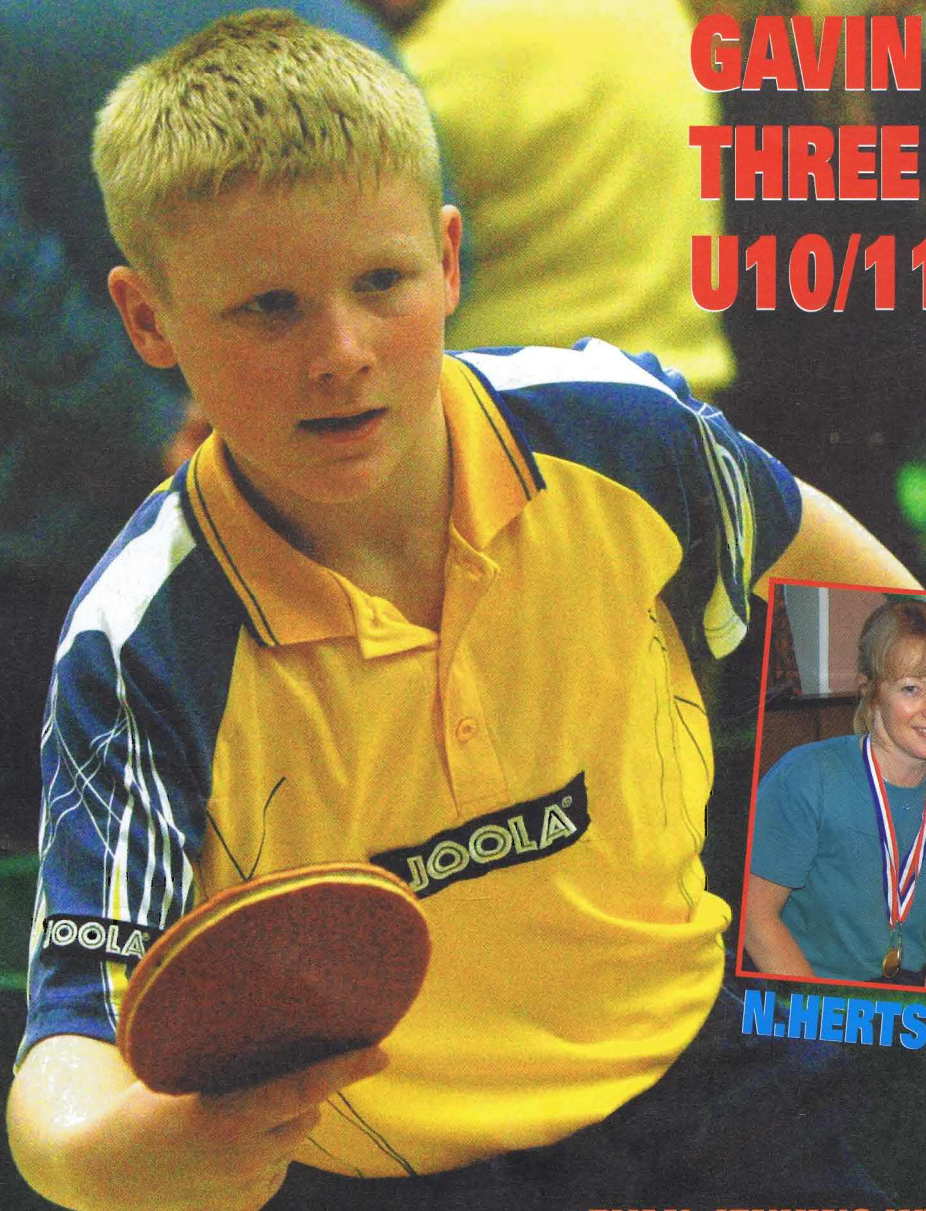


# Table Tennis NEWS



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# TABLE TENNIS NEWS

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TTN • JUNE/JULY 2005

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**GAVIN EVANS WINS THREE TITLES AT KINGS LYNN**  
Picture by John Wood

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

# SEE PAGES 14 & 15 FOR GRASS ROOTS

# DREAM IS ALMOST A REALITY



**MEMBERS** from the Draycott & Long Eaton Table Tennis Club near Derby were at the National Team Finals held at Moorways Sports Centre in Derby to display proposals for the refurbishment of the Draycott Table Tennis Centre.

The Club's Facilities Officer Phil Vickers is pictured holding his own artist impression of the new centre, with Club Chairman Brian Savage and East Midlands Regional Development Officer Carolynn Ryan. The Club is close to securing grant aid to refurbish the existing amenities, plus facilities for the disabled and building a second 18 x 12m hall giving the club six 10m x 5m match courts or space for up to 10 tables for training purposes.

What started out as a dream six years ago will soon become a reality and more details will follow in a later edition of the Table Tennis News.

## WOODY'S World

LIVING up to his immense promise Gavin Evans won the Under 12 and 13 Boys Singles titles, at the ETTA Nationals in Kings Lynn in early June. See Richard Pettit's report on page 20.

What an fantastic Butterfly Grand Prix series we have had this past season, with Ryan Jenkins and William Henzell in the Mens Singles going neck and neck right to the wire at Stoke, where with Henzell losing in the semis to Andrew Baggaley, it meant that Jenkins had to beat Baggaley in the final, and he did to win the overall prize, by the narrowest of margins. See pages 18 and 19 for details.

Read Martin Rogers' revealing TTN exclusive on William Henzell's first season playing in England, playing the Grand Prix circuit. See page 22.

Don't relax just yet for your Summer break because there is the exciting BBC Masters at Croydon still to come, see page 16.

Have a great summer!

*John Wood*



## Young players pass ETTA Junior Umpire Award

ELEVEN junior players passed the ETTA Junior Umpire Level 1 award at the English Schools Table Tennis Association Individual Championships, held at Fenton Manor, Stoke-on-Trent on in April.

Each candidate had to get 16 out of 22 questions correct on a multiple choice question paper, and was then assessed for their practical umpiring skills by qualified ETTA Umpires.

Items checked when umpiring included: allowing 2 minutes practice time prior to commencement of the game, correct use of the score board, calling the score out clearly and use of arms on change of service.

All the candidates will shortly be



**Young players receiving their Junior Umpire Award certificates: Lizzie Gorton, Jennifer Sadie, Thomas O'Neil, Jamie Makepeace, Sophie Newbury, Emma Shand, Leanne Sully. Other recipients: Milan Dragojlovic, James Ward, Amy Ajeto, Molly Ajeto.**

offered the opportunity to take the next step on the umpiring ladder, the ETTA Local Umpire test paper

If your club or league would like to encourage your junior players to take

the Junior Umpire Award, and you would like further information contact Martin Ireland, ETTA National Volunteer Manager on 07971 186 405.

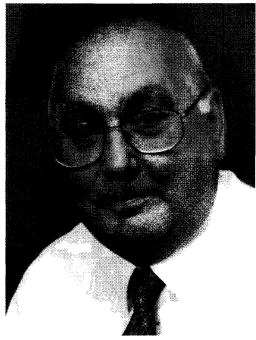
## 'Fast Track' for David Wetherill

**PLYMOUTH's disabled table tennis ace is placed on a 'Fast Track World Performance Programme.'**

15 year old David Wetherill (pictured above) recently attended a Great Britain Training Camp in Sheffield with nine other disabled table tennis players.

Steve Ward the GB Performance Director assisted by Andrew Horsfield, are both impressed with David's dramatic improvement over the past twelve months.

They have high hopes for his future in international tournaments and more training weekends are planned prior to tournaments in Oslo, Norway and the European Championships in Italy in September this year.



# “THANKYOU ALL FOR YOUR THOUGHTS, IDEAS & SUPPORT”

**BY the time you read this the summer will be with us, some of you will still be playing and practicing at clubs and in Summer Leagues, others will be taking a break and reflecting on the season just gone via other pursuits or getting the garden in shape for a barbecue.**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) takes place at the beginning of July and I hope that the new voting system and the principle of Individual Registrations proposed by National Council and Management will be passed, both of which are of a major benefit to table tennis and its grass roots.

The AGM will see the completion of my first term in office as your Chairman. I wish to thank you all for your thoughts, ideas and support during these past two years. The Management team has started the process of change and I hope you have noticed a difference. We shall continue to work with the table tennis fraternity as we have a way to go yet to get our sport back to the participation and performance levels it quite rightly deserves and needs.

All changes, innovations and new ideas, inevitably result in some backlash and resistance. However, it is all our responsibilities to work together and ensure that any changes are going to benefit our sport and be right for today and in the future. We have to consider our past with great enthusiasm but cannot rest on the achievements made. We must move forward and may where necessary have to sacrifice some of the strategies and procedures, which were right then, but not necessarily right now in the 21st Century.

We need as an organisation to realign and improve a number of identifiable areas in support of our goals and I consider the following to be the most important: -

Communications via email and an improved and easily used website are key to supporting our existing members and getting new ones.

Database of our membership is not only important from a financial perspective inasmuch that it will provide information to determine one of the requisites of our major benefactor, Sport England, but also key to adding to and supporting all our members including the established grass roots of our sport.

ETTA Staff - we have the highest level of staff covering all aspects of support and development of table tennis. It is the responsibility of Management and National Council to ensure that they are given the right tools and strategies to meet the needs of our existing and future members.

The Administration of our sport needs modernising; we have

too many rules and procedures, which impact the running and decision making process of our sport. We rely too much on the use of paper and should be more electronic in the way we operate and communicate.

Our financial structure is too dependent upon grants and funding. We have to generate more of our income in other ways.

It will not be easy for us together to take the actions over the coming years to meet these and other goals and they will take time. I am convinced that we have the will and determination to make the changes and moves necessary. We have a fantastic group of dedicated volunteers who working with the Staff can make us again the No.1 racquet sport in England.

Let us all reflect on what we can all do to help and support our great sport, as always I am available to listen and meet with you to discuss any aspects of table tennis.

*Alex Murdoch*  
*ETTA Chairman*

See the legendary  
**JAN OVE WALDNER**  
at The BBC Masters at  
The Fairfield Hall,  
Croydon, on Saturday  
23rd July 2005

**MASTERS TICKET HOTLINE**  
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# VETERANS' DIARY



by Jim Beckley

## WELL DONE

CONGRATULATIONS to Thompson Insurance and Batts PPP on winning the Veterans British League for the first time. The Batts ladies did particularly well by clinching the title without dropping a match.

What a difference a season makes. This time last year it was Tameside who were celebrating after winning the men's title. Now they are contemplating life in division one after a miserable two weekends that saw them finish bottom of the premier.

Thompson's success was largely due to a creditable 80% record from Joe Kennedy with David Godbold not far behind on 75%.

Batts left it right to the end before being able to pop the champagne. They finished one point ahead of the holders following a tense match against Colebridge that ended in a draw.

But that was all they needed to grab the title that had eluded them for so long. Sandra Harper and Helen Shields led the averages for Batts but it was Worcester's Jill Harris who topped the premier division averages losing only three matches during the entire two weekends.

Picture below shows: Thompson Insurance's Geoff Salter holding aloft the mens premier division cup with Marjorie Dawson showing off the



ladies trophy along with the Batts team.

## TALES OF THORNBURY

LILY LIKES TT BALLS  
GOOD to see John Wood mixing it

with the people he writes about. The editor of TTN entered the over 60s event and seemed to enjoy himself, albeit I'm reliably told he didn't win any glassware.

Also there was partner Lesley who seemed to have her hands full with their three and half year old Jack Russell Lily who I'm told has a liking for table tennis balls.

"She loves them," says John. "But it is an expensive business. With balls costing at least 75p each I feel I've already lost a small fortune."

### NAME CHANGE?

I'M told that Jim Felstead is finding it a bit confusing being called David. A certain person constantly called

him David at the Thornbury dinner for no other reason than she thought he was a David. With a few drinks behind him, Jim took it all in good spirit but he wants to make it clear that he knows no-one called David and anyway prefers Jim.

### CUT TOE

ALL action man John Williamson, made the long journey from Sunderland where he had been celebrating Sunderland's return to the Premiership, only to have to make a unexpected early return home.

Already suffering from a cold, he smacked his toe on a table leg at the evening dinner and with blood gushing everywhere, decided there and then to pull out of the tournament and make an early exit home.

"I couldn't stop the bleeding for ages" cried John. "Clearly it was going to hamper my style so I thought I'd give someone else a chance to win some glassware for a change."

Another competitor one degree under was Vets secretary Eileen Shaler who although battered and bruised from knocks taken after bathing her dogs at home and also suffering from a cold, nevertheless stayed the course.

### CLUSTER OF FEMALES

WHAT has Joe Kennedy got that the rest of us clearly haven't? On his way down to the dinner the Essex lad was seen surrounded by a cluster of females all seemingly wanting to get their hands on him.

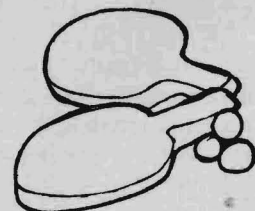
On closer examination it was found that Joe was having trouble putting on his bow tie. And that was all that was needed for every female within sight to give our intrepid hero a helping hand.

"It's very rare that I use these things but we managed it eventually and I was very grateful."

Within seconds of Joe getting sorted, Clive Carthy came along with a similar problem only to be mobbed by the same bow tie experts.



VETERANS  
BRITISH  
LEAGUE



A LOOK AT NEXT SEASON

# CASH BONANZA



RACHEL PENGELLY-BOURKE

**NEXT season will start with a bonanza of cash prizes in the Butterfly Grand Prix series, writes John Wood.**

The 2005/2006 season this year actually begins in July, with a new satellite tournament on the weekend of the 16th/17th at Okehampton in Devon. Then comes the City of Liverpool Open on 20th/21st August.

The cash bonanza starts at The Clare Pengelly Memorial 3 Star Open Satellite in Paignton Devon, where they have raised the prize monies to £500 for the Mens Singles winner and £300 to the Womens Singles winner

Tournament Organiser Rachel Pengelly-Bourke said, "We are a very unique tournament. In fact we have raised our prize money for the mens and womens singles events, but we are also unique in the Banded and Veteran events with the prizes being a Weekend Break for Two in 2, 3 star hotels or superb holiday villages located in popular holiday resorts, which are worth a minimum of £150. We have had a fantastic feedback from previous prize winners who felt that the Weekend Breaks were of a wonderful value, and made a change from receiving trophies. Last year we raised £1150 in aid of the 'Children's Hospice South West'. The grand total so far is £11,085. Which is a fitting tribute to Clare's memory."

The ETTA have created two new Super Grand Prix with big prize monies of £700 for the mens singles winners and £300 for the womens singles winners. One at Bath in Somerset on the 26th/27th November and the other at Crystal Palace in London on the 28th/29th January 2006.

Normally the prize monies for a Grand Prix is £300 for the mens singles winners and £175 for the womens singles winners.

Wales plays host to a new Satellite Grand Prix this coming season with a tournament being held in Cardiff on the weekend of 22nd/23rd October.

This will make a change for Grand Prix Mens Singles Champion of 2004/5, Ryan Jenkins, not so many miles to drive.

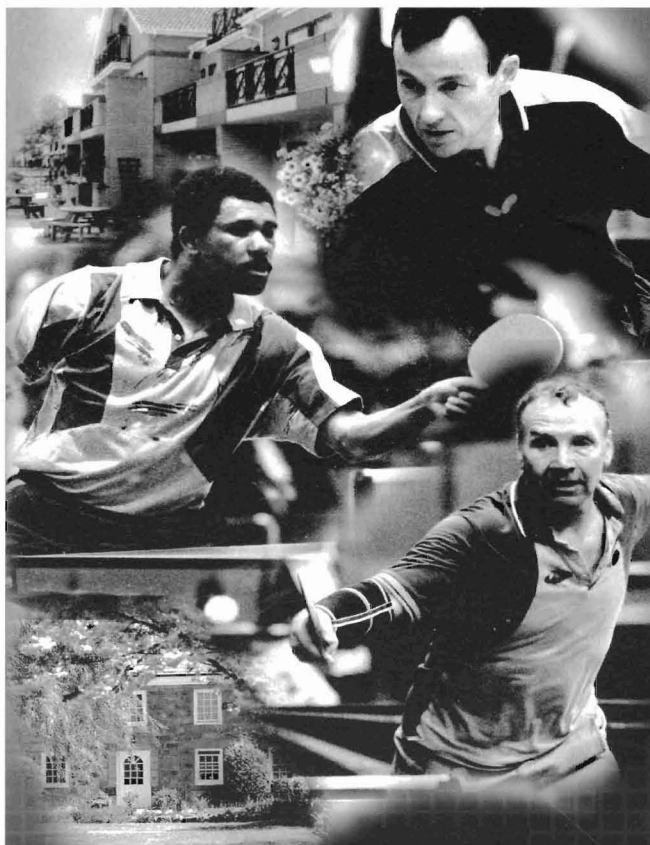
Another new Grand Prix is planned for the new year in Ulster, but at the time of going to press we do not have confirmation of the date.

Sussex have returned to the Grand Prix Circuit with the Mid-Sussex Open to be held at the Triangle Sports Centre, Burgess Hill, on the 11th/12th February 2006.

TTN • JUNE/JULY 2005

## DANIEL REED RECEIVES THE MIKE WATTS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR THE MOST IMPROVED MALE PLAYER

DANIEL REED is pictured right receiving his award from ETTA Chairman ALEX MURDOCH



SPORTBREAK 2005  
MASTER CLASSES

**COURSE FOUR (at Guernsey TT Centre)**  
**GUERNSEY MASTER CLASS WITH ALAN COOKE**  
Monday 17th October until Thursday 20th October

**COURSE FIVE (at Guernsey TT Centre)**  
**GUERNSEY JUNIOR MASTER CLASS WITH JOHN HILTON**  
Tuesday 25th October until Friday 28th October

**COURSE SIX (at Potters Leisure Resort)**  
**A WEEKEND WITH DES DOUGLAS**  
Friday 25th November until Monday 28th November

Between courses Four and Five, the Guernsey Open Championship will be held giving course participants competitive opportunities.

Contact SportBreak,  
4 The Pavilions, Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 8LB Tel: 01606 45766

## DISAPPOINTED

I WAS disappointed to read Alex Murdoch's comments concerning John Preat's contributions to Table Tennis News.

John made his reservations about Individual Registration clear at National Council in that he emphasised his doubts as to how it was going to be administered, both by the ETTA and at local level. Few people disagree about the principle but many have doubts about future costs involved. To go to the AGM and ask for a mandate on the "principle" issue without including a statement as to costings is devious and misleading. The electorate will not be influenced unless the whole subject is open and above board. One gets the feeling that if the "principle" is approved, then the next step will be to introduce a charge on the membership, with the statement that it had already been incorporated within the "principle".

Individual Registration is just for starters. Affiliation for individuals is the next step and quite how Alex intends to keep to his manifesto promise of "at no cost to the membership," is one I await with keen anticipation.

The new policy of restricting correspondents to 250 words is another example of the "dumbing down" of our magazine. How can we have an informed debate when correspondents are so limited in that arguments cannot be developed.

**Brian Halliday**

*Reading, Berkshire*

**ETTA Chairman Alex Murdoch's response:**

The proposal regarding the principal of Individual Registrations was approved overwhelmingly by National Council of which both John and Brian are members.

The debate at National Council and the various correspondence and articles which the ETTA have issued make it quite clear that this is Registrations for the data base and does not impact any discussions or debate on future Membership packages. It does, however, impact on our relationship with Sport England without which a system being installed could well have an impact on the very substantial financial support they provide and without which our ability to support the membership would be severely affected.

This does not make the procedures "devious and misleading" and has and will be "open and above board". Last year over 7000 questionnaires with a supplementary write up were circulated to the membership, possibly the largest circulation ever to the table tennis fraternity. Furthermore, additional correspondence on this subject has been included on the website and in distribution to the leagues and counties.

Possible future changes in the way our members affiliate and the costs of affiliation is not a decision made by the ETTA management. Once any recommendations have been approved by National Council, they are then presented to the membership at an AGM via the approved democratic voting procedures relating to the Rules of the ETTA.

**TTN Editor's note:** Brian, with regard to the last paragraph of your above letter, you have answered the question about the restriction of 250 words yourself. You have successfully raised several issues quite succinctly within the suggested limits.

## POSTBAG

*TTN and the ETTA, whilst recognising the right of free speech, reserve the right not to publish letters that may prove to be libellous. Also if letters are more than 250 words they will be edited*

## MENU WITHOUT PRICES

CHAIRMAN Alex Murdoch's letter (April) overlooks his election promise that "Individual Registration" (of all members) would be achieved "at no increased cost to members" and "without additional work for them"

Although surprisingly accused of "misinformation" I obtained my figures from ETTA Document NCMM37 544/7/ANM signed "Regards Alex" and "I trust I may have your support"

Stunning increases are on view, additional to what members pay clubs, leagues and counties.

One notes that senior "licence-players" would pay £45. The overall burden would rise from the 2003/4 figure of £151,489 to a projected £342,884.

Confined to 250 words, I cannot quote further items from a 4 page document, much as I would like to.

We are asked to swallow the distasteful medicine in two doses, the first as an uncoded "principle", the second as an unknown cost, a menu without prices.

Suspicions are easily dispersed. Why are we not reassured that all this will indeed cost nothing, that election promises will be kept?

Why are paper bullets fired at those who very properly ask questions on behalf of those who elected them?

Members everywhere tell me that they will greatly resent being asked to pay more for services which, rightly or wrongly, they think rather poor. They cite the low profile of the sport, the lack of a national team that commands respect and the continuing departure of so many from the game, not a vote of confidence in today's ETTA, still less a time to make the survivors pay more.

**John Preat, Isle of Wight**

**ETTA Chairman Alex Murdoch's response:**

Who decides the policies and direction of the ETTA? Answer - National Council of which John is a prominent member, not the Chairman - past or present.

Document NCMM37 544/7/ANM to which he refers, that was requested by National Council, details the results obtained from the returns of 7,000 questionnaires delivered to members.

John has been involved with the decision making of the ETTA for more than two decades, much of which has been at the highest level. He should be aware as much as anyone that the principle of Individual Registration is being dealt with in an honest and democratic manner that has continuously been open and above board.

We are required to fulfil the criteria demanded by our major benefactors, Sport England that includes Individual Registration. Without their financial support we would not be able to provide the benefits and facilities that many of our members receive at this time.

Approval for Affiliation and Membership fees is not at this time being sought. As and when the

Committee considering the various options is in a position to do so, it will bring the matter to National Council and the Members in the democratic process that ensures that ultimately it is the Members who will decide if it is to come into effect.

Of course the sceptics of this world will always look at the negative aspects of any proposals to improve our position, but sadly that is life.

## ENDANGERED SPECIES

HAVING just read Derek Sherratt's excellent humorous article on umpires - The Endangered Species, this matter is of serious concern and has to be addressed without further delay.

Other sports face similar problems - here in Eastbourne at the LTA county championships, I was shocked to find players umpiring themselves up to the final stages - agreeing amongst themselves on dodgy line calls.

In Sweden for their major events like the Swedish Open there are plenty of younger umpires - they get expenses and a small sum for working the tables.

Finally, this is the main problem - two or three years ago, umpires were happy to travel to events not too far away from home, not having to stay overnight. Now, we find that an increasing number of events, especially British League are run over the weekend, requiring players and umpires to stay overnight.

It is a nightmare for the largest junior events when thirty or more qualified umpires are essential.

Unless we find the answer soon, we shall find juniors having to umpire as they do for most tournaments on the Grand Prix circuit - at a number of other events.

**John Woodford, Eastbourne, Sussex**

## SCRIBE NEEDED

I REALISE that it is not your fault, but for a 'Grass Roots' player and coach, a lot of TTN is of a national or international nature and in a forgotten area like Suffolk, there must be many like me who regularly turn to the County reports to find absolutely nothing!

In Suffolk, we have lost leagues such as Haverill, Sudbury and Stowmarket, and tournaments have been cancelled through lack of entries. We are a TT backwater, and NEED to feel that we are part of the game.

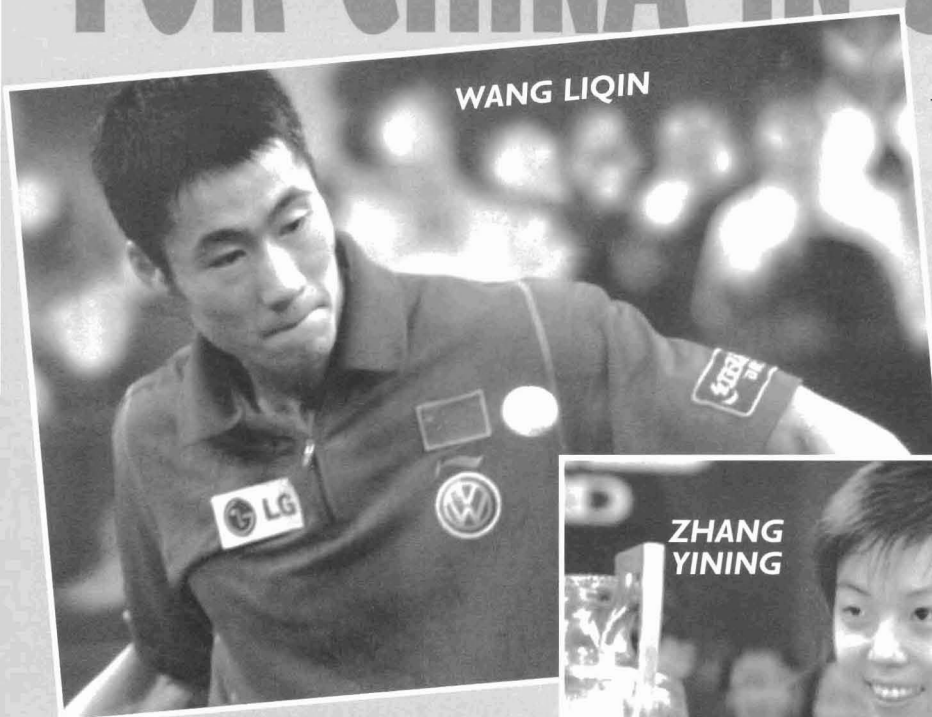
I am not volunteering to be the County scribe, but what can be done to prove that we exist?

Could the ETTA consider a regular spot for a "Regional" focus, which would at least establish some identity, and hopefully put a few names into print, which always promotes good feelings.

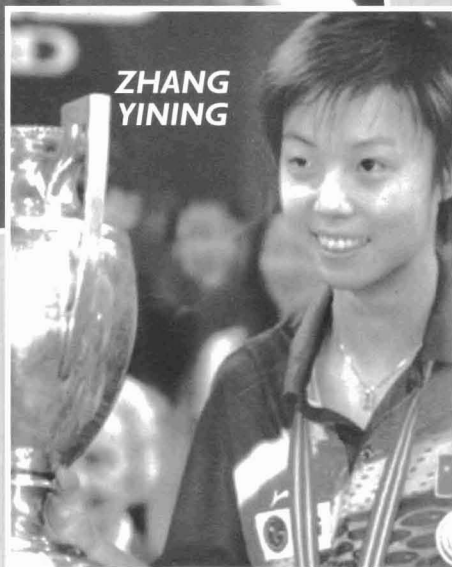
**Colin R. Westmej, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk**

**TTN Editor's note:** Unfortunately there are 12 other County's in the same boat as Suffolk, all without a Press Officer. The last PRO for Suffolk was Andrew Doshier, who did a good job, but that was a couple of years ago. Obviously Suffolk need a new PRO, so please find yourselves a scribe for either 'County Notes' or 'Grass Roots' and we will do our best to support you Colin. We at TTN don't consider Suffolk to be a 'backwater of TT', it is our aim to assist all English county's with their publicity, so last season we introduced 'Grass Roots' as a regular column. 'Grass Roots' is available for anyone to submit copy for consideration, not just the official Press Officer.

# FIVE GOLDEN MOMENTS FOR CHINA IN SHANGHAI



WANG LIQIN



ZHANG YINING

**WANG LIQIN, playing in the city of his birth, won the Men's Singles title whilst Zhang Yining clearly underlined the fact that she is the best female player in the world at the present time by clinching the Women's Singles and partnering Wang Nan to success in the Women's Doubles.**

Meanwhile, Wang Liqin also added a further title to his collection by winning the Mixed Doubles with Guo Yue and in so doing he has now won every event for which he is eligible in a World Championships.

**Words by  
ITTF PRESS OFFICE  
MARTIN CLARK  
BARRY GRANGER  
& ALASTAIR McTAVISH**

The one title to elude Wang Liqin at the Volkswagen 48th World Championships was the Men's Doubles, that went the way of Kong Linghui and Wang Hao, who beat the German duo of Timo Boll and Christian Suss in the final; the only event where all the players contesting gold and silver were not from China.

The legendary Danish novelist Hans Christian

**Pictured right are Europe's only finalists, Germany's TIMO BOLL (left) & CHRISTIAN SUSS**



Andersen could not have written a more exciting story than that which unfolded in the third Men's Singles quarter-final match.

Michael Maze, Denmark's leading player, trailed Hao Shuai of China by three games to nil and in the fourth was three match points down. Incredibly with desperate topspin defensive play from the back of the court he broke the Chinese player's heart, saving all three match points, the last on his knees.

Incredibly Maze won the fourth game and growing in confidence won the next three to book his place in the semi-finals, it was an amazing performance

Unfortunately Maze who had performed so heroically in the quarters could not raise his game and repeat the feat at the semi-final stage against the China's Ma Lin.

Ma Lin, the number two seed won in four straight games to progress to the final, with Wang Liqin, the penultimate round victor over Korea's Oh Sang Eun.

Top seed Wang Liqin won the Men's Singles final beating his Chinese national team compatriot, Ma Lin, his powerful forehand gradually proving a key factor as the match progressed, seeing take Gold 11-7 in the sixth.

In the Womens Singles final top seed and reigning Olympic Champion Zhang Yining won the title against fellow country woman Guo Yan winning the Gold Medal 11-5 in the fifth.

Both womens semis were decided in five games and on both occasions the victors emerged from an opening game deficit, with Zhang Yining beating Hong Kong's Lin Ling and Guo Yan defeating her compatriot Guo Yue.

Pictures by kind permission of the Table Tennis Illustrated & Remy Gros





**DORTE KRONSELL**  
(left) presents the  
**ITTF Womens Trophy**  
to **VAL MURDOCH**  
in Shanghai



**JUDY ROGERS**

## ENGLAND HONOURED IN SHANGHAI

AT the third International ITTF Women's Forum held at the Hua Ting Hotel in Shanghai during the 48th World Table Tennis Championships, England was presented with the ITTF Women's Award, writes Martin Clark.

Val Murdoch, the ETTA Chairman's wife, accepted the award on behalf of England from Dorte Kronsell Chairwoman of the ITTF Women's Working Group.

The award was made for the work that England has done in promoting the involvement of women and girls in table tennis over recent years. Papers prepared by Judy Rogers, ETTA National Equity and Child Protection Officer were circulated to all delegates and Val acknowledged to the forum that the award was as a result of Judy's significant contribution to this important area.

## THOUGHTS ON THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE World Table Tennis Championships in Shanghai was acclaimed by all as the best run Worlds ever, writes Barry Granger.

With 1500 players from 146 countries, over 450 coaches and delegates from all over the world, it was one of the most fantastic table tennis spectacles I have experienced.

Enduring memories were Michael Maze's amazing comeback against Hao Shuai, the spectacular opening ceremony which would have graced the Olympics (if you take account of the relative size of the event), the friendliness of all the people and the fact that whatever was not thought of was provided as soon as they knew,

*continued on next page*

## THE ALAN COOKE & NICOLA DEATON 2005 SUMMER SCHOOL



This year we are running 3 weeks:  
1st Week: July 25th to 29th 2005  
2nd Week: August 1st to 5th 2005  
3rd Week: August 8th to 12th 2005  
at **GRANTHAM COLLEGE**  
Lincolnshire

Cost per week:  
Participants £359.00  
Non-Participants £215.00  
Cost includes all meals and accommodation

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because they had up to a 1000 volunteers, willing and able to do almost anything that was required.

Shanghai is a growing city, modernising day by day and to describe it would be an article in itself. Suffice to say that the experience of 2005 WTTC in Shanghai was something I am honoured to have attended and grateful that I had the opportunity to attend.

## CHINA SWEEPS THE BOARD

THE World Table Tennis Championships in Shanghai, China; a country where the leading table tennis players gain the kind of exposure that David Beckham does in the UK. Armed with my lonely planet guide, mandarin phrase book, and a



**JOHN MACKEY** pictured in Shanghai after he had been informed that he had obtained his "Blue Badge" umpires qualification. This makes him the second English umpire to obtain the qualification.

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huge air of anticipation I headed to Shanghai for a couple of weeks of top class table tennis, writes **Alastair McTavish**.

The Chinese table tennis team destroyed all the competition at the Worlds, winning all five gold medals.

Wang Liqin took the all important men's singles gold medal after beating his compatriot Ma Lin in the final 4-2. The Chinese will be very pleased to have picked up this medal after having it taken away from them by Ryu Seung Min at the last Olympics and Werner Schlager at the World's in Paris in 2003. While the Chinese were overjoyed to win all five medals, one of the main talking points of the tournament was the success of one Michael Maze.

Maze played brilliantly to demolish the Olympic silver medallist and world number three Wang Hao from China 4-0, then in arguably the finest match of the tournament he took out one of the new breed of Chinese stars Hao Shuai in the quarter finals. It was not so much the victory, but the way in which Maze won that made this by far and away the best match of these World Championships.

**What about the other Europeans?**

Action man Kalinikos Kreanga deployed his mad backhand loops and firing forehand to scrape past two of France's top players Damien Eloi and Christophe Legout, both of the French men having their chances. Then Kreanga lost out 4-2 to the very powerful Hao Shuai, but not without giving the crowd some fantastic entertainment as only he knows how. Danny Heister had a superb win over the current Olympic Champion with the fastest feet in the game Ryu Seung Min, and He Zhi Wen the former Chinese player now representing Spain surprised many people when he beat the current

World Champion Werner Schlager from Austria. Jan-Ove Waldner lost out to Vladimir Samsonov 4-0 in four fairly close sets, and then Samsanov lost to Oh Sang Eun from South Korea the surprise semi-finalist. Karlsson did well to reach the quarters where he lost to Oh Sang. Timo Boll lost to another Chinese player Liu Guozheng in the quarters. However his young German counterpart Bastian Steger had a great win over Jean-Michel Saive, and he with Christian Suss, Boll and of course Maze look to be the main threats from Europe for the Chinese at the World's in 2007.

England made the wise decision to send cadet/junior teams for both the Women's and Men's events, and this will have given England's best young players the chance to see what they are up against if they want to make it to the very top.

Full results available on the  
**ITTF Website**  
[www.ittf.com](http://www.ittf.com)

**DRINKHALL MAKES HIS MARK**

**PAUL DRINKHALL** made his mark in Shanghai when he powered past two senior players, to win through to the second stage of the Mens Singles.

Drinkhall's topspin attack proved too strong for Wai Kit leong of Macedonia and Saha Subhajij of India.

In the next round he came within 2 points of another win, but lost 9-11 in the seventh game to the world No.176 Egypt's El-Sayed Lasmin.

## GRASS ROOTS - I

Stockport & District League

### JONATHAN THE YOUNGEST EVER



**JONATHAN REILLY is pictured 2nd from left at the Stockton Volunteer Awards ceremony**

**JONATHAN REILLY is the youngest ever member of the Stockton Executive Committee at the age of 15 years.**

Colin Davidson, the Chairman of the Stockton & District League, nominated Jonathan for an award for his excellent service to the league as Registration Secretary. As you know this is a most important job in any league. He excelled and was assisted by his skills with the computer-where would we be without it?

At first Stockton refused to accept the nomination as their lower age limit was 16 but relented after some persuasion.

He did not win the overall award but received a certificate from the Deputy Mayor along with the other finalists shown in the photograph above.

Later in the season Jonathan was joined by his mother Karen who took over as Publicity Secretary. They did a fine job and receive the thanks of the Stockton League.

### TWO TITLES FOR RAMESH

ASHFORD Table Tennis Centre held the annual club tournament at its headquarters in Woodthorpe Road on the 16th and 17th April. The event attracted club members of all standards from novices to county players. The tournament was kicked off with the novice and under 17's singles in which some of the participants were experiencing match play for the very first time and the pressures that go with it. Nicolas Westling won the novice event while Ben Voller took the under 17's singles, the first of four finals that Ben was to appear in over the weekend.

Sunday saw the start of the main competitions and the entry of the more experienced players. The open singles final was contested between the No. 3 and No. 4 seeds Ramesh Bhalla and French defender Nicolas Ravalec. Attack against defence was an exciting prospect but Nick's defensive skills were tamed by Ramesh's ability to flat hit through the heavy under spin. Ramesh running out a straight sets winner to add to the Veteran's title he had won earlier in the day.

The ladies competition was played on a round robin basis, in which the club's best woman player, Sarah Horsnell, was unbeaten and showed why she is steadily climbing the upper levels of the England ranking list.

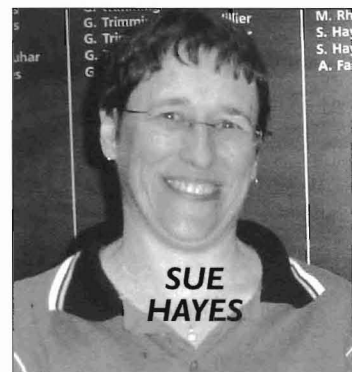
The mens doubles semi final produced the best match of the whole weekend, with any myths about table tennis being 'ping pong' were banished by this fast attacking match with all four players using every inch of the court to play loaded spin shots. Winston Wong and Keith James eventually overcame Antony Johnson and Nicolas Ravalec in four sets to reach a place in the final against Tony Holmes and Dave Adamson. The final was not as explosive as the previous match, but did contain some excellent controlled table tennis, Dave and Tony secured the title with an 11-9, 11-6, 11-9 win.

The success of the weekend was aided by a well run tournament by the organisers and helpers and it was pleasing to see so many juniors from the club's coaching scheme entering the event and tasting success. A full list of results for all events and pictures can be found on the club website: [www.ashfordttc.co.uk](http://www.ashfordttc.co.uk)

### Cippenham Banded 2-Star Open Wins for Adam Laws & Sue Hayes

SUE HAYES recovered from defeat at the hands of Jeanette Maybanks in the preliminary round group to win the Women's Singles title at the Cippenham Banded 2-Star Open on Sunday. The displaced second seed then went on to beat the top seed Sharon Mitchell 11-9 in the fifth game of the semi-final and then followed this up with a 3-1 win over Sally Hughes in the final. Hughes had earlier eliminated Maybanks in the other semi-final.

In the top men's event, Band 1, top seed Adam Laws almost faltered in the preliminary round group and needed five games to defeat both Anthony Johnson and Geoff Grange. After that, though, Laws did not look back and raced to the title in splendid fashion. His surprise opponent in the final was tournament organiser Paul Baker



Baker, recently elected Club Captain at Cippenham, finished only third in his group after defeats against Jeff Rigby and Fred Dove. After that Baker found some of his best form to beat second seed Neil Wright in the quarter-final and then Grange in the semi. The semi-final was a topsy-turvy affair with Baker holding six match points at 10-4 in the fourth only to lose and then go behind 9-5 in the fifth. Just when it looked all over for the Cippenham player Baker stormed back to clinch the last six points and a place in the final against Laws.

Laws' victims in the knock-out stages were Alim Hirji and Neil Cartwright while the other quarter-finalists were Rigby and Dove. One of the best matches of the day was the Band 2 final between two of the country's best young prospects William Maybanks and Matt Ware. Ware, winner of the junior and cadet opens at Cippenham this season, was not quite able to clinch his hat-trick and Maybanks ran out a deserved winner 3-1. Semi-finalists were Steve Preston and Leigh Hipkins.

## TAMESIDE TEAM INVITATION



### THE 1st Tameside Junior Team Invitation was held on Saturday 4th June 2005.

The four teams that took part were from Llandudno, Macclesfield, Sheffield and Tameside. All were representing their local leagues.

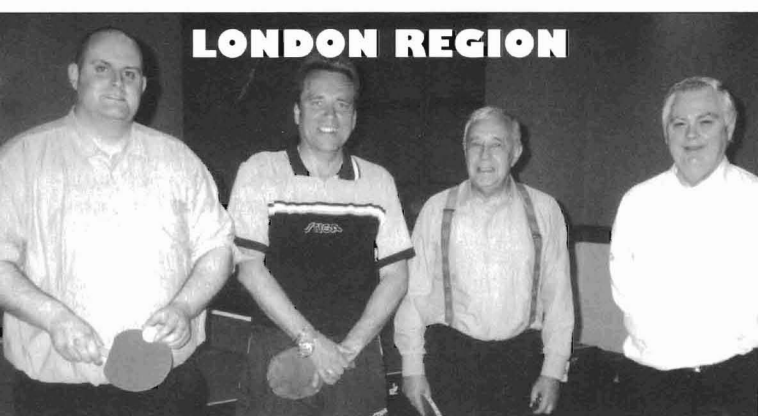
The event was won by Macclesfield,

who beat Llandudno in a 7th play-off singles, after the match ended in a 3-3 deadlock.

Thanks go to PE Head Mike Maddon for his support in allowing the use of the facilities at Stamford High School in Ashton-under-Lyne.

The four teams are pictured above.

## LONDON REGION



**ALAN HYDES**, (above 2nd left) former 4 times English Doubles Champion and winner of 4 Commonwealth Gold Medals held a training session for Lord Norman Lamont (pictured above far right) and players from both the House of Lords and House of Commons at the Parliamentary Table Tennis Club in the London Region. The generous donation of Stiga table tennis tables helped to establish the all party club on Monday evenings that is led by Michael Foster, MP for Hastings and Rye.

Further visits will be co-ordinated by Brian Spicer London Development Officer.

**ISLINGTON** Borough Council have held very well organised qualifying and finals events for under 18 and under 15 boys and girls from their schools, in a move to identify interest and talent to develop table tennis in the borough designated for training venue for London 2012 Olympic Bid.

Partnership Development Manager, Sarah Fretwell, and School Sports Coordinator, Vicki Garratt and their team are hoping to follow the London Region pledge of setting up a schools league within each school sports

partnership, to enable a 2 a side, 2 singles and 1 doubles format, for earlier finishing times for this grass roots initiative.

Coach Marina Zarzycka is already working within the project with some of the days winners.

**ENFIELD** Leisure Trusts have developed since 2004 The Edmonton Table Tennis Project. Martin May their Development Officer has teamed up with Reg and Simon Rockall in producing hundreds of grass roots players at Enfield Leisure Centre, a further venue at Angel Community Centre, and finally a Community Table Tennis Club at Boundary Hall, Snells Park, Edmonton, that is part funded by the Ward Police Team, their Boundary Hall TTC will be Premier Club affiliated. London Development Officer Brian Spicer welcomed the return of Reg to Community table tennis in London, with Simon, who is professional Coach at Ellenborough, the Hub Premier Club Excellence level in Enfield.

Mark Armstrong, the local No 1 junior, and Simon gave a great exhibition to a packed house on April 27, with a barbecue provided by sponsor Outback Steakhouse in the evening.

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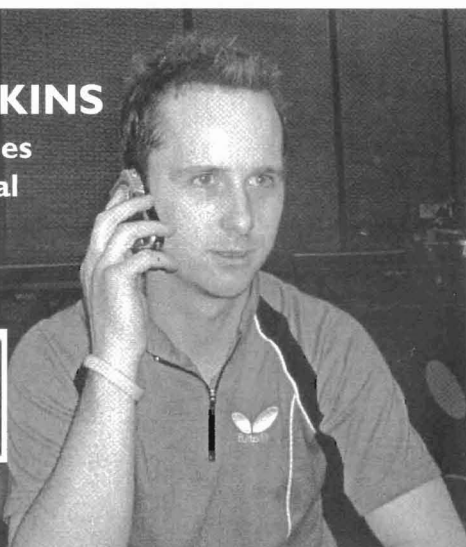
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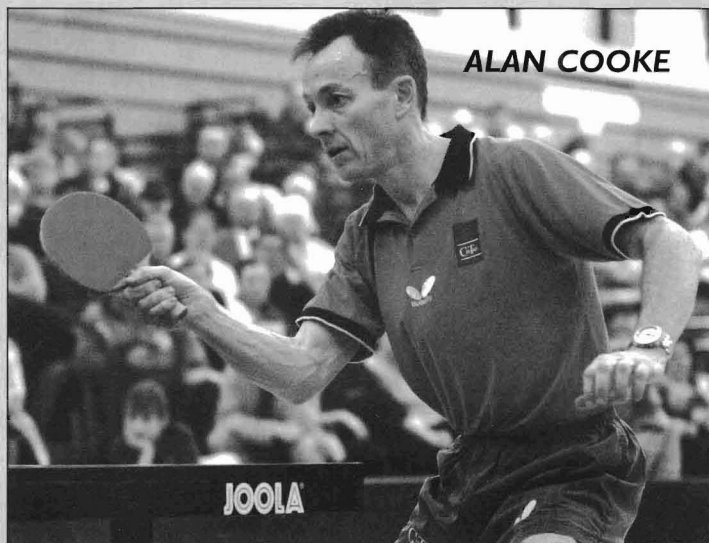
# COOKE TAKES OVER AT CROYDON

The resurgent form of 39 year old Alan Cooke that has seen him take part in the recent European Championships, as well as a fine quarter-final performance in a pro tour event has meant the inclusion of the experienced professional in the forthcoming Croydon Masters at the expense of the semi-retired Matthew Syed, also the organiser of the event.

The BBC felt that Alan Cooke's inclusion in the event would provide a stronger story, given his probable participation in the Commonwealth Games early next year, whilst it was considered that Matthew Syed could not possibly give it his all while helping to run the tournament simultaneously.

Alan will be returning from international coaching duty from the European Youths a day early to prepare. Despite his heavy involvement in the junior coaching, which can only be a good thing for our youngsters, Alan still possesses the same desire to win and professionalism as ever. Let us hope that one of his young charges will be able to emulate his successes in the next couple of years!

Only a few tickets for the eagerly anticipated Croydon Masters remain after a recent surge in sales. All choir seats and front stalls have now sold



out, leaving a limited number of places still available in the upper stalls and balcony. As we draw nearer to the event table tennis fans have continued to buy their tickets at a startling rate, reflecting the quality and uniqueness of the event. The international tournament, part of the Japanese Super Circuit is the richest of its kind throughout Europe and has the calibre of player to match. This year's event boasts the legend himself Jan Ove Waldner, probably in his last appearance on these shores, with a

supporting cast including the incredible Kalinkos Kreanga and the super-fast Ryu Seung Min along with a whole host of other top stars. This annual event held in the Fairfield Halls produces an electric atmosphere second to none that seems to bring the best out of the players when vying for the top prize of \$70,000. The interest shown in this table tennis extravaganza means that bookings should be made now to avoid disappointment.

## SPORTBREAK VETERANS OPEN

**HELD** at the Egerton Youth Centre, Knutsford on Sunday May 1st, this year's entry was well down on previous events, possibly due to a clash with the Derby GP, the Wirral closed and the fact that it was a holiday weekend.

Normally these events are played in groups of 8, with the highest ranked 8 in the top group, the next 8 in group 2 etc. etc., but because of the small entry and large difference in standard, the first stage consisted of 2 groups of 5 and 2 groups of 6. Each of the groups had a seeded player in them. The 4 first's would then play off for the title, the 2nd's, 3rd's etc would play off for places.

The main shock occurred in Group 3 where Halton's Ray Jackson pulled off a surprising 3-1 win against the luckless Wayne Percival (Frodsham). Ray then proceeded to lose to team mate Tim Wearden but still went through on countback. Group 4 was going along to expectations until the final game when Stockport's David Hamilton, playing in his first tournament this season, following illness, defeated the seeded Michael Wilkins (Bucks) 11-9 in the fifth.

The title playoff group consisted of Brian Johns, Mike Johns, Ray Jackson and David Hamilton. Brian Johns beat David Hamilton 3-0, Mike Johns beat Ray Jackson 3-1, Brian beat Ray 3-1 and Mike beat David 3-0. Ray Jackson defeated David Hamilton 3-1 for places 3 and 4.

The two brothers yet again faced each other for the title. Brian won the first comfortably, the second was a lot closer but Brian pulled away at the end. 2-0 to Brian. Mike came out all guns blazing in the third game and won it fairly comfortably, but Brian, by keeping the game tight, got a good start and forced Mike into a number of errors. Try as he may, Mike could not get into the game and Brian took the game, match and championship.

Even though all player's played a minimum of 7 games the tournament finished shortly after 3pm.

## TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE BBC MASTERS AT CROYDON

### TICKET PRICES FOR THE MASTERS

	Afternoon Session		Evening Session	
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Tickets can be bought quickly and conveniently online at [www.fairfield.co.uk](http://www.fairfield.co.uk)

Alternatively you can call the Ticket Hotline: 0208 6889291

The Afternoon Session commences at 2.00pm and features the two last sixteen matches and the first three quarter-finals.

The Evening Session commences at 7.00pm and features the last quarter-final, two semi-finals and the final.

**THE current ETTA Youth Development programme evolved from the Under 12 training camps that were organised several years ago, writes Peter Charters.**

The aim of Youth Development Training Camps is to instill in the young talented players attending a good attitude to training and practice. It is also to help a group of players in each age band and each gender group to have good knowledge of table tennis and to have the ability to work hard in order to become international quality senior players of the future.

These monthly weekend sessions, usually held at Lilleshall National Sports Centre, are also used to blood young coaches and to give the opportunity to some of our leading players to act as one to one coaches and sparring partners. This past season, the group of players attending has ranged in age from Under 14 down to Under 11s – with two Under 10 players being given the chance to



**EMMA VICKERS was top girl involved with the Youth Development Squad this past season**

show their mettle on one occasion each. Seventeen players have been named in the squad, whilst another seventeen were nominated in the "Observation Group." This latter group consisted of players who had been brought in for some sessions but not others and who were monitored for progress and attitude throughout the season. Additional players were added to this group as the season progressed.

The camps usually have a theme covering one or more aspects of a technical, tactical or physical developmental nature.

A private, anonymous sponsor has helped with the finance of this venture over the past two years, whilst the ETTA has been investing in its future over the last season. All the players (or rather their parents) help towards the cost of each weekend training, although the amount they contribute is less than 50% of the true cost.

During the last season, some members of the Youth Development Squad have been given the opportunity to train and/or compete abroad. Again, there are contributions from the parents. The experience of training and competing in other countries (including Wales) helps in a number of ways, not least of which is that our young players learn to take responsibility for themselves both on and off the table.

The intermediate and long term goals

## GOOD ATTITUDE

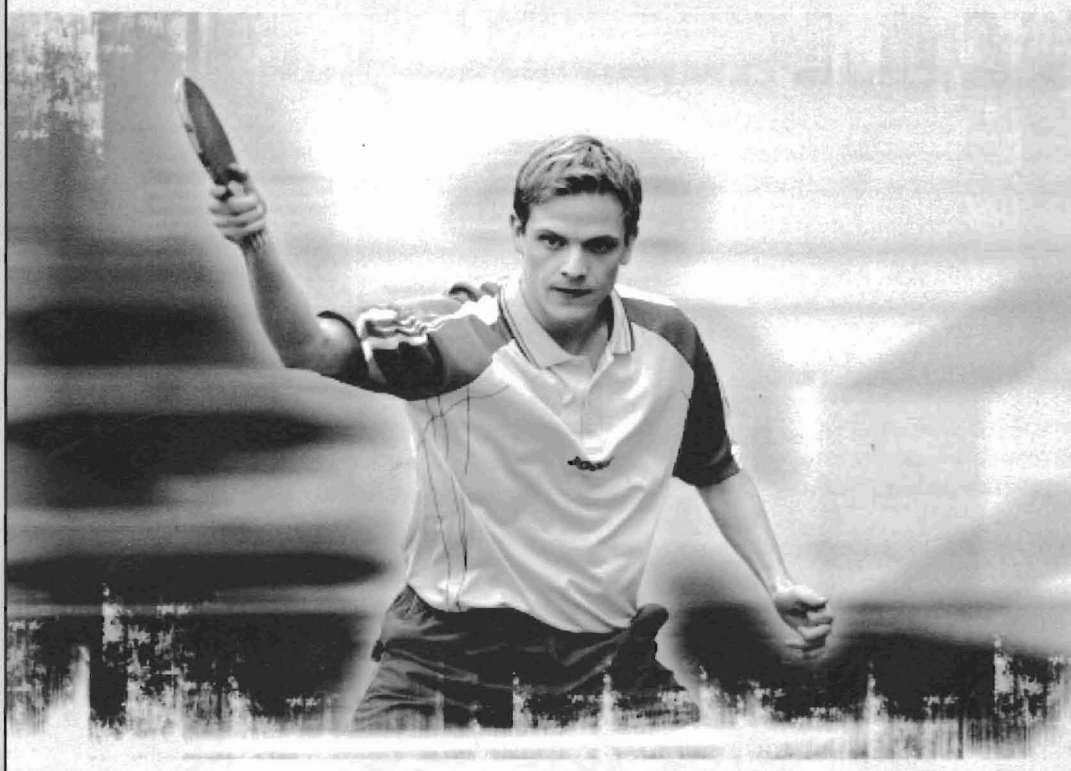
are to help England have a small but significant number of players in each age and gender bracket who have the ability and ambition to become good international performers at senior level. This, of course, requires a long-term commitment.

Qualification for a place within this wider training group (squad and observation) is by way of perceived potential, age, talent, gender, attitude

and commitment. In the future, a more widespread talent identification system is necessary for involvement in this Youth Development Squad. Regions will be asked to search their territory for young players of ability. The new format for regional and national trials, added to our existing competition structure, will help in the talent identification programme. Trials at Under 11 and Under 13 in particular will be closely observed for

players with the necessary credentials for inclusion in youth development training. Trials at cadet and junior level will provide information for other potential training activities within the ETTA. The age bands of players to be included and the number of participants for the Youth Development Squad training will be reviewed at the end of each season. Next season the number of players in the "squad" is likely to be smaller, although the number in the "Observation Group" will increase. As always, the process will be monitored and the success of the whole venture evaluated.

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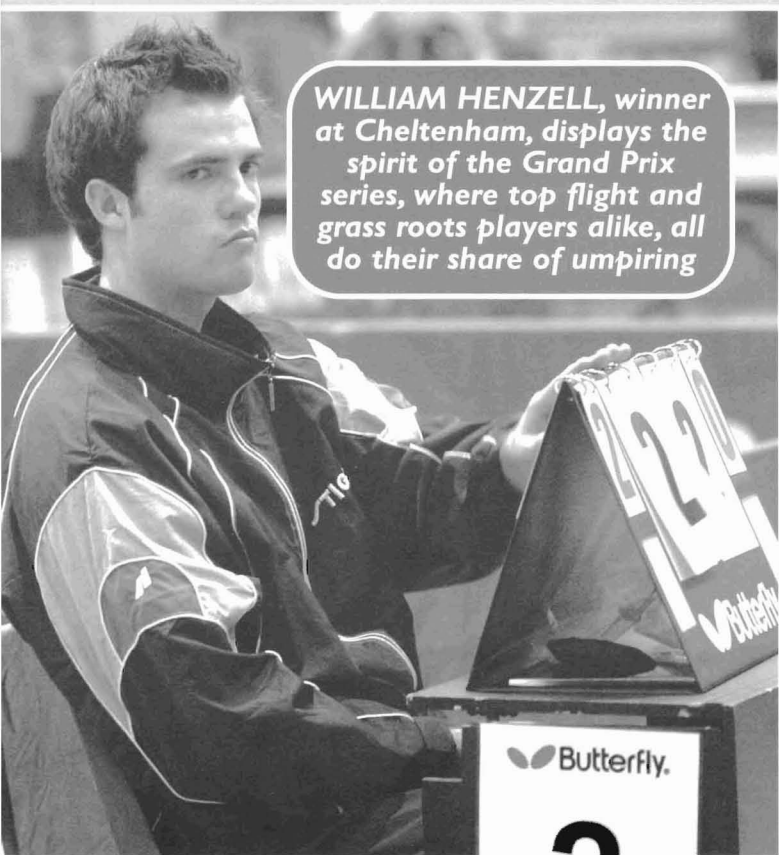
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# NECK & NECK BETWEEN HENZELL & JENKINS



**WILLIAM HENZELL**, winner at Cheltenham, displays the spirit of the Grand Prix series, where top flight and grass roots players alike, all do their share of umpiring

Henzell and Jenkins battled away neck and neck upto 7-7, before the Australian turned on the power to win 11-8.

Hungarian Barbara Kiss sailed through the first two games winning them both 11-4 against England's Joanna Roberts, before going onto to win the third 14-12 following a much closer contest.

In the Under 21 Singles Devon's Craig Bryant beat fellow Devonian Chris Brown in an exciting final, 11-8, 7-11, 11-9, 11-6, whilst Abigail Embling from Essex beat Devon's Lisa Radford, 11-6, 11-3, 9-11, 11-4.

There was a big success for local Cheltenham boy Michael Harvey, 15 years, who won the Mens Band 5 final, beating Chris Hewitt from Worcestershire 11-6, 11-6, 11-6.

Harvey also reached the Mens Band 4 final where he lost to Derbyshire's Sam Perry following an exciting battle 8-11, 11-7, 11-5, 8-11, 4-11.

## NORWICH

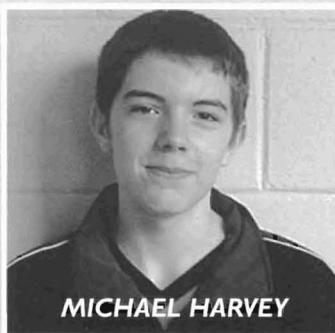
WILLIAM HENZELL won again at Norwich, and looked odds-on favourite to become the Butterfly Grand Prix Champion of 2004/2005, following Ryan Jenkins defeat by Henrik Rosvall in the semis.

Paul Drinkhall, who lost in four in the quarters against Henzell in mens, went on to win the U21s after doing battle with his old rival Darius Knight also in four.

Helen Lower won the Womens Singles overpowering Lauren Spink and defeating Barbara Kiss in the semis.

Somerset's Naomi Wilson consolidated her position in the Womens Band 1 by beating Surrey's Glenda Ashison. Womens U21 Champion is Essex's Abigail Embling, who beat Norfolk's Lauren Spink.

Results see ETTA website: [www.englishtabletennis.org.uk](http://www.englishtabletennis.org.uk)



MICHAEL HARVEY

Words by JOHN WOOD & RICHARD PETTIT  
Pictures by LESLEY HALL-WOOD, JOHN WOOD & RICHARD PETTIT

THE three Grand Prix that spanned the month of May, Derby, Cheltenham and Norwich set the scene for the final hurdle at Stoke in June, where it would be decided who would win this most exciting finish to a Grand Prix circuit ever, writes John Wood.

Alan Cooke played at Derby and duly won the Mens Singles final against William Henzell, beating him 7,-3,-8, 8, 7, whilst Barbara Kiss won the Womens Singles overpowering Georgina Walker 4, 10, 4, but interestingly beating Helen Lower 4, 6, 6, in the semis.

## CHELTENHAM

A stunning display of attacking table tennis was witnessed in the Mens Singles final at the Cheltenham between the two main contenders, which saw the Australian international star William Henzell play to his absolute best, actually he was playing out of his skin to take the opening two games 11-4, 11-5, against Welsh No.1 Ryan Jenkins, the current British University Champion.

Jenkins fought back hard in the third calling a time-out at 4-7 down, looking tired from his efforts in the World Championships in Shanghai, but he regained his composure clawing his way back into this match 8-8 before going onto win 11-9 with some sizzling backhand and forehand topspin drives.



Rivals for the Womens Singles Crown HELEN LOWER (left) and BARBARA KISS

# SHOWDOWN AT STOKE

**STOKE** played host to the final Butterfly Grand Prix event of this season, providing some of the best table tennis seen on the circuit. With prizes to be won and pride at stake many players stepped up a gear to finish the season on a high, writes Richard Pettit.

The usual format was adopted with the banded competitions on Saturday and the Open, Veteran and Under 21 Men's and Women's singles competitions on the Sunday.

Saturday brought the usual blend of youth verses experience which created some fascinating encounters perhaps none more so than the men's Band 3 singles final contested by Lee Horton and Christopher Duran, Duran only just 14 years old has reached four finals but unfortunately is still in search of that illusive victory. Horton displayed some excellent tactics and lightening reflex's to win what seemed like a five game marathon of toe to table action 8,-10,7,-5,5

Naomi Wilson the Somerset No.1 again stepped up to take the Women's Band 1 Singles and Rachel Greener walked away with victory in both the Band 2 and 3 Women's Singles.

Sunday proved to be an exceptional finale to a great season, with big prize money resting on the outcome of the results a serious atmosphere hung over Fenton Manor. William Henzell and Ryan Jenkins who have been dominant this season looked likely to contest the final, if this was to be the outcome then no matter what the result of the final. Henzell would have accumulated enough points to take this season's Butterfly Grand Prix Title. The only way Jenkins could take the overall title and substantial prize fund was if Henzell did not make the final and he himself won.

Most gamblers would have placed money on Henzell making the final after all he has made the final in every Butterfly Grand Prix he has participated in this season showing great form, that is until the entry of Andrew Baggaley. Baggaley required by ETTA rules to compete to keep alive his ambitions of representing England in the Commonwealth Games next year was drawn in the bottom half of the draw creating a semi final showdown with Henzell.

This contest had everything nerves, despair, tactical time outs, forced and unforced errors flashes of brilliance but it all swung on one moment of controversy in the third game with Henzell 5-8 down he was convinced his shot clipped the edge of the table. Neither the umpire or Baggaley said they heard or saw it clip, much to the annoyance of the Australian who protested briefly but in vain. This incident rattled Henzell who never properly recovered losing all the remaining points in that game. Baggaley sensed the hesitation and disbelief in Henzell's game and went from strength to strength to triumph,-10,9,5,8

## Champion Jenkins

This left the door open for Jenkins to become champion, he came through an unexpectedly tough semi final against the most improved player of the season Danny Reed 5,-9,-9,10,8. This provided the best possible scenario for on looking neutral in the final game, with so much at stake Jenkins hunger and desire proved too much to handle for Baggaley who perhaps was still slightly jaded from the earlier encounter. Jenkins went on to take the match with style -4,9,11,6 and the title as 2004/5 Butterfly Grand Prix Champion.

## Champion Lower

The women's title was once again taken by Helen Lower who has had a fantastic run of form after taking her first National title earlier this year in Sheffield; she has gone from strength to strength. Helen defeated Barbara Kiss 3,5,-6,6 to add 2004/5 Butterfly Grand Prix Champion title to the ever growing list.

### Stoke Results:

**Winners**  
 Mens Singles Ryan Jenkins  
 Mens Band 1 Mark Smith  
 Mens Band 2 Damien Nicholls  
 Mens Band 3 Lee Horton  
 Mens Band 4 Sam Perry  
 Mens Band 5 Dale Barham  
 Mens Band 6 Dale Barham  
 Veteran Mens Keith Yarnley  
 Under 21 Mens Dale Barham  
 Womens singles Helen lower  
 Womens Band 1 Naomi Wilson  
 Womens Band 2 Rachel Greener  
 Womens Band 3 Rachel Greener  
 Veteran Womens Judy Morley  
 Under 21 Womens Karen Shepherd



**Top picture: Mens Singles winner RYAN JENKINS (left) & runner-up ANDREW BAGGALEY, whilst pictured above is a jubilant NAOMI WILSON receiving her Womens Band 1 cash prizes from ETTA Chairman ALEX MURDOCH. Pictured right is HELMUTH OSBORNE who received a certificate for being the only person who has played in every Grand Prix this season**

## CHAMPIONS

### Season Champions in each Category

	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner up</b>
Mens Singles	Ryan Jenkins	William Henzell
Mens Band 1	Abdul Wuraola	Danny Zurowski
Mens Band 2	Chris Beckley	Damien Nicholls
Mens Band 3	Chris Marlow	Rory Scott
Mens Band 4	Leo Veinsreider	Anthony Johnson
Mens Band 5	Keith Fulconer	Ashley Stokes
Mens Band 6	Philip Arliss	Tim Pang
Veteran Mens	Chris Beckley	Nigel Eckersley
Under 21 Mens	Craig Bryant	Chris Brown
Womens singles	Helen lower	Barbara Kiss
Womens Band 1	Naomi Wilson	Michele Cohen
Womens Band 2	Stella Davis	Val Murdoch
Womens Band 3	Carol Homewood	Laura Yarnley
Veteran Womens	Judy Morley	Val Murdoch
Under 21 Womens	Karen Shepherd	Gemma Yarnley

**2004/2005**

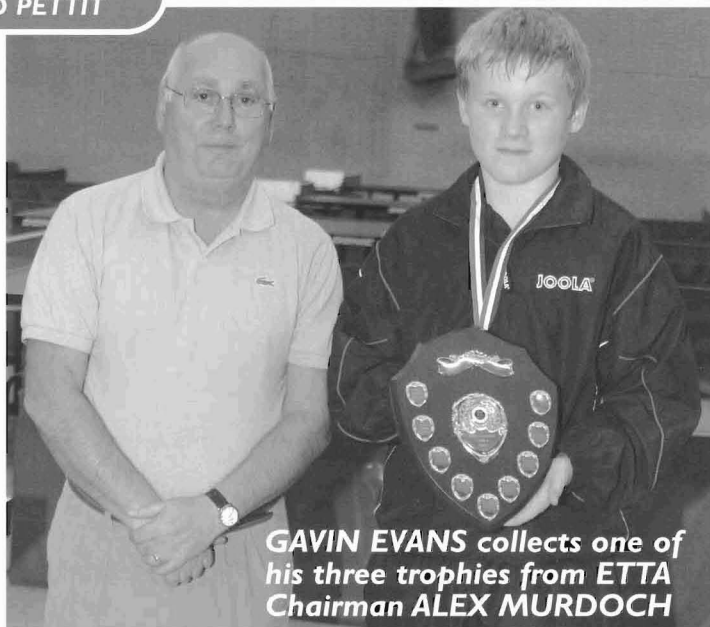
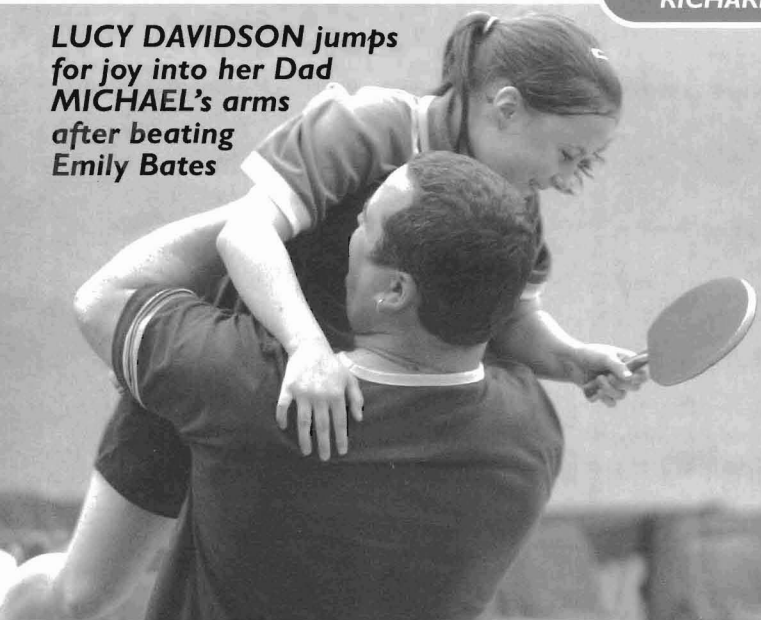




**MEDAL WINNERS  
AT KINGS LYNN**

Words & Pictures by  
**RICHARD PETTIT**

**LUCY DAVIDSON jumps for joy into her Dad MICHAEL's arms after beating Emily Bates**



**GAVIN EVANS collects one of his three trophies from ETTA Chairman ALEX MURDOCH**

# HAT-TRICK OF HAT-TRICKS

**THE Under 10,11,12,13 National Championship is an event of great significance within the English Table Tennis calendar; it provides an excellent opportunity for young people to participate in a competitive environment and to witness many potential future table tennis stars. This year's event was staged at Lynnsport and Leisure Park in Kings Lynn and sponsored by Jarvis Sports, writes Richard Pettit.**

Gavin Evans arrived as a clear favourite in the boy's U12 and 13 categories, and for good reason. Evans has won both the U10 and 11 titles three times in successive years, never before has a player achieved such dominance at this level, with the likes of Andrew Baggaley and Paul Drinkall only picking up the title once it illustrates the height of this achievement. This year's championships provided even more incentive for the youngster with the potential of completing a hat-trick of hat-tricks if victorious in the U12 boys singles. Could anyone stop the lad from Newark?

Saturday provided the most dramatic game of the championships (U11 Girls)

between Emily Bates and Lucy Davidson. This was truly a five game thriller, Davidson started off well taking the first game 11-8 and followed with a close 12-10 win in the second, however Bates who was sporting a plaster cast put in a phenomenal performance, composing herself from the initial two games to bounce back in the next two both with the score line 11-8. This set up a nerve racking final game with Davidson eventually coming out in top 11-3 to a huge cheer as she rushed into her father's arms. (see picture above)

Becoming U11's National Champion would have been enough for most but displaying exceptional grit and determination Davidson made it to the final of the U13 girls too, an age group which she still has a couple of years to compete in, the 'Pocket Rocket' put up a tremendous display eventually losing out to Melissa Wright 9, -6, 5, 8. Emily Bates also reached another final this time in the U10's, she rapidly put the earlier disappointment behind her and beat Vicky Smith 4,8,-11,4

Edward Mitchell and Gavin Evans both as individuals and as partners in the doubles displayed dazzling table tennis all weekend, Mitchell came through a

tough semi-final against last years U10 champion Lewis Gray -8,7,-8,8,2, to defeat Joshua Boulton 4,5,8, in the U11's final. Evans breezed through to the final of the U13 boy's singles only losing one game to the impressive Kim Daybell in the semi-final, and went on to beat England team mate Liam Pitchford 8,1,8 in the final. The formidable partnership of Mitchell and Evans combined in the U12 and U13 doubles winning the U13's in three games 7,14,12 against David McBeath and Kim Daybell, but dipping out in the U12's to the strong partnership of Sean Cullen and Daniel Lowe -8,-5,10,4,5

In the U10 boy's final. As both Ross Wilson and Connor Neenan competed to become a National Champion it was clear from the level of intensity that this was one of if not the biggest match each had ever competed in, parents nail biting and perched on the edge of their seats compounded the atmosphere, Neenan eventually won 10,4,-8,-9,10 after tremendous come back from Wilson.

There was still one major question left, could Evans take the U12 boys title for the third time to complete the hat-trick of hat-tricks?

Liam Pitchford once again provided the opposition and he started with a real point to prove, S 9-3 up in the first game a rather controversial decision was made, the umpire heard what most others watching didn't, the ball clipping the end of the table in Evans's favour, Pitchford's disbelief was there for all to see. He continued to play great table tennis but that decision provided Evans with extra momentum and confidence at crucial points resulting in Evans winning 12,12,10 and claiming that much coveted Hat-trick of hat-tricks.

## National Champions

Under 10 Boys: Connor Neenan (Mi)  
Under 10 Girls: Emily Bates (Li)  
Under 11 Boys: Edward Mitchell (Bu)  
Under 11 Girls: Lucy Davidson (Dy)  
Under 12 Boys: Gavin Evans (Bu)  
Under 12 Girls: Sarah Russo (sx)  
Under 13 Boys: Melissa Wright (Ys)  
Under 13 Girls: Gavin Evans (Bu)  
Under 12 Boys Doubles:  
Sean Cullen(Dy)/Daniel Lowe (Dy)  
Under 12 Girls Doubles:  
Sarah Russo (Sx)/Martha Travis(Co)  
Under 13 Boys Doubles:  
Gavin Evans (Bu)/ Edward Mitchell (Bu)



North Herts Women are pictured above (l.to.r.) JANICE LAING, SARA COGGON, LINDSEY DARE & SANDRA HARPER

## N.HERTS DOUBLE CHAMPIONS

**MOORWAYS Sports Complex in Derby saw the climax of the ETTA National Team Championships, when the finals took place over the weekend of 21st/22nd May 2005, writes John Wood.**

The highlight of the event was the record breaking feat by the women of North Herts who won the Pat Archdale Cup for Veteran Women on the Saturday and then on the Sunday they stormed through the field to win the Women's J.M. Rose Bowl.

Northumbria won the Men's Wilmott Cup, pushing Wembley & Harrow into the silver medal position.

The Men's Veteran gold medal was won by Liverpool who strode magnificently through their opponents to take the Alex Brook Trophy, with West Wiltshire winning the silver medal.

Plymouth did rather well

when their youngsters picked up two trophies, the Bromfield Trophy for Junior Girls on the Saturday and the Leach Cup for Cadet boys on the Sunday.

The Carter Cup for Junior Boys was won by Darlington whilst the Hammersley Cup

for Cadet Girls was won by on countback by Reading.

Cippenham won the Ormesby Cup for Men's Clubs and finally the Gainsford Cup for Women's Club was taken by Bath Street of Liverpool.

**Vice Chairman Competitions**  
**PETER BRADLEY presents the Wilmott Cup to Northumbria (l.to.r.) DAVE GODBOLD, ANDREW WILKINSON & EDDIE SMITH and the Hammersley Cup to Reading (l.to.r.) AMY TAYLOR, RACHEL FARQUHAR & AONIJA SUNDARARJAN**



# HENZELL SPICES-UP SERIES

**WILLIAM HENZELL is no stranger to breaking the mould when it comes to his table tennis career.**

The Australian number one has more often than not chosen the less-trodden path in his search for success.

At just 14, Henzell decided to uproot from his family home in Adelaide to pursue his career in faraway Sweden, and has rarely looked back since.

Now a full-time professional with leading Swedish side Lyckeby, an Athens Olympian and Commonwealth bronze medallist, Henzell plans to take the United Kingdom by storm.

Two-time Aussie mens singles winner Henzell said: "I am looking to base myself more and more in the United Kingdom and plan to compete in all the Grand Prix in England.

"I have always enjoyed my trips to the UK after first coming here for the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in 2002.

"At this point in my career it makes sense to set up a more permanent base here and it is an exciting development for me."

Henzell has already made a strong start in his bid to win the Grand Prix series, having beaten Welshman Ryan Jenkins to lift the London Open title before being defeated by the same opponent in the Hereford final.

And with Jenkins due to miss some events during April and May because of international commitments, the 22-year-old is determined to claim the series first prize.

He added: "I have enjoyed my tough battles with Ryan so far, I was delighted to get the better of him in London but felt I let myself down in Hereford.

"Ryan is a tough player and I am sure we will go head-to-head in a few more finals in the future.

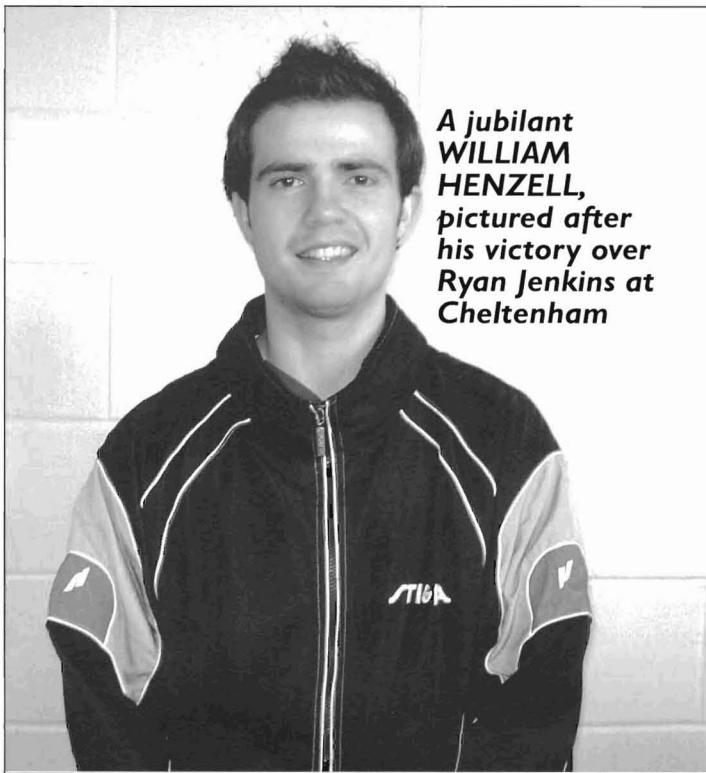
"Overall, the standard of the Grand Prix tournaments has been strong and I have found the events to be well organised and professionally run.

"You never know exactly what to expect and what I have seen has been a pleasant surprise."

"I was very disappointed for it not to quite work out at the end of the Grand Prix series".

"I seemed to get drawn everytime in the wrong half and it made a big difference facing Andrew Baggaley in the semi-finals at Stoke."

"However I'm pleased though that



**A jubilant WILLIAM HENZELL, pictured after his victory over Ryan Jenkins at Cheltenham**

## TABLE TENNIS NEWS EXCLUSIVE by Martin Rogers

over the course of the series I got the better of Ryan Jenkins, only losing to him once, and I feel certain if we had played the same number of tournaments, I would have walked away with the prize, but it's good for table tennis that the series went to the wire, and I like the idea of having a series of tournaments over the season that all mean something."

By branching out into the British scene Henzell is in the process of adding another chapter to his colourful and well-travelled career

While participating in Athens, where he finished 33rd in singles and 17th in doubles, will always be a career highlight, Henzell saved perhaps the best form of his career for last year's Commonwealth Championships in Malaysia.

At three sets to nil and 10-8 up in the semi-final against India's Soumyadeep Roy he looked destined to claim a place in the final, but was forced to settle for bronze after Roy mounted a spirited fightback.

However, that disappointment only served to propel Henzell to some of the finest form of his life.

In Swedish Super Division One this season, he has racked up a

remarkable record of 21 wins from 24 matches, including the scalps of

former European champion Miksel Appelgren and Commonwealth champion Kamal Ashanta.

He also notched a third-place finish in the recent Finland Open, claiming a comfortable 4-1 victory over emerging youngster Paul Drinkhall on the way.

Now ranked 199 in the world, Henzell has his sights set upon a top-150 place by the end of 2005.

Another reason for spending more time on British shores is to do coaching work with emerging youngsters, especially around the Nottingham/Derby area.

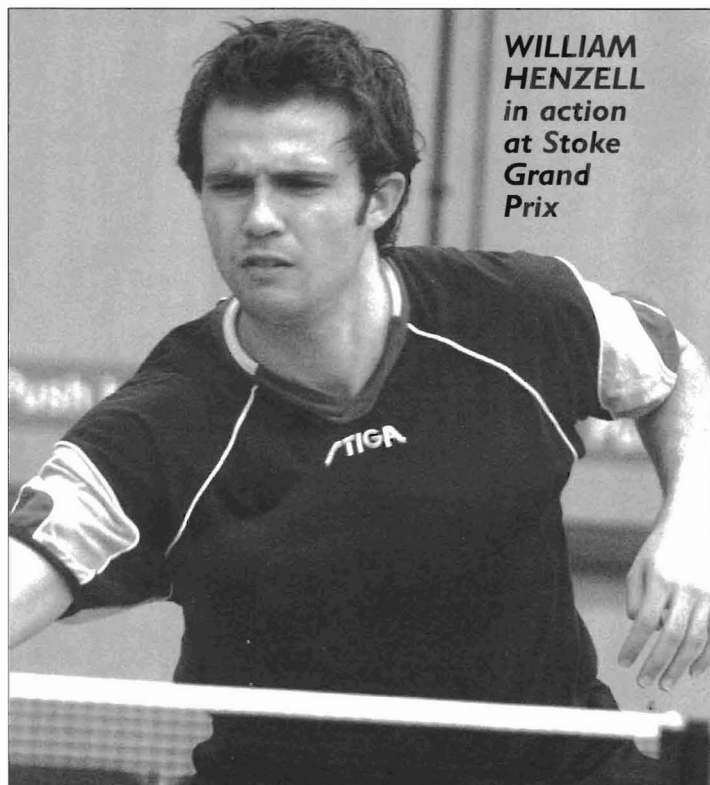
While Henzell has seen first hand the benefits of the Swedish youth development system, he feels there is potential for this country to develop some more leading players on the world stage.

He said: "There are a lot of talented juniors in the UK and there is some real potential there if people are taught in the right way.

"It is not by accident that the Swedes keep producing quality players. It is just a matter of adapting the right principles and techniques, wherever you are.

"British people have the right attitude towards sport, they realise you don't get anywhere unless you are prepared to put in the effort.

"I am relishing the opportunity to unlock some of that potential."



**WILLIAM HENZELL in action at Stoke Grand Prix**

# EIGHT TEAM PREMIER AGAIN NEXT SEASON

**THIS year's British League Conference held in Birmingham on Saturday 7 May 2005 was dominated by two proposals that have had British League players of all standards talking all season, writes Steve Kerns.**

Should the Premier division be expanded to sixteen teams and Clubs be allowed to have more than one team in each division? With the possibility that the proposals could mean a substantial reshuffling of teams throughout the whole League this year's Conference was well attended and delegates spoke passionately about these issues. The case for expanding the Premier division to sixteen teams would mean that more Clubs would get the chance to experience play at the highest level and amongst other things this might generate more publicity for the Sport. It would also mean that thriving Clubs would not lose players who realise they must look elsewhere for Premier division playing opportunities whilst the prospect of Premier division play at their current Clubs remains tantalisingly out of their reach.

The counter-arguments against the proposal centred around the fact that this year's Premier division Competition was without doubt the most competitive for many years and quite simply there just aren't sixteen teams of genuine Premier division class to replicate that level of competition. The over-riding feeling was that top class Sport has to be for the elite to be meaningful and by diluting the standard we are not going to encourage the very best players to continue to take part.

The proposal to allow Clubs to have more than one team in each division received a more sympathetic hearing but it was also soundly defeated. It was felt that the top divisions could far too easily become the domain of too few Clubs and the concept of a "British League" is therefore eradicated. Just as there is no room for Chelsea II or Arsenal II in the English Football League there can be no space for a London Progress II or a Darlington II in the Premier division of the British Table Tennis League. Tough on the excellent players at these Clubs but if it is any consolation to those players the matter was given a very thorough hearing at the Conference.

Next year's British League Competition will again be made up of twelve divisions and at present there are three vacancies, single slots in Division Four South, Division Four South & Midlands & Division Four North. Any Club who might be interested in competing should contact British League Chairman Keith Ponting on telephone no. 01392-278642 (Home) or at 21 Southport Avenue, Redhills, Exeter, Devon, EX4 1RA or by E-mail at [keith@ponting4570.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:keith@ponting4570.fsnet.co.uk)

Keith also paid tribute to Carole Beames who has announced her retirement from the British League Committee after many years of excellent service. There are currently three vacancies on the British League Committee and anyone interested in assisting in running one of the ETTA's most popular Competitions should get in touch with Keith Ponting immediately.

PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
London Progress	14	11	2	1	79	33	24
Harvey Barnets	14	9	4	1	75	37	22
Ormesby	14	9	3	2	72	40	21
Darlington	14	5	2	7	54	58	12
Ellenborough	14	2	6	6	51	61	10
BATTS Team Peniel	14	1	7	6	48	64	9
JAGS	14	2	3	9	36	76	7
Darlington	14	3	1	10	33	79	7
<b>Division 1 North</b>							
ELGRE Nottingham	14	13	1	0	89	23	27
Darlington II	14	7	4	3	61	51	18
Derwent	14	6	5	3	65	47	17
Norwich Todd Foxwood	14	6	5	3	57	55	17
Sycamore	14	6	2	6	58	54	14
Grantham	14	3	3	8	45	67	9
Halton Croda	14	2	2	10	39	73	6
B.D. Fastbats	14	1	2	11	34	78	4
<b>Division 1 South</b>							
Horsham	14	9	3	2	74	38	21
London Progress II	14	10	1	3	70	42	21
DML Woolwell	14	8	2	4	69	43	18
Cippenham	14	5	5	4	60	52	15
Olof Impact	14	6	2	6	47	65	14
B.F.I.T. Wiltshire	14	5	1	8	50	62	11
De Vere Netts	14	3	2	9	46	66	8
Byng Hall	14	2	0	12	32	80	4
<b>Division 2 North</b>							
Ormesby II	14	13	1	0	86	26	27
ELGRE Nottingham II	14	10	2	2	85	27	22
Rotherham Scorpions	14	8	2	4	62	50	18
Blackpool	14	6	3	5	62	50	15
Uxbridge Burton	14	3	5	6	52	60	11
Wirral	14	2	4	8	42	70	8
Halton Croda II	14	2	2	10	33	79	6
B.D. Fastbat II	14	2	1	11	26	86	5
<b>Division 2 South</b>							
London Progress III	14	12	1	1	82	30	25
University of Brighton	14	9	2	3	69	43	20
York Gardens	14	8	3	3	59	53	19
EBS-Orange Northampton	14	9	-	5	65	47	18
Horsham II	14	4	3	7	47	65	11
Generation 2	14	3	2	9	47	65	8
JAGS II	14	3	2	9	44	68	8
Ashford	14	1	1	12	35	77	3
<b>Division2 South&amp; Midlands</b>							
Bedford Modern	14	13	1	0	86	26	27
Guildford	14	10	1	3	72	40	21
Oxford Fireplace Centre	14	8	4	2	69	43	20
Cippenham II	14	9	1	4	70	42	19
EBS-Orange Northampton II	14	5	1	8	57	55	11
Ajax Wolves	14	3	1	10	43	69	7
OLOP Impact II	14	2	2	10	37	75	6
Ashford II	14	0	1	13	14	98	1
<b>Division3 South &amp; Midlands</b>							
Kingshurst Bribar	14	10	2	2	71	41	22
Bedford Modern II	14	10	1	3	67	45	21
London Progress IV	14	9	1	4	62	50	19
Sutton Sharks	14	4	6	4	55	57	14
Oxford Fireplace Centre II	14	6	2	6	54	58	14
Kingfisher Reading	14	4	2	8	54	58	10
Guinness Polska	14	2	3	9	43	69	7
Guildford II	14	2	1	11	42	70	5
<b>Division 3 North</b>							
McLymontNational	14	13	1	0	94	18	27
Northfield	14	11	1	2	79	32	23
Grimsby	14	10	0	4	76	36	20
Seasiders II	14	7	0	7	55	57	14
Derwent II	14	5	2	7	53	59	12
ELGRE Nottingham III	14	5	1	8	49	63	11
Barrow	14	2	1	11	31	81	5
B.D. Fastbats III	14	0	0	14	10	101	0
<b>Division 3 South</b>							
Batts Team Peniel II	14	9	4	1	70	42	22
Harvey Barnets II	14	7	5	2	67	45	19
NWF	14	7	2	5	65	47	16
Horsham III	14	6	3	5	56	56	15
Hastings	14	4	4	6	58	54	12
Waterside	14	3	6	5	55	57	12
Guernsey	14	4	4	6	53	59	12
ROK	14	1	2	11	24	88	4
<b>Division 4 South &amp; Midlands</b>							
Club Cornwall	14	12	2	0	96	16	26
Ellenborough II	14	12	1	1	85	27	25
Cippenham III	14	8	1	5	66	46	17
East London Progress	14	6	2	6	60	52	14
ELGRE Nottingham IV	14	6	1	7	51	61	13
London Progress V	14	3	2	9	38	74	8
Britannia Ipswich	14	4	0	10	36	76	8
Guinness Polska II	14	0	1	13	16	96	1
<b>Division 4 North</b>							
Sheffield	14	13	0	1	74	38	26
Chesterfield	14	11	2	1	82	30	24
A.G.S. Phoenix	14	8	2	4	72	40	18
Darlington III	14	7	1	6	61	51	15
CoftonHackett	14	5	1	8	51	61	11
Rotherham Scorpions II	14	3	2	9	38	74	8
Redlands Bats	14	3	1	10	42	69	7
Isle of Man	14	1	1	12	27	84	3
<b>Division 4 South</b>							
Mossford	12	11	1	0	79	17	23
JAGS III	12	8	2	2	59	37	18
York Gardens II	12	6	2	4	54	42	14
University of Brighton II	12	5	2	5	53	43	12
Byng Hall II	12	3	1	8	39	57	7
OIC Hollingsbury	12	3	1	8	30	66	7
Guildford III	12	1	1	10	22	74	3

## The British League Official Ball



3 Star -ITTF approved



FINAL BRITISH LEAGUE TABLES

# TOP TEAMS BUCKS & CHESHIRE

## JUNIOR PREMIER DIVISION

Buckinghamshire started the final round of matches at the top of the table, the only team with a 100% record after the first round of matches, giving them a lead of two points over Cheshire, Yorkshire and Derbyshire, who were all tied on four points. In their first match of the final round of four matches Bucks faced Derbyshire and although their girls were unable to register a win the brothers, Gavin, Bradley and Miles Evans won all of their six sets to ensure the win. I may be wrong but I would guess that it is a record for three brothers to represent their County in the same junior team in the Premier division, I don't think even the Johns brothers of Cheshire equalled that achievement. In their second match Bucks played Kent, without the services of Miles Evans, but it made little difference as they romped home 8/2, only Gemma Yarnley, who beat Caroline King and Emily Tucker proving an obstacle. For their third match Bucks faced a much sterner challenge against Derbyshire and dropped their first point of the season as they were held to a draw Bradley Evans lost to Adam Frost and David Hayes, who replaced Miles Evans, lost to Sam Perry, but Emily Tucker and Gavin Evans steadied the ship to level the match at 2/2. Not content Derbyshire held out to take a 5/4 lead, but in the final set of the match David Hayes rose to the challenge to beat Allen Fullwood, which secured the draw and maintained Buckinghamshire's lead in the championships. In their last match Miles Evans returned to the side as Bucks made certain of the title by blasting Glamorgan 8/2, ending the season as the only undefeated team in the division and worthy winners of the trophy.

Derbyshire finished in second place leapfrogging Cheshire in the process, they beat Kent 7/3 then followed up with a 9/1 demolition of Durham, the only success for Durham coming when Mark Simpson beat Sam Perry, but Durham did little to enhance their chances as they were a player short in all of their matches during the weekend. Next followed the drawn match against Bucks before their final match against Cheshire who they put to the sword unmercifully with a 9/1 demolition, only Claire Langford stopping a complete route when she beat Emma Vickers in the penultimate set. Cheshire finished the season in third



**TOP VETERAN TEAM - CHESHIRE: (l.to.r.) JOHN HILTON, BRIAN JOHNS, JAN JOHNS, SUE BURGESS & WAYNE PERCIVAL**

place, despite the heavy defeat by Derbyshire, they were successful against Glamorgan 7/3, and then Yorkshire 8/2 and Durham 8/2 before being slapped down by Derbyshire in their final match.

Yorkshire, Devonshire and Kent all did just enough to ensure their survival in the top flight next season, but Durham and Glamorgan are both relegated. I find it hard to believe that a Durham team containing Andrew Leighton, Mark Simpson and Chris Close can only win one match in this division. I know that gifting two sets per match by playing with one player short is a massive handicap but I would have thought they had enough ability in this side to have clawed out a couple of wins. Glamorgan went from champions last season to bottom place this year, managing to pick up only one point from a draw on the way, I know this sort of result can occur very easily in the junior divisions as last year's successful team all become too old to play in the juniors this season, I would expect Glamorgan to bounce back in the next couple of seasons as their next crop of juniors come through.

## VETERANS PREMIER DIVISION

The one thing you can say about the veterans division is that nobody is going to lay down and have their tummy tickled, not during a match at least, they are a very competitive lot and just a bit cut-throat, with no quarter asked or given and it takes a strong character to withstand the rigours of the Saturday night celebrations and return to the table next day able to see the ball. One such team is Cheshire; they started the weekend in second place behind Devonshire, albeit tied on points but with an inferior sets difference, but that soon changed as they thumped Sussex 9/1 and Surrey 10/0 before being brought down to earth when they were held to a draw by Kent on the Sunday morning. But they

shrugged off their hangovers to win their final match against Essex 8/2. So congratulations to John Hilton, Brian Johns, Wayne Percival, Janet Johns and Sue Burgess, winners of the championship by one point. In second place were Devonshire, who also have a strong line-up with Paul Whiting, Paul Giles, Mike Short and Penny Perry. It doesn't seem long ago that this team was winning the senior premier division. They started the weekend with a 6/4 defeat of Essex, then beat Sussex 7/3 but on the Sunday morning came badly unstuck against Lancashire

losing 4/6, but bounced back to beat Northumberland 7/3.

Team of the weekend must be Lancashire, yes I know I am biased, but after the first weekend this team were firmly in the relegation zone, but at Ashford they firmly made up for that as they opened up with a 9/1 thrashing of Kent, followed by a 8/2 hammering of Essex, followed by the narrow 6/4 defeat of Devonshire and ending up with a resounding win over Sussex 8/2. What a pity they could not turn out this team in the first round of matches, well done Keith Williams, Chris Ford, John Rankin and Brenda Buoeuy, finishing in third place.

The two relegation teams are Sussex and Surrey, just one point separating the two teams. I must admit I am a little surprised that Surrey finished in bottom place as they have a very strong line up at their call, Ian Girdler, Dave Harding, Dave Welsman and Margaret Maltby are all high quality players, maybe it was just a bad season.

## YASAKA 3 STAR BALLS

## VETERANS OVER 60's TABLES

Over 60's Division 1A						
Worcestershire	5	5	0	0	43	7 10
Essex	5	4	0	1	34	16 8
Yorkshire	5	3	0	2	31	19 6
Cheshire 1st	5	1	0	4	16	36 2
Bedfordshire	5	1	0	4	14	36 2
Cheshire 2nd	5	1	0	4	12	38 2
Over 60's Division 1B						
Middlesex	6	6	0	0	48	12 12
Kent	6	5	0	1	40	20 10
Berkshire 1st	6	4	0	2	36	24 8
Sussex	6	2	1	3	30	30 5
Hertfordshire	6	2	0	4	26	34 4
Surrey	6	1	1	4	21	39 3
Berkshire 2nd	6	0	0	6	9	51 0

**OVER 60'S**

SENIORS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Premier</b>							
Devonshire	7	5	2	0	45	25	12
Sussex	7	5	1	1	42	28	11
Yorkshire	7	5	0	2	48	22	10
Middlesex	7	4	1	2	47	23	9
Essex	7	2	2	3	33	37	6
Durham	7	1	2	4	30	40	4
Leicestershire	7	0	2	5	23	47	2
Surrey	7	1	0	6	22	48	2

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lancashire	6	3	0	0	48	12	12
Derbyshire	6	5	0	1	37	23	10
Lincolnshire	6	2	2	2	31	29	6
Nottinghamshire	6	2	1	3	29	31	5
South Yorkshire	6	2	1	3	23	37	5
Cheshire	6	1	1	4	25	35	3
Yorkshire 2nd	6	0	1	5	17	43	1

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gloucestershire	6	4	1	1	39	21	9
Wiltshire	6	4	1	1	35	25	9
Berkshire	6	4	0	2	40	20	8
Glamorgan	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Kent	6	3	0	3	31	29	6
Buckinghamshire	6	1	1	4	21	39	3
Devonshire 2nd	4	0	0	4	7	33	0

Division 2A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cleveland	5	5	0	0	43	7	10
Northumberland	5	4	0	1	39	11	8
Warwickshire 2nd	5	2	1	2	17	33	5
Cumbria	5	0	3	2	18	32	3
Leicestershire 2nd	5	0	2	3	18	32	2
Durham 2nd	5	0	2	3	15	35	2

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Somerset	4	3	1	0	29	11	7(95-55)
Cornwall 1st	4	3	1	0	29	11	7(99-60)
Worcestershire	4	2	0	2	20	20	4
Avon	4	1	0	3	16	24	2
Cornwall 2nd	4	0	0	4	6	34	0

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cambridgeshire	5	4	1	0	32	18	9
Warwickshire	5	3	2	0	33	17	8
Hertfordshire	5	2	1	2	27	23	5
Bedfordshire	5	1	2	2	25	25	4
Suffolk	5	1	2	2	24	26	4
Northamptonshire	5	0	0	5	9	41	0

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesex 2nd	5	5	0	0	38	12	10
Sussex 2nd	5	4	0	1	30	20	8
Surrey 2nd	5	2	1	2	26	24	5
Kent 2nd	5	1	2	2	21	29	4
Essex 2nd	5	1	1	3	23	27	3
Berkshire 2nd	5	0	0	5	12	38	0

JUNIORS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Premier Division</b>							
Buckinghamshire	7	6	1	0	47	23	13
Derbyshire	7	5	1	1	46	24	11
Cheshire	7	5	0	2	43	27	10
Yorkshire	7	3	1	3	33	37	7
Devonshire	7	1	3	3	33	37	5
Kent	7	2	1	4	27	43	5
Durham	7	1	2	4	26	44	4
Glamorgan	7	0	1	6	25	45	1

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lincolnshire	7	6	1	0	52	18	13
South Yorkshire	7	6	1	0	51	19	13
Essex 2nd	7	5	0	2	38	32	10
Nottinghamshire	7	3	0	4	26	43	6
Northamptonshire	7	2	1	4	29	40	5
Lancashire	7	2	0	5	32	38	4
Yorkshire 2nd	7	1	0	6	23	47	2
Cleveland	7	1	1	5	28	42	3

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Essex	7	6	1	0	54	16	13
Surrey	7	5	1	1	43	27	11
Middlesex	7	4	1	2	39	31	9
Somerset	7	4	0	3	38	32	8
Sussex	7	3	0	4	34	36	6
Buckingham 2nd	7	3	0	4	31	39	6
Gwent	7	1	1	5	23	46	3
Warwickshire	7	0	0	7	17	52	0

Division 2A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Worcestershire	8	5	3	0	53	27	13
Cheshire 2nd	8	6	1	1	52	28	13
Lincolnshire 2nd	8	5	2	1	47	33	12
Staffordshire	8	3	4	1	46	34	10
Lancashire 2nd	8	4	0	4	42	38	8
Shropshire	8	2	1	5	35	45	5
Durham 2nd	8	2	1	5	34	46	5
Northumberland	8	2	0	6	26	54	4
Northampton 2nd	8	1	0	7	25	55	2

Division 2B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hampshire	9	9	0	0	81	9	18
Cornwall 1st	9	8	0	1	77	13	16

# COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS TABLES

Final Tables for 2004/2005 Season  
compiled by Leslie Smith

Devonshire 2nd	9	6	1	2	51	39	13
Dorset	9	5	1	3	49	41	11
Gloucestershire	9	4	1	4	39	51	9
Avon	9	4	0	5	43	47	8
Devonshire 3rd	9	2	2	5	32	58	6
Cornwall 2nd	9	2	1	6	38	52	5
Wiltshire	9	2	0	7	32	58	4
Devonshire 4th	9	0	0	9	8	82	0

Division 2C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hertfordshire	8	8	0	0	67	13	16
Essex 3rd	8	6	1	1	58	22	13
Norfolk 1st	8	5	2	1	61	19	12
Suffolk	8	5	1	2	55	23	11
Bedfordshire	8	3	1	4	36	44	7
Norfolk 2nd	8	3	0	5	28	52	6
Norfolk 3rd	8	2	0	6	27	53	4
Huntingdonshire	8	1	0	7	13	67	2
Cambridgeshire	8	0	1	7	13	65	1

Division 2D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Middlesex 2nd	9	8	0	1	66	24	16
Kent 2nd	9	7	2	0	63	27	16
Sussex 2nd	9	6	2	1	64	26	14
Buckingham 3rd	9	6	2	1	51	39	14
Oxfordshire	9	3	1	5	41	49	7
Surrey 2nd	9	3	1	5	38	52	7
Kent 3rd	9	3	1	5	34	56	7
Berkshire	9	3	0	6	43	47	6
Sussex 3rd	9	0	2	7	23	67	2
Avon 2nd	9	0	1	8	27	63	1

CADETS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Premier Division</b>							
Lincolnshire	6	4	2	0	39	21	10
Yorkshire	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Surrey 1st	6	2	3	1	31	29	7
Somerset	6	2	1	3	28	32	5
Durham	6	2	1	3	27	33	5
Sussex	6	1	2	3	28	32	4
Lancashire	6	2	0	4	25	35	4

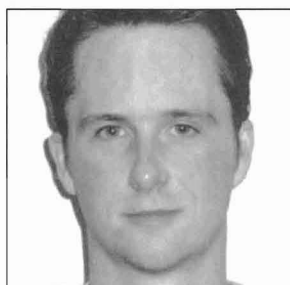
Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cleveland	6	5	0	1	41	19	10
Cheshire	6	4	0	2	42	18	8
South Yorkshire	6	4	0	2	36	24	8
Northampton 1st	6	4	0	2	33	27	8
Leicestershire	6	3	0	3	34	26	6
Nottinghamshire	6	0	1	5	14	46	1
Northampton 2nd	6	0	1	5	10	50	1

Division 1B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gwent	7	7	0	0	57	13	14
Berkshire	7	4	2	1	40	30	10
Warwickshire	7	4	0	3	42	28	8
Glamorgan	7	2	2	3	28	42	6
Sussex 2nd	7	1	3	3	29	41	5
Gloucestershire	7	1	3	3	26	44	5
Worcestershire	7	1	2	4	30	40	4
Surrey 2nd	7	1	2	4	28	42	4

VETERANS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
<b>Premier Division</b>							
Cheshire	7	5	2	0	52	18	12
Devonshire	7	5	1	1	45	25	11
Lancashire	7	5	0	2	43	27	10
Kent	7	2	3	2	33	37	7
Northumberland	7	3	1	3	31	39	7
Essex	7	1	2	4	29	41	4
Sussex	7	1	1	5	27	43	3
Surrey	7	1	0	6	20	50	2

Division 1A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cheshire 2nd	7	6	0	1	50	20	12
Yorkshire 1st	7	6	0	1	48	22	12
Worcestershire	7	4	1	2	43	27	9
Norfolk	7	2	2	3	32	38	6
Oxfordshire	7	2	2	3	31	39	6
Hertfordshire	7	2	0	5	25	45	4
Yorkshire 2nd	7	1	2	4	24	46	4
South Yorkshire	7	1	1	5	27	43	3

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by  
**RYAN JENKINS**

THINGS are certainly moving across the Severn at the moment. The preparation for the Commonwealth Games is soon to be under way with Australia in our sights. As I go to press apparently Bethan Dauntton has been asked to dust her bat off and return to play for Wales!

I have just returned from Stoke where I won another Grand Prix - about time someone shouts - and regain the overall Grand Prix winner title, by a whisker I needed William Henzell to fall at the semi-finals and for me to win, which happened. I had it under control....honest.

Stephen Jenkins will be eager to get back on court after finishing his studies and propelling himself back into the Grand Prix circuit next season. Speaking of next season GP's, it's great to see extra cash being put in and there have been 2 super tournaments which will bag the winner £700. Wonder if I will go?

Li Chao the Chinese national coach will stay on for a further 2 years after extending his contract. Great news for Wales, as he is an excellent coach and has helped me and others enormously. Good luck Li Chao.

The Bristol Academy will start in September, and not only do I wish to be there as much as possible, but it could be a great chance for Welsh players to benefit from it. The problem is at present many players in Wales want everything given to them on a plate, and they should think back to times where travelling around the UK to look for decent practice was inevitable to survive for them. Take note...  
Diolch yn Fawr

• **SINGAPORE** is the venue on July 6 for a meeting of the IOC when the city for the 2012 Games will be chosen. The odds are on Paris, but London has every chance of upsetting the French bid.

• **AT** this meeting, the IOC are said to be reviewing the 28 sports of which table tennis is one. They will have the power to reject for the future and to bring in new sports one of which is our rival squash rackets. The huge following we have in Asia could save us from being shown the door

• **DAME KELLY HOLMES** was the guest of honour at the annual meeting of the Sports Journalists' Association held at Sport England, Bloomsbury Square on April 20, when I was the only journalist representing table tennis.

• **TWENTY-FOUR** hours after receiving her 27th special award

from the journalists she announced that she would be retiring at the end of this season from mainstream competition but might make a final farewell at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne next March.

• **DAILY MIRROR** readers who follow soccer and table tennis will be interested to know that Martin Rogers is a staff football writer based at Nottingham where he manages and provides accommodation for the Australian No.1 William Henzell, overall runner-up in Grand Prix circuit, narrowly behind on points to the winner Ryan Jenkins.

• **HOPES** are not high that the Mirror might cover some table tennis, as it did many years ago with a national singles tournament. As in most of the "red-top" national newspapers football overrides

almost every other sport and virtually ignores smaller sports, unless they have world-class players.

• **ENQUIRIES** were made about a protest by 70 players in Shanghai, including Werner Schlager over the playing conditions and equipment. The annoyed players were complaining about the lack of air conditioning, possible wind-draught and 'soft' balls.

• **TONY CHATWIN**, our man on the technical committee was unaware of the protest when he left Shanghai. Watch this column. As the complaints concerned conditions and equipment at the World Championships, now finished, nothing is likely to happen, other than the committee taking note for future events.

## EURO & WORLD NEWS

Compiled by JOHN WOOD



**RYU SEUNG MIN**

### Volkswagen Open Korea

#### Edge of their Seats

THE Korean supporters in the Palma Stadium in Suncheon were kept on the very edges of their seats by their heroine Kim Kyung Ah in the Women's Singles final at the Volkswagen Open Korea on Sunday 12th June 2005, as she recovered from a three games to one deficit to

beat Singapore's Li Jia Wei by the narrowest of seven games margins to take the title.

It was a thrilling encounter and a good day for Korea; further titles came their way in both the Men's Singles and Men's Doubles events with experience the key to success.

In the Men's Singles final Oh Sang Eun, the number four seed, beat twenty year old compatriot Lim Jae

Hyun in four straight games whilst in the Mens Doubles, Ryu Seung Min and Lee Jung Woo overwhelmed their colleagues Jo Ji Hoon and Kim Tae Hoon.

### ITTF World Ranking List 1st June 2005

#### European Men's Progress

Timo Boll of Germany and Vladimir Samsonov of Belarus have both progressed one place on the ITTF Men's World Ranking list published on Wednesday 1st June 2005.

Boll moves to number three whilst Samsonov advances to number four; the top two places both remain unchanged with the two Chinese players who contested the final of the Men's Singles event at the Volkswagen 48th World Championships in May, Wang Liqin and Ma Lin, retaining the top two positions respectively. The player to suffer at the expense of the Europeans in China's Wang Hao, he falls from third to fifth place.

In the Women's Ranking list China occupied the top four places in May 2005, and in June 2005 they went one better; occupying the top five positions.

**BERKSHIRE**

by Colin Dyke

THE Senior 1st team finished their season in Division 1B with a flourish, winning all three of their final group matches at Cippenham, beating Kent 6-4, Glamorgan 8-2 and Bucks 9-1. A great all round team performance with Dave Barr unbeaten and Lisa Crick losing only once. The Kent match was indeed tight with Hari Gehlot clinching the win in the very last set when beating John Harley 7, 8, 9. Earlier, with the match score standing at 3-3, Lisa Crick had a crucial win over Kim Mudge by 10, 6, -2, -6, 3 to put Berkshire ahead for the first time, then Dave Barr beat his opposite No 1 Steve Beerling by 7, 7, -9, 7 to make it 5-3.

The scoreline (8-2) against Glamorgan was hard earned. Three sets could easily have gone the other way, these being Barr's 8, 8, 4 -11, 10 win over Neil Page, Crick's 6, -8, 8 -8, 8 win over C Thomas and Susan Johnson's -7, 7, 5 -8, 11 win over Lucy Kelly.

The Senior 2nd team have had a poor season, losing all five matches in a tough Division 2D. Their journey to Byng Hall brought defeats by Sussex 2(2-8), Middlesex 2 (0-10) and Kent 2(2-8). Lisa Bosley and Mary Allan were the winners against Sussex, both beating Emma Etheridge whilst the men took the two against Kent.

The Juniors, captained by Alan Dines, completed their final session at Cippenham with a win over Sussex 3(10-0) and defeats v Bucks 3(4-6) and Kent 2(3-7). The score v Sussex wasn't a true reflection of the closeness, with Ayonija Sundararajan beating both Emma Overy and Yolanda King in five and Chenchen Wang also needing five against King. Ross Saxby, Kuldeep Gehlot and Richard Andrews all had to work hard. The girls both beat Stephanie Mitchell of Bucks who could not field a second lady player. The boys lost some close sets in this match notably Saxby to Jonathon Hall by -5, 3, 4, -3, -8 and Gehlot to Craig Brown 8, -10, -8, -10.

The Cadets team had an excellent season in Division 1B, finishing runners up by winning four, drawing two and losing only one of their matches. In the final series of matches at Guildford TTC, they had wins over Surrey 2 and Sussex each by 7-3 and fought back to an excellent draw against Gloucestershire. Against Surrey, Ben Davis, Greg Beckett and Ayonija Sundararajan each won two with Ross Saxby adding a win over Nikil Chaudhary by 5, -8, 9, 10. Beckett and Davis both had excellent wins over Surrey No.1 James Ma. Against Gloucestershire the team found themselves 5-3 down, but then the reliable Sundararajan beat Lucy Parsons 3-1 and Saxby beat Niall Pawsly 3-0 to clinch the draw.

The Vets 2nd team led 3-1, then came back from a 5-3 deficit to draw with Worcestershire 2 when Derek Wood beat Eric Hardman 3-1 and then Bob Davis and Denise Rolfe won an exciting set 10 mixed doubles against Nick Mytton and Margaret Dignum by -3, 10, -6, 8, 9. Earlier Dave Streak beat Chris Maiden 3-1, Davis beat Hardman 3-1 and Wood/Rolfe beat Hardman/Dignum 3-0. Streak suffered the closest of defeats v Mytton losing -10, -7, 9, 8, -9 when Berkshire were 3-1 ahead.

The Vets 3rd team were our star performers winning all their matches in Division 4B in style. However both Worcestershire 3 and Hertfordshire 5 put up strong resistance in the last two matches before each succumbed by 6-4. Tony Brown and Denise Weller were the force against Worcestershire, both finishing unbeaten in singles and doubles. Against Herts 5, we nearly let a 5-0 lead slip as the visitors clawed back to 5-4 but then Denise Weller and Richard Rosinski won the final mixed 4 -6 5 7. Tony Brown won two v Stuart

Mylrea and John Barnes, Nick Heaps beat Andy Nash and Weller/Brown added the other mixed.

The Vets 4th team finished strongly with two draws and a win. The draw with Devon 4 was achieved after being 5-3 down when Colin Wilkes beat Phil Goulding 3-0 and then Pam Spooner/Wilkes beat Annabell Challenger/Kevin Taylor -4 -5 9 1 7. The men's doubles was a close affair when John Morris/Wilkes beat K Taylor/Dean Taylor -3 -9 9 9 12. Morris then lost in a similar nail-biter -11 -9 5 8 -10 to Goulding. Wilkes finished the match unbeaten. A draw then followed v Hertfordshire 6 due to a return to form of both John Morris and Geoff Civil. Morris beat Alan Shelford and Brian Gale (-8 14 -5 2 7) and Civil beat Shelford and Dave Wilson.

The Vets 5th team's only defeat of the season was against Dorset 3 by 7-3. Clive Banham beat Brian Bickell whilst Allan Bruton beat Eric Buckley 3-0. A good win for Carol Byers over Sylvia Smith 6 -5 7 -9 7 completed the scoring. One close scoreline when Bruton lost to Bickell -8 -10 14 10 -4. The team then clinched second place by beating Devon 3 by 8-2. Mike Harris returned to form by beating Phil Keely and then Kevin Rice in a cracking match -13 10 3 -10 10. Clive Banham finished unbeaten on the day whilst Dave Gilham added two good wins. Carol Byers lost the ladies singles to Pat Lyon but was involved in two excellent mixed doubles wins.

The Over 60 1st team finished with two good wins to clinch third place. A 7-3 win v Hertfordshire included good wins for John Morris over Alan Lamprell and Brian Gale whilst Colin Dyke's win over Gale was a first. Tony Brown surprisingly lost 3-1 to the wily Geoff Bax but recovered to beat Lamprell 3-0. Gill Knightley beat Anne Fereday 3-0. This was followed by a win over Surrey by 6-4. However it stood at 4-4 before Tony Brown beat John Fannin 3-1 and Dyke/Knightley beat Ron Tracey/Joan West to clinch it. Brown had earlier beaten Frank Hams whilst Knightley remained unbeaten with a singles and two mixed. John Morris's set with Tracey was a classic losing -5, 14, 7, -8, -7 in the most entertaining set of the afternoon.

The Over 60 2nd team struggled in a division consisting of all county first team opponents. They lost 10-0 to a strong Sussex team although 4 went to five. Peter Bennett lost to both Brian Simmons and Ken Trill 3-2 and Allan Bruton also took Simmons all the way. Bruton/Clive Dawson then lost the men's doubles in five.

Finally a honourable defeat 4-6 to Surrey at least put some sets on the board including Mike Harris's excellent 3-0 win over Ron Tracey and Sylvia Bruton's 3-0 success over Judy Kerlander (together with two mixed doubles). It could have been closer as Allan Bruton only lost 3-2 to Ron Langheim and Mike Harris 3-2 to John Fannin.

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE**

by Steve Rate

AT the Cambridgeshire Table Tennis Association AGM which took place in June, Steve Rate was elected the General Secretary of the association and also elected as the Press Officer.

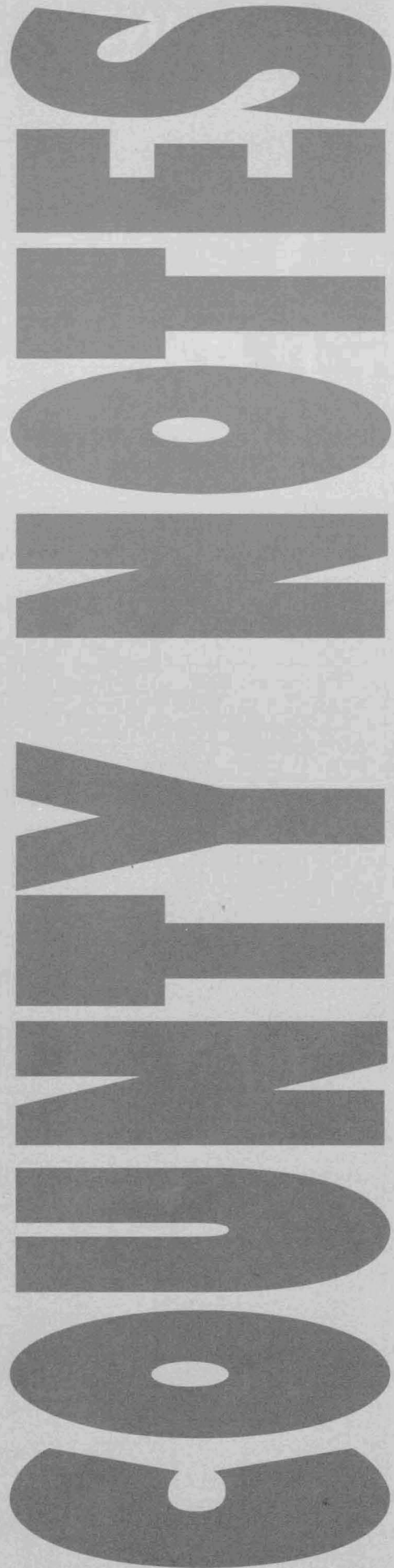
An enthusiastic Steve said, "Will you please accept myself as the contributor to County Notes for Cambridgeshire, which I hope to do on a regular basis for publication in your magazine."

**CLEVELAND VIEW**

by Alan Ransome

**GIRLS MAKE PROGRESS**

AS the County Association, we have been very pleased over the last five years with the performances of our Junior and Cadet boys, including Paul and Bryn Drinkhall, Steven Bailey, Danny Reed and a number of others who have made good progress in the sport.





## CLEVELAND'S DAVID POULTNEY



**DAVID POULTNEY (above right) is pictured receiving his presentation from the President of the Middlesbrough League ALAN RANSOME**

It is only recently, however, that we have been able to look to our girl players for worthwhile results.

Our Ladies' County Champion is 15 year old Rachel Greener who has shown significant improvement over the last few months and this was evident in the Butterfly Grand Prix at Wolverhampton in April and at the Grand Prix at Stoke earlier this month. Rachel won the Band 2 and Band 3 Women's Singles in both tournaments.

Rachel has also made good progress in the Cadet section, which included finishing 5th in the National Cadet Masters in Slough in April. Rachel won six of her eleven matches in the final group which would not have been possible until recently.

Two more of our girls shone in the National Under 12 and Under 13 Championships at King's Lynn on 4 June. Karina and Katherine Lefevre won their first national medal by finishing in second place in the Under 13 Girls' Doubles.

The Ormesby pair, from an unseeded position, beat the 4th seeds, Charlotte Airey and Dominique Jones of Lincolnshire, in the quarter finals and 2nd seeds, Sarah Russo of Sussex and Melissa Wright of South Yorkshire, in the semi finals before losing to the top seeds, Mary Fuller of Yorkshire and Martha Travis of Cornwall.

In the Under 12 Girls' Singles, Karina reached the semi finals before losing to top seed, Martha Travis and in the Under 13 Singles, Karina defeated top seed Mary Fuller in the second round before losing to Hayley Potts of Herefordshire in the quarter finals.

Another top prospect, 10 year old Chloe White, has also been improving rapidly. Chloe was part of the Ormesby 8-a-side team that participated in the Alan Sherwood Cup, organised by TTK Greenhouse at Morpeth School in East London earlier this month, where Chloe, playing at No 8 mainly against boys, won all eight of her matches, despite being a game behind on 3 occasions.

Add to this Jenny Lowther and Emily Greener and the Ormesby Girls' Squad is looking very promising for the medium term future.

In addition to the progress that has been made in the South of the County at Ormesby, Jane Durham is also doing well with her girls' squad at Northfield.

The Northfield team finished second in the English Schools Team competition and also have a useful squad of young girls.

Further encouragement from the girls' perspective

is the participation in the Tees Valley Youth Games, being held on Sunday 19 June. The entry from the five Tees Valley boroughs - Middlesbrough, Stockton, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland and Darlington - is set to be a 100% increase on the previous year with 14 teams of 3 players participating in the event, to be held at Northfield School.

### **BIZARRE RULE EXCLUDES RACHEL**

Cleveland's leading junior girl, Rachel Greener, is excluded from representing the County in the various County Championship competitions because of an unfortunate side effect of recent changes to the County Championships Regulations.

The regulations were changed 3 years ago to remove County of Choice from the eligibility criteria to stop players who had no link with the County association other than participating in the Championships travelling, strengthening County teams. The rule allows only people who were born in the County, live in the County, had prior eligibility or have only ever played in a league which is affiliated to the County without having played in another league in a different County.

Rachel Greener lives in Durham, outside the Cleveland boundary but plays all her table tennis, 3 or 4 times a week, at the Ormesby Club, other than Open tournaments, within the County and is not a member of any club, league or organisation outside Cleveland. However, because Rachel played a match in the Darlington League when she was 11, she is excluded under the current rules from representing our County. The matter is made even more bizarre by the fact that Rachel's sister, Emily, who naturally lives in the same house and attends all the same training sessions that Rachel does, is eligible to play for Cleveland.

This unfortunate situation is clearly not Rachel's fault or the County's and we have done our best to persuade the powers that be of this unfairness. Currently the rule still stands. We would have hoped that those in authority would have recognised the nonsense of this situation and would have wanted players whose total loyalty and affiliation is within one County to be able to represent it. To date, other than the efforts made by ourselves, there seems to be no interest in taking action to find a solution. We will continue to press for the change and hopefully Rachel will be able to play for her County one day.

### **RETIREMENT AFTER 68 SEASONS!**

Retiring Middlesbrough League Registrar, David Poultney, was presented with an award from the League by President Alan Ransome last month to mark his 34 years of service to the Middlesbrough League. What is more, in addition to the 34 years with the Middlesbrough League, David has been the Registrar Knock Out Cup Secretary for the Cleveland & District Summer League for the same period. David has conducted 68 continuous local table tennis seasons spanning that period which could well be a British or World record. Can anyone beat it?

During that time, David has produced a computerised handicap system which is felt to be one of, if not the most accurate available for assessing the standard of table tennis players and calculating handicap starts for team cup competitions.

David has played in both leagues throughout the whole of the period.

## **CUMBRIA**

*by Gordon Brown*

ANYONE who has played in the British League will know of the energy, endeavour and expertise required just to even provide good competitive

games for opponents.

To actually win a division is a remarkable feat. No Cumbrian team did that last term, but the county's only representatives, Barrow certainly had the aforementioned qualities.

Like the Cumbria team in the county championships, Barrow are Cinderella's and finished second bottom on Division Three North above B. D. Fastbats!!

But the six-man side has a rich blend of youth and experience and the youngsters in the team are names for the future.

17-year old Jonathan Crawford, for example, finished the season with a 50% record and among his scalps was Scottish international Nick Baxter, of divisional champions McLymont National (Aberdeen). Jonathan's father, Duncan Crawford and another veteran Neil Hardley also had 50% records, while 20 year old Harry Carter had 25%, 30 year old Jason Million 30%.

The team blooded 13-year old schools champion Scott Crawford who must be congratulated on the one set the did win.

Cumbria was represented individually in the Blackpool team that finished fourth in Division Two North. Playing number three in a team of four, 19 year old Zeke Dixon of Levens, finished with a 75 percent record, and 40 year old Steve Dixon (no relation), from Kendal, had a 50 percent record.

Whitehaven have been awarded a £500 Sport Action Zone grant for a ball rotating machine, which Coach George Bell is finding useful as he tries to bring along the many promising young players joining the club.

### **CUMBRIA CLOSED**

Barrow players dominated the honours in Cumbria Table Tennis Association Closed Tournament at Barrow Table Tennis Centre, and in particular the Crawford family.

Jon Crawford won both the men's and junior singles, beating fellow townie Neil Smith and Kendal's Luke Biggins in the respective finals, and figuring in winning partnerships with brother Scott in the men's and junior doubles and with sister Helen in the mixed.

Helen also took the women's singles and younger brother Scott won the Under-15 singles. Champion veteran was Neil Smith, who beat Kendal's Bob Bagot in the final. Kendal players collected four runners-up medals, but none for winning.

*Men's Singles:* Winner Jon Crawford (Bar)

R/U Neil Smith (Bar)

*Men's Doubles:* Winner Jon Crawford/S Crawford

(Bar) R/U N Smith/S Cairns (Bar)

*Ladies Singles:* Winner Helen Crawford (Bar) R/U

Joyce Tallon (Ken)

*Veterans:* Winner Neil Smith (Bar) R/U Bob Bagot

(Ken)

*Junior Singles:* Winner Jon Crawford (Bar) R/U

Luke Biggins (Ken)

*Junior Doubles:* Winner J. Crawford/S Crawford (Bar)

R/U L Biggins/R Pimblett (Ken)

*Mixed Doubles:* Winner J. Crawford/H Crawford (Bar)

R/U S. Cairns/E Standing (Bar)

*Under 15 Singles:* Winner Scott Crawford (Bar) R/U

Matthew Bruce (Bar)

## **DERBYSHIRE**

*by Colin Deaton*

IT was most encouraging to hear of the selection of two of our leading players Shaun Marples (from Chesterfield) and Adam Frost (from Derby) to play in Saudi Arabia at their International training camp.

This will take place at the end of June with the tour manager being our own Tony Chatwin and Derrick Marples selected as coach.

About 14 young male players out of the junior status category have been invited from the United Kingdom

and it is pleasing that Derbyshire is so well represented.

Coaching sessions are continuing to be featured at throughout the county. Lea Green continues to the end of July under the guidance of Derrick Marples who is also conducting a level 2 coaching course at the Uxbridge Centre in Burton.

Derrick is no youngster these days but his dedication to our game is a bit special. He is our County chairman but places a special emphasis on advanced players. In particular he spends a lot of time helping his grandson and he informs me that he spends three mornings week developing the physical side of his game in order to develop his physical strength and speed. Judging by his results this year which have seen the 18 year old shoot up the men's Senior ranking list he is certainly benefiting from these sessions.

The Matlock League's young discovery Ben Goodwin continues to improve. His latest success being the winner of the Grantham 1 star U1 boys singles. According to the chairman of the league Tony Gregory they have also discovered a bright young female prospect in 11 year old Emma Coles. Young Emma is so keen that she does not want to go on the family holiday to Cyprus preferring to stay at home and practice. I have watched Emma training on several occasions and suggest you remember the girls name. I rate her as a tip for the top.

The Chesterfield League held their annual presentation evening on May 18 with Commonwealth Gold Medal winner Alex Perry the guest presenter. Three of the leagues finals were held, cadet boys, ladies singles and Veteran singles. Results of these events were:

Liam Pitchford beat Daniel Lowe 1 1-3, 1 1-8, 11-6 (Cadet Boys)  
Pat Thorley beat Lucy Davidson 11-4, 12-10, 8-11, 13-11 (Ladies Singles)  
Geoff Gill beat Steve Young 11-4, 8-11, 16-14, 11-6 (Veterans Singles)

Another good season has been enjoyed in Chesterfield and long serving chairman Ron Chapman paid tribute to some of the outstanding performances of our young players. Chesterfield now has 4 players ranked in the top 10 of the U 13 National ranking list. An achievement any league should be proud of.

There was also a surprise in store for Etta Vice Chairman Sandra Deaton who was awarded the Niedermhausen Trophy for services to local table tennis and Derbyshire young cadet player Jade Lawman was voted the leagues tournament player of the day. She came away with no fewer than three titles.

Staveley Table Tennis Club have been awarded the East Midland Advanced club of the year and next season plan to stage their own one star open tournament. Towards the end of next season it is anticipated that the club will be moving to their own 20 table venue which is now being built. This will indeed act as a shot in the arm for both Chesterfield and Derbyshire Table Tennis

## DEVONSHIRE

by John Vincent

THE Beacon Electrical Plymouth & District League held their presentation evening on Friday 13th May 2005. For the year 2004/5 the League had 6 Divisions, one down on the previous year, with 12 teams per Division. The Divisional champions and runners up were as follows:

Div.	Champions	Runners-up
1	Rok 'A'	DML/Woolwell 'A'
2	DML/Woolwell 'E'	Civil Service 'B'
3	Inter-City 'B'	Trelawney 'A'

4	Woodland Ford 'D'	Peverell Park Meth
5	Intercity 'E'	Astor 'E'
6	Civil Service 'G'	Rok 'E'

The Divisional Cup finals produced many close runners up as follows:-

Div.	Champions	Runners-up
1	China Fleet	DML/Woolwell 'B'
2	Wessex	Halwell 'B'
3	Crafthole Methodist 'A'	Intercity 'B'
4	Woodland Ford 'D'	Intercity 'D'
5	Intercity 'E'	Trelawney 'C'
6	Civil Service 'G'	DML/Woolwell 'J'

The Handicap Cup was won by DML/Woolwell 'F' over Trelawney 'B' (+2) by 6 games to 5.

Unfortunately the Plymouth Schools League did not run through lack of an organiser.

### THE PLYMOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**CHAMPIONSHIPS** were run over two evenings by John Smith (St Peters coach) with other coaches helping Cedric Foster and Matthew Powell (St Josephs) Nancy Jarvis (Yealmpton), John Vincent (Yealmpstone Farm) and Cyril Whiting a County Umpire.

#### INDIVIDUAL EVENT

34 children enthusiastically participated.

#### RESULTS:

Overall Winner: Vicky Smith r/u Jack Marsh  
Girls Champion: Vicky Smith r/u Alice Phillips  
Boys Champion: Seb Dartnell r/u Jack Marsh  
**(all the above St.Peters R.C.)**

BAND 1 Winner: Alex Rogers – St Peters

BAND 2 Winner: Tom Howe – Yealmpton

CONSOLATION 2 Winner: George Monk

–Yealmpton r/u Tom Tilbury – Yealmpton

CONSOLATION Band 1 Winner – Harry Jarvis – St Josephs Farm

CONSOLATION Band 2 Winner – Georgina Talbot – Yealmpstone Farm

CONSOLATION Leading Girl – Leigh Wood – Yealmpstone Farm

#### TEAM EVENT

##### 33 children in 11 teams

#### RESULTS:

##### GRADE A COMPETITION

1	St Peters	(Boys)
2	St Peters	(1 Boy, 2 girls)
3.	Yealmpton	(Boys)

##### GRADE B COMPETITION

GIRLS Winners: Yealmpstone Farm r/u St Josephs

BOYS Winners: Yealmpstone Farm r/u Mixed team

from 3 schools

(Ollie Buddell (Kings) Sam Yeo (St.Peters) Adam

McEnvey (Yealmpstone Farm)

Every child received a certificate certifying that they had competed enthusiastically in the "Fifth Plymouth Primary Schools T.T. Championships".

John Smith brilliantly organised these Championships and the presentation of trophies etc., was done by Matthew Powell our Wheelchair ETTA Level 2 Coach.

### DEVON SENIOR CLOSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

These were played at the Okehampton Table Tennis Centre.

The biggest surprise was Chris Brown becoming the **Men's Singles** Champion with a victory over Paul Whiting 11-9, 6-11, 11-8, 11-8 in a cracking final.

Other results:

**Women's Singles:** Sally Smith bt Sonia Wicks

**Men's Doubles:** Dennis & Shaun Gibbs bt Paul Whiting and Chris Smith

**Women's Doubles:** Pat and Tracy Lyon bt Sonia Wicks and Sally Smith

**Mixed Doubles:** Paul and Debbie Whiting bt Shaun Gibbs and Sonia Wicks

**Veterans Singles:** Paul Whiting bt Dennis Gibbs

**Plate:** Chris Warn bt Freddie Cutler

## ESSEX

by Steve Kerns

### BASILDON CLOSED

Terry Guymer and Debbie Auvache (nee Taylor) dominated the Basildon Closed Tournament this year. Terry had to fight off stiff challenges in the Mens and Veterans Finals but he came through safely in four games both times after stern examinations from Kevin Read and George Reeves. Debbie who played for Essex Junior first team not so many years ago looked good value for her wins in the Ladies Singles and Ladies Veterans Singles beating the prolific Linda Murray in both Finals. Results included :

**Mens Singles** - Terry Guymer beat Kevin Read 11-9, 11-8, 4-11, 11-6.

**Ladies Singles** - Debbie Auvache beat Linda Murray 11-2, 11-5, 7-11, 11-7.

**Mixed Doubles** - Kevin Read/Linda Murray beat Pat White/Debbie Auvache 11-9, 11-8, 11-5.

**Mens Doubles** - Kevin Read/Charles Sweeney beat Neil Barker/Dave Bassett 11-7, 13-11, 9-11, 4-11, 11-3.

**Veterans Singles** - Terry Guymer beat George Reeves 11-8, 13-11, 5-11, 11-9.

**Veterans Doubles** - Keith Phillips/Steve Woodley beat George Reeves/Babul McCleod 11-3, 11-9, 11-2.

**Ladies Veterans Singles** - Debbie Auvache beat Linda Murray 13-11, 11-5, 11-4.

### HARLOW CLOSED

For the third season running, a player making his debut in the tournament won the Mens Singles title. Two years ago it was Phil Logsdon, and last year it was Ayo Ademakinwa. This time Ayo had to make way for BATTs Peniel Academy's British League Premier division star Martin Kubrt in an exciting Final, with Martin's attack on both wings eventually proving too powerful. All four seeds reached their appointed Semi-Final spots with Martin and Ayo dominating their matches against Colin Carslake and Neil Brierley respectively.

Results included -

**Mens Singles** - Martin Kubrt beat Ayo Ademakinwa 13-11, 11-8, 7-11, 11-4.

**Ladies Singles** - Sandy Nash beat Amee Potts 11-7, 11-4, 12-10.

**Mens Doubles** - Ayo Ademakinwa/Chris Jones beat Martin Kubrt/Reuben Okai 11-8, 14-12, 11-8.

**Mixed Doubles** - Ayo Ademakinwa/Amee Potts beat Andy & Sandy Nash 11-8, 11-1, 7-11, 6-11, 13-11.

**Veterans Singles** - Colin Carslake beat Neil Brierley 6-11, 11-5, 11-6, 11-7.

**OGOs Singles** - Alan "Digger" Lamprell beat Ron Wilde 11-5, 11-7, 18-20, 15-13.

**Junior Boys Singles** - Alex George beat Sonny Bharambe 11-6, 11-4, 11-9.

**Under 11 Girls Singles** - Natasha Walsh beat Alice Iszatt 11-5, 11-3, 11-2.

**Under 11 Boys Singles** - Luke Walsh beat Ben Stevenson 11-7, 3-11, 11-13, 14-12, 11-4.

**Cadet Singles** - Alex George beat Sonny Bharambe 11-4, 11-3, 11-6.

### CLACTON CLOSED

Former County no. one Junior Keiran Lally, undefeated in League matches this season replicated his form on the bigger stage by taking the Mens Singles, Mens Doubles and Mixed Doubles titles. This was his second Mens Singles title. He came through hard tests against Iain Vine (3-1) and Martin Hogg (3-1) in the Semi-Final and Final of the Mens Singles. Isobel Barton set a new record by taking the Ladies Singles for a fifth consecutive time, a feat that not even the legendary Sheila Howe had been able to achieve in the past. Results included :

**Mens Singles** - Keiran Lally beat Martin Hogg 11-5, 11-13, 11-4, 11-8.

**Ladies Singles** - Isobel Barton beat Trisha Salter 15-13, 11-2, 10-12, 11-7.

## COUNTY NOTES - 4

**Mens Doubles** - Alan Burgess/Keiran Lally beat Colin Dearman/Kevin James 12-10, 11-5, 11-6.

**Mixed Doubles** - Keiran Lally/Annabelle Rodriguez beat Iain Vine/Christine Edwards 17-15, 9-11, 11-4, 10-12, 11-7.

**Veterans Singles** - Kevin James beat Alan Burgess 11-8, 11-6, 9-11, 11-9.

**Over 50s Singles** - Alan Burgess beat Dave Binns 11-3, 11-3, 11-8.

**Junior Singles** - Jason Fenner beat Russell Hillier 11-5, 8-11, 11-8, 11-4.

**Junior Doubles** - Simon Smith-Daye/Miles Vousden beat Jason Fenner/Russell Hillier 12-10, 8-11, 11-7, 11-9.

### BRAINTREE CLOSED

The return to action by former County player Peter Hayden after a six year break caused the most interest and he came very close to beating Steve Kerns in the Quarter-Final of the Veterans Singles. A very relieved Kerns scraped through 18-16, 4-11, 14-12, 8-11, 12-10 after the closest match of the Tournament. Hayden also made it through to the Mens Singles Final. Results included -

**Mens Singles** - Steve Kerns beat Peter Hayden 8-11, 11-4, 11-7, 11-9.

**Ladies Singles** - Kelly Skeggs beat Claire Johnson 11-3, 11-5, 11-8.

**Mens Doubles** - Steve Kerns/Jon Hill beat Ian Whiteside/Steve Pennell 13-11, 12-10, 11-3.

**Mixed Doubles** - Shu Huang/Hamish Innes beat Kelly Skeggs/Paul Davison 11-5, 11-3, 11-13, 11-9.

**Ladies Doubles** - Kelly Skeggs/Vicki Stredder beat Shu Huang/Claire Johnson 11-9, 9-11, 11-8, 1-11, 11-7.

**Veterans Singles** - Steve Kerns beat Ian Whiteside 11-2, 11-7, 11-6.

**Cadet Singles** - Tom Hill beat Andrew McEwan 6-11, 3-11, 13-11, 11-5, 11-5.

**Junior Boys Singles** - Ashley Skeggs beat Phil Hartley 11-9, 13-11, 11-5.

**Division One Singles** - James Mullane beat Tony Stredder 20-18, 13-11, 11-7.

## HAMPSHIRE

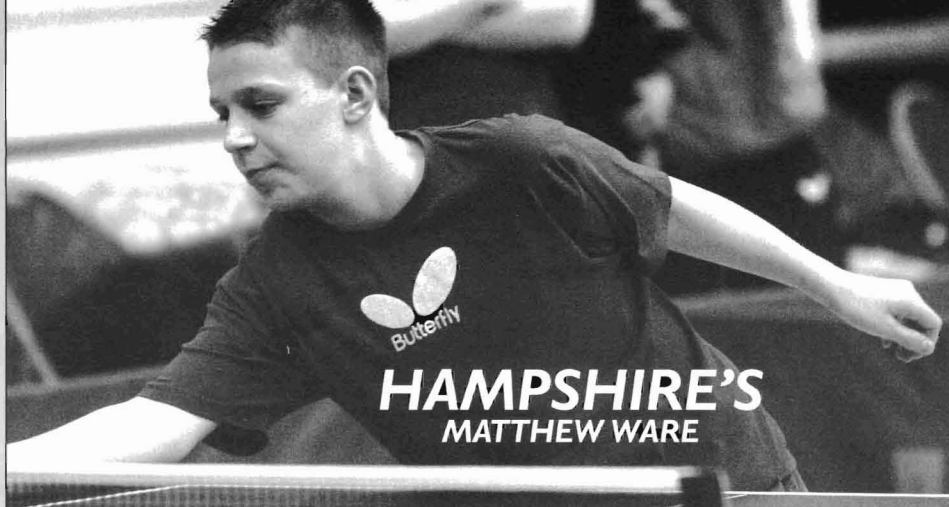
Jeremy Wilson

AN exceptional year for Southampton table tennis was capped when Matt Ware was called up to represent England.

Before this season, the city had not had an international table tennis player for 40 years – but can now boast two of them!

Cadet team-mate David McBeath was called up earlier in the season, while Ware was selected to face Wales in Cardiff.

It is also a huge feather in the cap for the Waterside table tennis club where both McBeath and Ware



**HAMPSHIRE'S  
MATTHEW WARE**

practice.

The duo were also part of the successful Hampshire junior team which this season gained promotion to the first division of the county championship.

Both Ware and McBeath were also recently in action in France where they were part of a six-strong Hampshire team that competed in the seventh youth international tournament in Nantes.

They were joined by Garth Kinlocke, Annabelle Morle, Albin Wemmert and Chloe Thomas to take on some of the best talent across Europe.

The atmosphere over the three days was electric and the Hampshire teams performed well to finish ninth in the 'minimes' age group and 14th in the 'cadet' category.

In other action, Southampton's Ruihao Zhang added another trophy to the cabinet when he lifted the Bournemouth Open Cadet tournament.

Held at the Redbridge Community School, Zhang triumphed from a field of 71, beating Bournemouth's Matthew Haynes 3-1 in the boys' final.

The girls' final was an all-Southampton affair with Sarah Warwick overcoming Katie Bradford 11-9, 11-8, 10-12, 11-5.

Victor Imiseev, meanwhile, enjoyed a clean sweep of major titles as the Kings Volvo Southampton table tennis league celebrated its biggest and best season for decades.

With a thriving youth coaching scene, table tennis in the city is currently enjoying something of a renaissance - and that was demonstrated by well over 100 entries for the annual competition which had to be spread over four days.

Despite the emergence of much young talent, there were many familiar faces battling it out for the men's singles crown, with Imiseev eventually taking his third title.

He beat defending champion Jeremy Wilson in a five-set semi before defeating Alpha's Alex Rorke in the final.

Imiseev then teamed up with Generation II teammate Charlie Childs to take the doubles title in a thrilling final against Southampton West's Gary Longland and Steve White, who had proved the surprise package of the tournament.

The women's final was tinged with nostalgia as Southampton West's Sue Hibberd defeated teammate Lesley Jerram - some 33 years after the duo had, as juniors, taken the women's doubles title!

This year, though, that honour went to Jenny Dobson and Katie Bradford, who teamed up to beat Anne Longland and Sarah Warwick in the final.

And it was junior players that largely stole the show.

The Southampton West Club, which has some 21 teams, and the Waterside Club with 12 teams, have produced numerous young players who will be pushing for the senior titles next season.

Waterside Premier player John McBeath beat Southampton West's Ruihao Zhang in the junior final.

Zhang, though, was not to be denied in the cadet's event, where he beat teammate David Wills in the final.

Southampton West's Sarah Warwick enjoyed a double in the girls' events, beating Becky House for the cadet title and then Joanne Dunkason in the junior final.

In other events, Southampton evergreen Chris Wilshere was a double-champion after narrowly bowing out of the men's singles at the semi-final stage to Rorke.

He beat Childs to take another veteran's crown and then teamed up with Anne Longland to beat her husband Gary and his doubles partner Sue Hibberd.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

by Ann Fereday

LOTS of results to bring you this month. The last round of matches for the Vets was April 2nd. Some more leagues have sent me their tournament winners plus close finishes in Premier divisions. March 23rd was the Herts. Closed Junior Championships.

Starting with the County teams – the biggest success was the Juniors. As written in the last County Notes - they came first in Junior Div.2c with final table showing played 8 won 8. Congratulations to all of them.

Herts had only one Seniors Team this year who played 5 matches – Won 2, Lost 2 & Drew 1 to finish 3rd in Senior Div.2c. The most successful player among the men was Paul Robertson.

There are 6 Veteran Over 40 teams. 4 had matches in the final round. The Second Team lost 3–7 to Kent 3 though Chris Ogle won both his singles. Team 4 lost to York 6 at home 4 – 6 but June Nelson won her singles & both mixed. Team 5 was short of 3 of the usual players & lost 4 – 6 away to Berks.3. At home Team 6 beat Wilts 4 by a score of 6–4, Jackie Channel won her singles & both mixed.

None of the Vets Teams won their division & none of them came last. The best placed teams were 4 & 5 who each finished third in their divisions. Overall the men with the best averages were – Barry Phillips, Stuart Mylrea & Larry Gregory. Whatever lady a team had, it was rare for them not win something. The most consistent lady was Sue Felstead.

Many thanks to Frank Sharpe who was the referee for most of the home matches.

In the Over 60's our team was placed 5th above Surrey & Berks 2.

### HERTS JUNIOR CLOSED

Event	Winner	Runner-Up
<b>Boys Under 15</b>	Alim Hirji	William Maybanks
<b>Boys Under 18</b>	William Maybanks	Ben Swart
<b>Girls Under 15</b>	Haylee Potts	Abigail Moore
<b>Girls Under 18</b>	Abigail Moore	Nikki Shah
<b>Boys Doubles</b>	William Maybanks	Muhammed Panju
	Alim Hirji	Mustafa Merali
<b>Girls Doubles</b>	Haylee Potts	Nikki Shah

## NOTE TO ALL COUNTY CORRESPONDENTS

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND YOUR COPY AND PHOTOGRAPHS TO MARIE KNIGHT AT HASTINGS HEAD OFFICE

TABLE TENNIS NEWS CAN ONLY ACCEPT COUNTY NOTES FROM ONE DESIGNATED CORRESPONDENT PER COUNTY

**Mixed Doubles** Tamsin Holland Abigail Moore  
Haylee Potts Abigail Moore  
Alim Hirji Ben Swart

**NORTH HERTS CLOSED**

This was an exciting tournament with 7 of the events going to a 5th set.

Ladies Singles – There were 3 entries.

In the final – Sandy Harper beat Janice Laing in the 5th set.

The Mens was won by Mick Harper over Harvey Cross.

Sandy Harper & Janice Laing took the Ladies Doubles, Lindsey Dare & Sue Felstead were runners up. The Mens Doubles saw Mick Harper & Josh Roseberry just beat Sam & James Dance. The Mixed was another long match with Mick & Sandy Harper beating Stuart Mylrea & Janice Laing.

In the Veteran Events – Sandy Harper won the Over 40's Ladies; taking 5 sets again to beat Janice Laing. 4 ladies had entered. In the Mens Over 40 & Over 50 Mick Harper was the winner, Stuart Mylrea the runner up. The Vets Doubles winners were Mick & Sandy Harper – runners up were Harvey Cross & Lindsey Dare.

The Juniors contested just 2 events. U/18 Boys Doubles – winners Josh Roseberry & Jamie Hubbard, runners up – James & Chris Selby. U/15 Boys Singles – winner Chris Selby, runner up - Michael Hubbard.

The North Herts Premier Division looked a very close run contest with Le Roi 'A' finishing first on 146 points only 2 points ahead of Bedwell 'A', until you see the SHAW League table.

St.Michaels & Adeyfield top the Premier each with 112 points. Count back on results between the 2 teams during the season was checked making St.Michaels first by 11 sets to 9.

**SHAW LEAGUE CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

This was organised by Frank Sharpe & held over 2 weeks at St.Michaels T.T. venue. The entry was high with 50 players competing for 8 titles.

Open Singles Mike Boardman beat Richard Murrell in the 5th set.

Ladies Singles Winner Clair Rogers, Runner up Ann Fereday

Mens Doubles Winners M.Boardman/M.York, Runners up G.Morgan/R.Hudson

Mixed Doubles Winners R.Hudson/Clair Rogers, Runners up G.Morgan/Ann Fereday

Minor Division Singles Clair Rogers beat Bob Gibson

Veteran Singles Winner R.Hudson, Runner up S.Sullivan

Junior Singles Winner Daniel Shine, Runner up Gyan Rhodes

Handicap Singles Winner Chris Jack, Runner up Jim Marshall

**BARNET LEAGUE CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIPS**

This year the titles all had new winners.

Open Singles – This was won by Alim Hirji, the youngest ever winner of this title. Runner up was Igor Kubeika.

Ladies Singles No competition due to only 1 entry. Oh dear!

Mens Doubles – Winners Terry Bateman & Dennis Robinson, Runners up Hil & Kal Azad

Mixed Doubles – Sanya Clements & Paul Nelson beat Brook Chi & Tony Brown

Veteran Singles – Dennis Robinson beat Paul Nelson 12/10 in the 5th set.

Senior Veteran Singles – Dennis Robinson beat Terry Bateman

Veteran Doubles – T.Bateman & D.Robinson beat B.Gale & K.Hartridge

Handicap Singles – Max Thomas beat Tamsin Holland

Under 13 years – Max Thomas beat Eden Fung

Under 15 years – Johnny Siskind beat Max Thomas

Under 18 years – Andrew Forbes beat Johnny Siskind 11/7 in 5th set.

In the April Issue I mentioned that William Maybanks was to spend Easter in Germany taking part in a Youth Tournament. How did he get on? Well, there were 30 teams. The English team came first with William making a big contribution. Lets hope this excellent result leads to better achievements for English table tennis in the future.

**NORTHANTS**

by Dennis Millman

ANDY TROTT retained the Men's Singles title when the EBS (UK) Ltd County Closed Tournament finals were staged at Glamis Hall. His opponent in the final was Greg Yarnall, who was trying to emulate his younger brother Tim – a recent winner of the Home International Under 18 tournament in Belfast.

The younger Yarnall had twice taken the men's singles crown, but despite some frantic retrieving Greg was unable to contain the talented Trott, who was taking the title for a ninth time.

It had been a weekend of close calls with three of the quarter finals and both semis going the full distance, with Richard Elliott's 16-14 fifth end verdict over John Fuller the closest. Ryan Keates was the only player to take Trott to a deciding end after himself being fully extended by Gordon Shaw, while Elliott's quest for a first success was ended by Yarnall at the penultimate stage.

Even Trott was unable to disturb the composure of Kettering's doubles champions Elliott and Ken Philipson who twice in preceding rounds had fought back from two games down. The final was a repeat performance but suddenly Trott and Steve Silk, winners in 2003, faltered. Elliott took control, Philipson began to demonstrate his considerable doubles expertise and in minutes they had taken the final three games for the loss of 16 points.

Sarah Hollis retained the ladies crown easily enough but things could have been very different if the forceful Katie Mansfield had taken one of several game points in the opening end finally won by Hollis 17-15.

If thirteen is unlucky for some the thirteenth Finals Night was certainly so for Mansfield who was also on the losing side in both the ladies and the mixed doubles. Those battling campaigners Clem Little and Viv Smiley needed all five ends but finally reversed last season's result to record a sixth win in eleven successive finals, with Little the only player to have appeared at every finals night.

In her third final Mansfield was partnered by Gary Webb but Yarnall and her doubles partner proved good enough to take the title for a second time.

In the Under 18 event Mansfield went close against Hollis, failing narrowly in the fifth to dethrone the holder, but a win came at last when the dependable Mansfield/Price duo won for the fourth time in the girl's doubles.

In the Under 18 Boys, Aron Chan added the singles to his Top 12 crown and then teamed up with his beaten opponent Matthew Carter to take the corresponding doubles.

At veteran level Ray Kingston, Managing Director of the sponsors, aimed to get duly rewarded for his generosity and started well when he beat the No.2 Seed and holder Steve Silk in the first round, but in the semi-final his close to the table attacking game was comfortably countered by the defensive strength of John Fuller. However, when Chris Ross employed the same tactics, Fuller started slowly and only occasionally did the final reach the anticipated heights with a peak performance from Ross giving

him his first title.

In the ladies veteran event Little was taking part in her eleventh final in twelve years but it was Smiley who again came out on top. A welcome surprise for Little came in the Over 50 doubles where she and Philipson took the honours after disposing of Shaw and Michael Edwards and then Bill Fletcher and Greg Dobrowolski in a straight game final. In the singles Philipson proved too strong for Shaw while in the Over 60 competition Fletcher beat his doubles partner to register a ninth win in ten years.

Greg Yarnall retained the Rod Marchant Memorial Trophy for 18 to 21's, while despite the presence of several tried and trusted pairings, the unseeded Gary Webb and Gary Deakin accounted for Shaw and Fuller, Edwards and Gibbons 11-9 in the fifth, and finally the No.1 Seeds Silk and Ross 13-11 in the final countdown, to become veterans doubles champions.

Deakin was also successful in the Class 1 Singles, while other winners of these events were Melissa Price, Matthew Horrocks, Sam Wildman and Ran Harrison, with Andrew Wood and Gerald Henson taking the corresponding doubles.

Northampton's highly rated girls dominated their events with Beth Walter in a class of her own, while Charlotte Binley and Amy Champman also ended on the winners' rostrum.

Matthew Carter took both Under 15 events with Marcus Dimmock, beaten in three finals, helping Carter to win the doubles.

The unseeded Jack Coleman had a busy day. Arriving back from another table tennis engagement in the Potteries, he won titanic encounters against Sam Wildman and Dimmock to take the Under 13 event. Wildman and Nick Smalley proved easy winners of the same age doubles, while Jordan Dainty made sure of the Junior Classified Singles.

Trophies were presented by Ray Kingston of EBS (UK) Ltd., County President John Palmer and County Chairman Ken Marchant, with the last named making a special representation to Tournament Organiser Phil Slade, who has organised some fifty tournaments in the county during the last 25 years.

**NORTHUMBERLAND**

by Pauline Long

**COUNTY JUNIOR CLOSED**

COUNTY junior No. 1, Andrew Dryden became the new champion and holder of the Norman Moore Memorial Cup following the tournament on 11th March at the Sporting Centre of Cramlington. He narrowly defeated Kevin Watson in the semifinal and followed that up with an equally tight match in the final against Adam McCormack.

Sinceing Ngai took the girls' singles title while the cadet singles went to Jamie Dent.

Results (Cramlington players unless stated)

Junior Boys' Singles:

Andrew Dryden (NSYMCA) beat Adam McCormack 12-10, 6-11, 11-9.

Junior Girls' Singles: Sinceing Ngai beat Debbie Dawson 11-7, 11-3.

Cadet Singles:

Jamie Dent (Oxhill YC) beat Ben Dawson 7-11, 21-19, 12-10.

Under-13 Singles: Yifan Pu beat Graeme Barnes 11-4, 6-11, 16-14.

Junior Band 2 Singles: Thomas Beckwith beat Jonathan Allinson 11-5, 11-6.

Junior Band 3 Singles: Stephen Hannah beat Steven Sinclair 7-11, 11-5, 11-4.

**County Closed**

The County Closed at the same venue on Sunday 3rd April unfortunately clashed with the final veterans' Premier weekend, which deprived the tournament of some of our top veterans. Nevertheless, it proved to be an interesting and absorbing day when Eddie Smith

came back from two games down to at last regain the open singles title from Andrew Wilkinson. The two players combined to retain the doubles title with victory over Neil Herrington and Mark Jackson.

The women's singles final was also a repeat of last season, with Lynne Herrington again getting the better of Pauline Long. It was a good day for the Herringtons, with Neil also winning the veterans' crown in his first season.

Junior champion Andrew Dryden reached three finals but lost them all - to Kevin Watson in the junior singles, Nigel Rodgers in the Grade 3 singles and to Bob Morse in the handicap final, which he had won the previous year.

Results (Cramlington players unless stated)

Open Singles:

Eddie Smith (Birtley) beat Andrew Wilkinson (NSYMCA) -7, -9, 8, 6, 7.

Women's Singles: Lynne Herrington (OE Jacks) beat Pauline Long (DWP) -6, 7, 9, 5.

Open Doubles: Smith/Wilkinson beat Neil Herrington (NSYMCA) /Mark Jackson (Birtley) 5, -10, 6, 8.

Junior Singles: Kevin Watson beat Andrew Dryden (NSYMCA) -9, 5, -3, 6, 8.

Cadet Singles: Thomas Beckwith beat Kye Phillips 7, 6, 8.

Veterans' Singles: N. Herrington beat Bob Atwell (DWP) 10, 7, 4.

Handicap Singles: Bob Morse (Alnwick) (+9) beat Dryden 15, 16.

Grade 1 Singles: Keith Weatherby (St. Chad's) beat Chris Thorp (Birtley) 7, 7, -11, 8.

Grade 2 Singles: John Donnelly (Byker) beat Bernie McCardle 8, 5, 4.

Grade 3 Singles: Nigel Rodgers (NSYMCA) beat Dryden 8, 4, 9.

Grade 4 Singles: Wally Ray beat Adrian Barnes -2, 8, -6, 7, 9.

A vote of thanks was given to Aubrey Drapkin for the tremendous amount of work involved in preparing and refereeing the event, which was said by many to be the most enjoyed Closed for several years. Alan Hedley, Jimmy Scope, Nigel Coe and all the other volunteers were also thanked for their considerable assistance.

#### Veterans' County Weekend

The County veterans' team of Dave Godbold, Geoff Salter, "Benny" Robertson, Caron Guthrie, and Christine Burke (on debut, replacing the unavailable Christine Robinson) plus travelling reserve Rob Dodds did enough during their final series of Premier Division matches at Ashford to remain in that Division for another season.

They beat Surrey 6-4, lost to Kent and Devon 2-8 and 3-7 respectively, and drew 5-5 with Essex. Dave and Geoff each won five sets, including victories over Paul Giles and Ian Girdler respectively, while "Benny" won two, which included a win over Mike Short. In addition, various combinations took three mixed doubles and one men's doubles.

#### Wilmott Cup

The Northumbria League team of Eddie Smith, Andrew Wilkinson and Dave Godbold beat Lincoln 5-2 at Cramlington to qualify for the semi-finals and final of this competition, due to be held at Derby over the weekend of 21 st-22nd May.

#### Northumbria League

The Northumbria League season has now been completed, and details are as follows:  
Premier Division: Winners: Birtley "A", Runners-up: Washington "A"

**Division 1:** Winners: Tyne Dock, Runners-up: Old England Jacks

**Division 2:** Winners: DWP "B", Runners-up: Cramlington Tigers

**Division 3:** Winners: North Shields YMCA "E",



**SOMERSET YEOVIL LEAGUE'S Western Decorating Supplies Handicap Cup winners: ILMINSTER 'A' (l.to.r.) CHRIS BRICE, JULIE MATTHEWS & JOHN SELBY, who also won the Division 3 title and were runners-up of the Scratch Cup**

Runners-up: Alnwick "A"

**Division 4:** Winners: Cramlington Magpies, Runners-up: West Gate "B".

The biggest shock was undoubtedly seeing last year's runners-up, North Shields, YMCA "A" finishing second bottom of the Premier Division - despite winning 10 of their 22 matches - and being relegated, albeit only by one point. This was mainly due to Malcolm Lusk's early season injury and unavailability of key players at crucial times, which led to several matches being conceded.

#### Team Handicap Knockout Cup

The Team Handicap Knockout Cup competition had at the time of writing reached the quarter-final stage, but some previous round matches were still outstanding.

#### Summer League

The Summer League season was due to commence on 1 6th May and will continue until mid-August.

## SOMERSET

by John Wood

#### YEOVIL & DISTRICT TTA

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YEOVIL LEAGUE are in need of a Commercial Manager, Honourary Treasurer and a Minutes Secretary. Anyone who is interested in filling one or more of these posts, should contact either Roy Harrison 01460 53562 or Rodney White 01935 862551, as names are required for the AGM which is on Wednesday 20th July.

#### Disabled Sports Event, Have A Go Sports Day - 2nd October 2005

Help required at Stanchester Sports Hall, Stoke Sub Hamdon from 10am to 4pm

Help required - Coaching, picking up balls and scoring for afternoon competition. Please contact Linda Lee on 01935 864465

#### Table Tennis Booklet

Mosterton's Bob Pearson has written a coaching booklet "Table Tennis Notes for Beginners and Improvers" aimed, as the title suggests, to newcomers to the sport and to lower division players who wish to raise the standard of their game. The booklet contains many useful hints on winning matches, based on Bob's 50 years of experience as a representative league player. Bob is a qualified ETTA coach and a founder member of the strong Mosterton club. All proceeds after printing costs have been paid will go to his scheme for coaching youngsters and bringing them into league table tennis.

The booklet costs £2.50, inclusive of postage, and is available from Bob at 2 Millfield, Beaminster, Dorset DT8 3EX (tel. 01308 862231). Orders of over two copies will be post-free and will be reduced to £2 per copy. Cheques should be made payable to the Beaminster Table Tennis Coaching Club.

#### Cup & Tournament results

##### Scratch Cup

Winners - Westland Greys  
Runners Up - Ilminster A

##### Handicap Cup

Winners - Barrington  
Runners Up - Sandford Orcas

##### American Handicap Cup

Winner - C. Glover  
Runner Up - M. Scully

##### One Day Tournament

##### Singles

Winner - L. Sadler  
Runner Up - S. Joel

##### Doubles

Winners - L. Sadler / M. Morley  
Runners Up - D. Beare / T. Takaishi

##### Division 3 Singles

Winner - C. White  
Runner Up - A. Masterton

##### Vintage Veteran Singles

Winner - A. Mitchell  
Runner Up - I. Rodgers

##### Junior Doubles

Winners - Solomon Hardy / T. Takaishi  
Runners Up - M. Mathias / L. Studley

##### Open Under 14's Tournament

Winner - Sam Hardy  
Runner Up - H. Clark

#### SOMERSET TTA AGM

AT the Somerset AGM held at Ashcott Village Hall in June, the following Officers were re-elected, President Brian Reeves, Chairman Mike Withyman, Vice-Chairman Brian Gibb, Secretary Margaret Mead, Treasurer Mike Hurley, Umpires Secretary Brian Gibb, Coaching Secretary Mike Hurley and Match Secretary Martin Rumary. Plus three new faces have been added to the County Committee, Neil Harrison and Paul Bovett as our Schools Representatives, and John Wood as the Press Officer.

## SURREY

by Chris Andrews

AT the European Championships, Joanna Parker was England's most successful woman. Joanna beat four players ranked higher than her including the World

No. 111 Elena Kovtun of the Ukraine. In the men's doubles Darius Knight and his playing partner met Vladimir Samsonov and Kalinikov Kreanga in the 1st round. Unfazed by truly World Class opposition, England's fifteen year olds won the first end 11-9, before eventually losing 3-1 to the pair who finished 2005 European Championships runners-up.

At the Polish Youth Open Surrey's Darius Knight along with Paul Drinkhall won Gold in the cadet boy's team event.

At the National Cadet Masters Surrey's Wing Yung Chan collected a silver medal and this was one of the reasons he was picked to play in the six nations event against Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Holland and France. In the team event we came fourth even without Paul Drinkhall and Surrey's Darius Knight.

At the National Championships Joanna Parker lost in the final of the under 21's to Kelly Sibley, while Darius Knight went out of the under 21's in the semi-final. They partnered each other in the mixed doubles and reached the semi-final, as well as this they both reached the semi-final in the men's and women's doubles.

Whitgift School (Surrey Metro) were runners-up in the English School Table Tennis Championships in the under 13 boy's category. Christchurch Junior School, New Malden was also runners-up this time in the under 11 girl's category. The team consisted of Helena Foylan, Ashika Khera, Lydia Regan, Sophie Lucas and Chloe Salt. All five train at the Graham Spicer Institute under coach Peter Corner. In the British Junior League Darius Knight was the top Surrey player on 80% and his team Southfields Elite were the top Surrey team coming fourth in the Premier Division. Caroline Linz was Surrey's top junior girl. Sarah Holmes was Surrey's top Women's British League player and the team she played for, Spicer Ladies were Surrey's top team. Sutton at home won the Division 3 title. In the men's Veteran's British League, Ian Girdler was the top Surrey player in the Premier Division and Graham Spicer 1 was the top Surrey team and they play in Division 2. Kim Mudge was Surrey's top Women's Veteran's British League player and her Combined Counties team were the top Surrey team.

In the County Championships, Surrey was relegated from the Seniors Premier Division even though Darren Blake won all eight of his matches in the last weekend.

Adam Laws has won three Championship titles since returning in February from China this year: The Aldershot Men's Singles, the Guildford Men's Singles beating Terry Haley in the final having already beaten Marc Burman in the semi-final and the Maccabi GB Men's Singles beating Gary Tendler in the semi-final and Eli Baraty in the final. The Surrey Interleague Competition was between Guildford A, Guildford B and Wandsworth A as all other Surrey Leagues declined to enter. In the final Wandsworth A beat Guildford A 5-2. Terry Haley of Guildford A remained undefeated. The Wandsworth team consisted of David Bangeter, Steve Holloway and Peter Barrow.

In the Byfleet League 2004-05 Season, Byfleet Lawn Tennis Club A won Division 1 while Byfleet Lawn Tennis Club C captained by Paul Welling won Division 2. Having ended up in the relegation zone at the start of the season Monk Hill B made a remarkable recovery by taking the Croydon League Division 1 title. The player who topped the averages was Tony Bostic. Wickham Park C and Wickham Park E won Divisions 2 and 3 respectively. In the Haslemere & District League Hawley A won Division 1 title, Haslemere E won Division 2 and Fernhurst C won the Division 3 title. The Reigate,

Redhill & District League's Premier Division was won by Redhill Methodist 1. Holy Trinity won the Division 1 title while Divisions 2 and 3 were won by Redhill Methodist 3 and YMCA 2 respectively. Rosehill A won the Sutton League Division 1 title, Chessington B won the Division 2 title, Woodmanstern won the Division 3 title and Crusaders G won the Division 4 title. David Harding was top of the averages in the Thames Valley League and the team he plays for won the Division 1 title, Moseley 2 won the Division 2 title, Malden 2 won the Division 3 title and Teddington 3 won the Division 4 title. In the Wandsworth & District League South Mitcham won Division 1, Earlsfield won Division 2, 24 Club won Division 3, Devas A won Division 4, Vale C won Division 5 and York Gardens E won Division 6.

## SUSSEX

by John Woodford

DIANE KIRKWOOD, chair of the Hastings League is the newly-elected Sussex national councillor.

At a meeting of the Sussex TTA Mrs Kirkwood was unanimously elected in place of the retiring Carol Beames.

Now Sussex have a huge problem trying to find volunteers to fill the post of secretary - Alan Beames is retiring and the post of assistant secretary, is shortly to be vacated by Carol Beames.

A bid to increase the number of teams in the premier division of the British League from eight to sixteen was supported by Horsham but was overturned despite efforts by Jon Kaufman and Alan Ransome who both favoured a larger top division, divided north and south.

Keith Jackson, chairman of Sussex is also retiring, but it is expected that a welcome nomination will be received for Chris Newberry, chair of the South-West Sussex league.

The supply of umpires is dwindling still further. The number of umpires that were prepared to day-trip to events are no longer willing to cover two-day events because of staying overnight. The problems are even bigger when 30 or more umpires are required for the major junior events. People promoting extra events - fine - but the umpiring situation is becoming alarming.

Peter Bartram (Worthing) provided the shock of the day at Fontwell when in the final of the prestigious Seaman Cup, he survived two match points in the sixth game to defeat Ritchie Venner 11-6 in the seventh to win the cup for the first time after trying for twenty years and reaching seven finals.

Venner, now coming up for his debut as a veteran (and currently a winner against all the top-ranked men including John Hilton) was bidding for his 13th Seaman cup victory.

Rose Rainton (Bexhill) had to struggle all the way before winning in the final of the Nicholls Cup against Sheila King who lost the final at 9-11 on a net-cord in the final game.

The other four junior events yielded these winners: Bradley Cup: Andrew Waddingham (Horsham); Rymill Trophy: Stacey Furnival (Hastings); Ginnaw Cup: Sally Hughes (Worthing); Jackson Cup: Ashley Miles (Worthing).

## WORCESTERSHIRE

by Ken Walton

AT the Senior County Closed championships, held for the first time at Arrow Vale School / Leisure complex, Redditch, two finals in particular held the audiences attention. They were the Mens singles final between holder Lewis Siket and Dudley's Lee Horton, and the Veteran Mens singles featuring holder and number 1 seed Steve Horton, and 4

times previous champion and number 2 seed Ken Walton.

Looking lean, fit and razor sharp, Lee traded topspin shots on both wings with Lewis, and took the 4th game at deuce, after trailing 2 sets to nil, meaning a decider would be needed. The exchanges continued in the final game, with the crowd applauding some brilliant rallies between the two, until Lee ended a 14 year gap from last winning the event, taking it 11-8! Well done both on an excellent final.

On a similar note, the veteran mens final see-sawed to a final game, with Steve and Ken putting every last ounce of effort into trying to lift the crown. Steve raced into a 6-1 advantage, but Ken, aided by several pieces of good fortune managed to claw things back to 9-9, with his serves to come. He managed to take the next 2 points to win the title he had last won in 2002. Again, an excellent final, appreciated by all.

Martin Madkins and Paul Garner from the Kidderminster league took the mens doubles honours, defeating Matt Squires and Lee Hipkiss in another close final, and Martin made it double celebration time when, in partnership with Lynda Reid, he captured the mixed doubles crown, defeating Lee Horton and Joanne Hill, from Dudley.

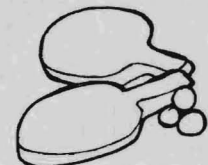
Despite having her car pinched from the car park on the day, Anne Barnes held things together to collect her first Ladies singles title, beating Margaret Dignum in 4 close games. Representing the Malvern League, Anne is a former Gloucestershire Junior player, and looks like a very useful addition to the female ranks for future County matches. She had to settle for runners up with Beryl Shammon in the Ladies doubles, as Margaret Dignum and Joanne Hill proved too strong. In the 'round robin' under 21 event, Sasha Grokhotov emerged the winner, with Jack Higgs finishing as runner up, thanks to earlier wins.

Thanks as always should go to Dave Roden and his team for overseeing the event, and to 'guest of honour', the legendary Ron Butterton for presenting prizes to winners and runners up alike.

A special well deserved vote of thanks was given by master of ceremonies Doug Young for the two Sue's. Sue Leach had baked lots of cakes for sale during the event, and Sue Walton ensured that players would not go short of cobs, tea and coffee on the day. Well done to both for raising £60 from their efforts, which will go into County coffers. No wonder Martin Clark looked happy, and not just because he had recorded a splendid win over Pat McCabe!

Excellent County Vets First news with the team securing 3rd spot in a very competitive Division 1A. With Ken Walton injured, Roy Norton stepped into the breach and performed admirably, as did Steve Horton, Pat McCabe, and Jill Harris, who remained unbeaten over both weekends. Defeat to winners Cheshire 2nds (7-3) was followed by wins over Yorkshire 1sts (9-1) and 2nds (8-2), before a 5-5 finish against Norfolk. Well done to Steve Horton in particular, for his excellent organisation of the 2 weekends, and to the players for developing a fantastic team spirit, which helped to turn defeats into victories, when at times, all seemed lost!!

Vets' 2nds drew 5-5 with Berkshire 2nds, with Nick Mytton playing well to compensate for a strangely out of touch Eric Hardman, whilst Martin Clark (1), Mike Meredith (1) and Mervyn Wood(2) couldn't prevent the 3rds from losing 6-4 to another of the Berkshire teams.











## Stuart Sneyd – an Appreciation from Richard Yule ETTA Chief Executive

In his own CV Stuart describes his involvement in the sport of table tennis as a life-long interest.

One short sentence which really does not do justice to the huge contribution he made in a voluntary capacity to the sport and the English Table Tennis Association over four decades.

Notwithstanding Stuart's passion for sport and in particular cricket and table tennis, the major love of his life was undoubtedly his wife Hilary and two sons, Jarryd and Darryl.

Table tennis helped to play a small part in bringing Hilary and Stuart together when, in 1962, both were employed at Burlington Mills, a large mail order factory. Stuart discovered Hilary's boss was a player and was quick to use the table tennis

connection to help cement a relationship.

Hilary was 15 and Stuart 17 when they first met. They became teenage sweethearts and four years later in 1966 they were married and embarked on a wonderfully loving and mutually supportive relationship. Hilary and Stuart had two sons who also became infected with the table tennis bug and both parents were immensely proud that Jarryd went on to represent his home town of Oldham and that Darryl went on to represent the County and become an England ranked player.

1966 was also an important year in Stuart's professional working life when he achieved an early ambition by following in his father's footsteps in joining the world leading textile company, Courtaulds. Thereafter, followed an illustrious 25 year career which included 4 years in engineering, 12 years in factory management and culminated in a 9 year period as Health & Safety Manager covering over 30 factory sites in the United Kingdom and France.

At the same time, Stuart's voluntary career in table tennis mushroomed as he became an ETTA senior level 4 star coach, an ETTA national referee and ITTF international umpire. In summary, he held various local, regional and national positions relating to coaching and ultimately became responsible for all aspects of table tennis coaching throughout England as Vice-Chairman of the English Table Tennis Association. In 1989 Stuart received the Ivor Montagu Award from the ETTA for services to the administration of the Association. In 1991 he was elected Deputy Chairman of the ETTA and in 2003, in recognition of his marvellous contribution including his 10 year tenure as Treasurer of the British Olympic Table Tennis Federation, Stuart was made an ETTA Vice-President.

In 1991 following a general downturn in the textile industry, Stuart's position within Courtaulds became redundant and he set up his own business as Pennine Coaching and Training. With the establishment of PCT in 1991 Stuart entered into a new phase and indeed a new table tennis phase where he was able to combine activity in industry with contract work involving the development of National Vocational Qualifications in Table Tennis Coaching.

To his eternal credit Stuart freely admitted that this whole new area of work in NVQ was not to everyone's taste or understanding. By his own admission the majority of table

tennis people "found it as interesting as watching paint dry"

Undaunted Stuart became advisor in NVQ development to all of the home countries and to cut a long story short this project has ultimately led onto a very exciting project, the United Kingdom Coaching Certificate which Stuart also project managed.

In summary, Stuart exceeded where Kings, Queens, Prime Ministers and Politicians have failed! He successfully kept the English, Scots, Irish and Welsh in the same room together for a considerable length of time without any fights breaking out! Better than that, he actually got everyone working together and gave the new UKCC project an excellent start. His legacy will be ably carried on by a newly appointed lead officer in this field, Karen King.

Finally, a few words about Stuart the man. He was highly principled but had a great sense of humour, laced with a little bit of mischief. Always immaculate, Stuart took great pride in his appearance and believed that looking the part was an essential element of the successful coach. As a colleague, I greatly admired and valued his excellent writing skills. A superb draftsman he was able to write in clear, concise beautiful English for the benefit of us lesser mortals trying to get to grips with the complex jargon and issues surrounding the national vocational qualifications industry.

Stuart could be genuinely described as a character and will have left his mark on everyone he worked with. Above all he will be remembered by everyone in table tennis as our friend.

## A Tribute to Brian Latham by John Freeman, ETTA Vice-President

Brian Latham died on 27 April 2005, aged 61. He had been seriously ill and in and out of hospital since he found he had tongue cancer about two years earlier but passed away at home.

Brian served on the Berkshire Committee for a total of thirty-six years from 1961 up to the time of his death often holding more than one post. He was Treasurer fourteen times, Berkshire League Competition Secretary ten times, Senior I Match Secretary fifteen times, Senior 2 Match Secretary four times Junior Match Secretary twice and Trophy Secretary twice. He was National Councillor from 2002 up to the time

of his death and became Berkshire's first County Representative Member of English Table Tennis Association Limited. In addition for many years he co-ordinated the County Championships fixtures list for eight County teams and arranged the venues for all home matches. He organised the Berkshire Closed Championships on two occasions and assisted at the control table a number of times. Brian was made a Life Member of the Royal County of Berkshire Table Tennis Association in 2003.

Brian also served on the Reading Committee for a total of twenty years. As a teenager he became General Secretary in 1961 and held that post for three years. He was Treasurer nine times, Assistant General Secretary three times, Divisional Fixtures Secretary eight times, Special Competitions Secretary twice, Inter Town Match Secretary twice and Publicity Officer twice. Brian was made a Life Member of the Reading Association in 1972.

Brian had not played Table Tennis for a long time but continued to be a very active administrator. In recognition of his service to Table Tennis in general, the English Table Tennis Association honoured him with the 'Maurice Goldstein Merit Award for devoted service to Table Tennis' in 2002. In recognition of his great contribution to Table Tennis in the County field, particularly in the administration of the County Championships, the ETTA awarded him the 'Leslie Forrest Memorial Trophy' in 2005 an award Brian had so much coveted. He learned about this two days before his death.

Brian's other great sporting interest was cricket and even since his illness he had followed the England team on its tour of the West Indies.

Colleagues from the Berkshire and Reading Committees and other table tennis friends attended his funeral at Reading Crematorium on 7 May.

As can be seen Brian did an enormous amount of work for Table Tennis over a long period of time and his services will be greatly missed.

## Further Obituaries

Table Tennis News passes on more sad news with the sudden death of Derek Elphick of the Haywards Heath & District Table Tennis League on the 23rd April, and the news that table tennis in Wiltshire and the West Wilts Table Tennis League in particular, suffered a devastating loss with the death of John Ford in a tragic road accident on 1st June.

Full obituaries will appear in the next issue of TTN.

# CALENDAR

DATE	TOURNAMENT	EVENT ORGANISER
<b>AUGUST</b>		
20th-21st	Junior British League Qualifying Competition	
20th-21st	Butterfly City of Liverpool 3 Star Grand Prix	
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		
3rd-4th	Butterfly Stoke Open Grand Prix	
3rd-4th	VETTS North Eastern Masters - Sunderland	
3rd-4th	Cadet Youth Development Squad	
10th-11th	Senior British League Weekend (1)	
16th-18th	ETTA Conference - Lilleshall	
17th-18th	Senior British League (1) Premier Div.	
18th	Cadet Preliminary Trials	
24th	Chandlers Farm Equipment 1 Star	John Mapletoft 01476 565521
	Cadet & Junior Tournament	Mike Atkinson 01494 785609
24th	Chesham U16/18 2 Star	
24th-25th	Womens British League (1)	
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
1st-2nd	Stiga Blackpool 4 Star Cadet/Junior	Martin Ireland 01253 313196
1st-2nd	Butterfly Clare Pengelly Memorial 3 Star	Rachel Pengelly-Bourke 01803 883562
8th	Satellite Grand Prix	
8th-9th	County Championships (1) Veterans	
15th	Junior British League (1) - Aldersley	
	County Championships (1) Cadets, Juniors & Seniors	
15th-16th	VETTS Midland Masters - Wolverhampton	
16th	National Cadet league (1)	
22nd-23rd	Butterfly Cardiff Open Satellite Grand Prix	
22nd	East Midlands Cadet 4 Star	Margaret Welch 01472 596361
23rd	East Midlands Junior 4 Star	
29th	County Cadet Premier (1)	
29th	National Junior League (1)	
29th-30th	County Senior Premier Weekend (1)	
30th	Cirencester Cadet 1 Star	Ken Bridle 01285 657989
		Dave Cochrane 07736 104881
30th	Hyndburn Junior 2 Star	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>		
5th	County Championships (2) Cadet, Junior, Senior & Veterans	



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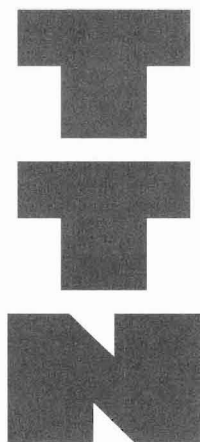
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