%.

In Division 3 Tony Ford (County Council C) has been a frequent winner (though not last year) but his 96% with 44 wins out of 46 puts him in front. RNA D took the division unbeaten but their top two players could not match Tony's results. For RNA D Steve Kurle had 93% (43/46) whilst Robin Fox-Strangway had 86% (42/49).

Steve Shaw from Division A's winners Riverhouse Henley B takes top placing, his 85% being earned from 22/26 games. Paul Nason from second placed Free Church E had 80% (24/30) whilst Adam Cooper (Free Church G) was third with 69% (24/35). In Division B Dave Hawker (Eathorpe E) played every match (30) and won 25 of them for an excellent 83%. Sam Smith from winning team Free Church J only reached 23 from 30 (79%) whilst Sophie Cooper, whose team Eathorpe D took second place, came third with 71% (17/24). LCP had two teams at the top of Division C but it was the runners-up the Packers whose best player eclipsed everybody. Stephen Deeley won 29 out of 30 games (97%) and looks pretty set to do well after promotion next season. Simon Dainty was next with 91% (31/34), then Simon Walmsley with 83% (30/36). Both these players are from the Dreamers, who took the winning place in the division.

YORKSHIRE

by Barry Snowden
WHITE ROSE AFFAIRS

The veterans scene in Yorkshire goes from

strength to strength throughout the country and is reflected in this seasons Yorkshire League competition as 28 teams played in 3 divisions with only three teams completing the mens division when Castleford and Pontefract failed to complete the three match season.

The nine team first division of the vets event was played over three Sundays at Hull, Dewsbury and culminating in an exciting finale at Halifax and saw Bradford No 1 take the title by two points from Northallerton who themselves were a further two points ahead of the Hull first team.

The Bradford squad of Richard Priestley, Steve Kosmowski, Neil Harris and Tony Bottomley had just too much strength in depth for the other towns over the whole season although Bradford did not go the whole season unbeaten as they lost a thrilling encounter to Huddersfield who included county first teamer Tim Dyson in their ranks.

Dyson scored a maximum against Bradford and was well supported by team mates Geoff Brook and Russell Senior who each chipped in with one win each and although Northallerton also only lost one match when they were thumped by Bradford 9-1, two drawn matches against Leeds No 1 and Doncaster No 1 spoiled their chances.

Depending on entries for next season it looks like York No 1 and Bradford No.2 will be playing in division two next season and could be replaced by Dewsbury and Halifax No.1 who finished in the top two places in the second division, well clear of third place York No.2.

Dewsbury were lead by Stewart Milnes who only dropped one set throughout the season and the recent return to the game of Milnes is not only a bonus for Dewsbury but Yorkshire too as he represented the county as well at veterans level.

A ten team third division saw Keighley No 2 win all their matches to win the division by three clear points from Hull seconds with Neil Foley, Peter Holbrook and Rod Robertson providing a solid season for Keighley and whilst it was Hull who had the divisions outstanding player in Trevor Pitts it was the all round team effort from Keighley that was vital.

2nd Halifax Summer Veterans Open
The Halifax Table Tennis Centre will once more host a summer veterans two day tournament that will be held at the centre over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th August 2004.

On the back of last seasons event when the main mens event was won by Keith Williams of Lancashire it is anticipated that this years event will be equally as exciting and a large entry is expected.

As before the singles events will be played in groups on Saturday with finishing places in groups determining which class of knockout event the player qualifies for. The knockout stages and doubles will be staged on Sunday.

There will be four events, a mens and womens singles and doubles and cash prizes are awarded for winners and runners up in all events.

Entry forms are available from the ETTA website or please contact organiser Barry Snowden 0113 2040859 or 0774 5018836 or Barry.Snowden@fsmail.net for more details.



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Junior/Cadet National League 2002-2004



Ball Supplier
County Championships 2002-2005

JULY
16th-25th European Youth Championships
17th Whitchurch Cadet 2 Star
18th Whitchurch Junior 2 Star
31st National Council

AUGUST
7th Sportbreak Summer Cadet
2 Star Open
8th Sportbreak Summer Junior
2 Star Open

13th-29th Olympic Games Athens
14th-15th Regional Training - Junior & Cadet
21st-22nd Junior British League
Qualifying Competition

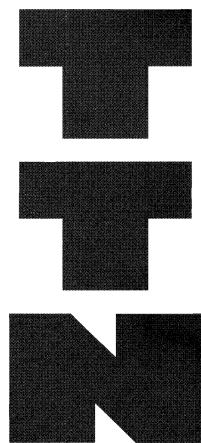
21st-22nd Woodfield 2 Star Banded
Satellite Grand Prix
28th-29th City of Liverpool Open Liverpool
Butterfly Grand Prix

SEPTEMBER
4th-5th British League Weekend (I)
4th-5th VETTS North Eastern Masters Sunderland
10th-12th Veterans Six Nations Widnes
11th-12th Regional Training - Junior & Cadet

11th-12th ETTA Conference
17th-19th Six Nations International
Championships

18th-19th British League (I) Premier Division
18th-28th Paralympic Games Athens
19th Cadet & Junior Preliminary Trials
19th Knutsford Veteran 2 Star
25th Chesham Cadet & Junior
2 Star Graded

25th-26th Womens British League (I)
26th Hyndburn 2 Star Senior Banded



2004/2005 SEASON COPY DATES

ISSUE

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DECEMBER 2004
JAN./FEB.2005
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COPY DATES

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1st APRIL 2005
15th MAY 2005

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