

# table tennis news

Official Magazine of the **English Table Tennis Association**

ISSUE 316 £2.95  
**MAY 2006**

## Back from Melbourne

Matthew Syed and John Woodford provide an insight into the 2006 Games see pages 23-27

## Mind, Body and Sole

expert advice from head to toe

## Greenhouse Project

table tennis for disadvantaged kids

## Low-down on the pro tour

Ian Marshall spills the beans

## Sue Gilroy

strikes gold for the second time





## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE



BAGGALEY AND RUSHTON AT THE 2006  
COMMONWEALTH GAMES  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY: DAVID WEARN

### FEATURES

04

#### ITTF PRO TOUR REVIEW

Hong Kong's 21 year old Jiang Huajun makes ITTF Pro Tour history

10

#### MIND, BODY & SOLE

Our experts explore three important elements to help sharpen your game

16

#### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

With LIEBHERR 2006 looming, it's a perfect time to reflect on a previous championships

18

#### THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT

Passionate about nurturing young people

20

#### THE PIMPLE PLAYER

Hannah Hicks' success with pimples

23

#### COMMONWEALTH SPECIAL

One Gold, one silver and one Bronze, but who came home with what?

20

#### TT ON THE WWW

Paul Rainford picks out sites of interest

### REGULARS

08

#### STRAIGHT TALK

09

#### BUTTERFLY GRAND PRIX

22

#### MAILBOX

30

#### COACHING TIPS

32

#### TOTALLY VETERAN

34

#### COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

36

#### BRITISH LEAGUE

38

#### ROUND UP SUMMARY

45

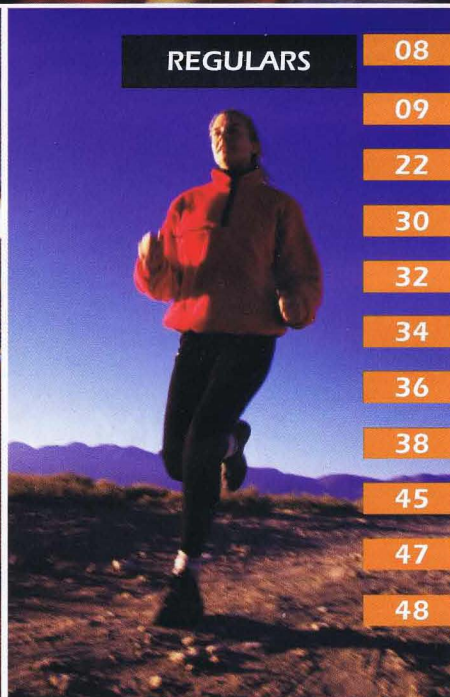
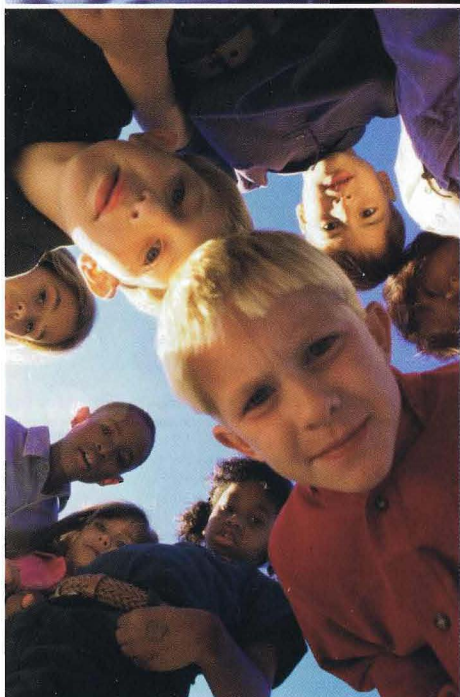
#### IN MEMEORY OF JASCHKE

47

#### ETTA RANKINGS

48

#### THIS MONTH'S EVENTS CALENDAR







2006 LIEBHERR WORLD TEAM  
TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

BREMEN, GERMANY  
24TH APRIL – 1ST MAY

Follow the progress at [www.etta.co.uk](http://www.etta.co.uk)

## PUBLISHER

ETTA, Queensbury House, Havelock Road,  
Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HF

Tel: 01424 722525

Fax: 01424 422103

Email: [admin@englishtabletennis.org.uk](mailto:admin@englishtabletennis.org.uk)

Web: [www.englishtabletennis.org.uk](http://www.englishtabletennis.org.uk)

## EDITOR

Richard Pettit

National Communications Officer

English Table Tennis Association

Tel. 01424 722525

Mob. 07970 575 280

Email: [editor@englishtabletennis.org.uk](mailto:editor@englishtabletennis.org.uk)

## ADVERTISEMENTS

Richard Pettit

National Communications Officer

English Table Tennis Association

Tel. 01424 722525

Mob. 07970 575 280

Email: [editor@englishtabletennis.org.uk](mailto:editor@englishtabletennis.org.uk)

## SUBSCRIPTION & DISTRIBUTION

Robert Sinclair

ETTA Headquarters, Hastings

## GRAPHIC DESIGN

by Nikki Finn

Naughty Beagle Graphic Design Service

Tel: 01424 715915

Email: [nikki@naughtybeagle.co.uk](mailto:nikki@naughtybeagle.co.uk)

Unsolicited articles are welcome for possible publication but the English Table Tennis Association will accept no responsibility for the return of manuscripts and/or photographs.

Whilst every effort is taken to ensure that the reports and facts are correct at the time of going to press no responsibility will be accepted by the ETTA should errors be published, either for errors or matters arising as a result.

The views expressed in Table Tennis News are those of the contributors and are not necessarily official ETTA policy. Similarly TTN accepts advertisements in good faith, but cannot accept responsibility for the goods or services distributed in advertisements. If you have any queries, these should be addressed directly to the advertiser.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or any means, electronic or mechanical including photocopying, recording or any information storage or retrieval system without prior written consent of the publisher.



# from the editor



RICHARD PETTIT, EDITOR



## GEOFF WARE

Geoff has been involved in table tennis for 20 years and he is a self confessed fanatic. His combination blades can now be witnessed first hand in the Bournemouth Premier Division.



## PAUL RAINFORD

Paul worked as a journalist in London for several years but now runs Exmoor House, a small hotel in Exmoor. As a cadet he reached number two in England but sadly it's been downhill ever since.



## MATTHEW SYED

Matthew is former English number one. He has a defensive style with the bat yet quite the opposite with the pen. Currently a Times columnist, TV sports commentator and media pundit.



## JOHN WOODFORD

John is former editor and regular contributor to Table Tennis News, he has travelled the world providing a top insight into almost every tournament you care to mention, in addition he regularly writes for The Telegraph.

In a month where the much fancied Hedgehunter was found wanting at the Grand National, England's cricketers received a good old fashioned drubbing in the final one day tour in India, and tennis's volatile Scot Andy Murray handed coach Mark Petchey his P45, just how is the greatest sport of them all?

Well it's been a touch like my own ability on the table, hit and miss. With the Commonwealth Games complete Matthew Syed and John Woodford have cast their expert eyes over proceedings, supplementing our detailed blow by blow account with their usual aplomb. Sticking with the international theme Ian Marshall gives us the low-down on the Pro Tour whilst Paul Rainford goes Google in a worldwide way. Geoff Ware gains an insight into the man behind one of the country's rising young talents, and Jozef Mycielski tells us just what the Greenhouse Table Tennis for Kids scheme is all about. We also reflect on a previous World Championship hopefully whetting your appetite for the forthcoming battles in Bremen at the end of the month.

In addition to looking at how others have fared or will fare in the near future, we have combined three experts to provide you with advice from head to toe that will help finely tune your game.

As always, I welcome your feedback. It is crucial that this continues and all letters and articles will be considered for publication. I hope you share the same enjoyment reading this magazine as I have editing it and good luck with the remainder of the season.

UNQUESTIONABLY THE CHINESE PREPARE THOROUGHLY IAN MARSHALL PAGE 16. THE BIG GOAL PROVIDES THE OVERALL FOCUS MIDGIE THOMPSON PAGE 11. REPLICATE THE GAME SITUATION AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE CHRISTOPHER PETTIT PAGE 12. THEY PROVED A FEISTY MIXTURE OF GUILLE AND EXPLOSIVITY MATTHEW SYED PAGE 23. TABLE TENNIS IS AN IDEAL TOOL WITH WHICH TO REALISE THIS POTENTIAL JOZEF MYCIELSKI PAGE 18. MOST TOP COACHES IN EUROPE DON'T AGREE GEOFF WARE PAGE 20. IT DOESN'T TAKE TOO LONG BEFORE YOU FIND YOURSELF IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE PAUL RAINFORD PAGE 33.



# victory

## ITTF PRO TOUR

It has surely never happened before in the 10 year history of the ITTF Pro Tour; a player winning a singles title whose name did not appear on the World ranking list 3 months ago!

Furthermore, the title was clinched at an ITTF Pro Tour 'Premium' tournament, an event that attracted the majority of the world's best players.

The feat was achieved by Hong Kong's 21 year old Jiang Huajun, a former member of the Chinese national team who moved to Hong Kong in early 2005. She reached number 14 on the Women's World Rankings in November 2003 and January 2004, but her absence from international competition since the Korean Open in early September 2003 had resulted in her exclusion from the list in January 2005. In November 2005 she made her ITTF Pro Tour debut in Hong Kong colours, losing in the opening round in both the Liebherr German and Liebherr Swedish Opens. However, when she re-appeared on the ITTF Pro Tour in Qatar in February 2006, she showed signs of the form that had seen her reach the final of the Korean Open in 2003.

She negotiated the qualification stage successfully and then beat China's Cao Zhen in the opening round, the player who had won the Women's Singles title in Germany and Sweden in November 2005.

A very good start but further progress was halted by Germany's Nicole Struse in a close seven games second round encounter. Clearly Jiang Huajun was playing better than at the end of 2005 but the events in Kuwait were quite unprecedented.

She beat the player ranked number one in the world in round two, Zhang Yining; in the semis she accounted for Guo Yan, ranked number three in the world, and in the final Guo Yue, the world number two. Jiang Huajun returned to the World Rankings in December 2005, in February 2006 she appeared at number 36 and at the Kuwait International Open Salwa Cup, she had beaten the top three Chinese players, the top three women in the world.

A unique achievement and furthermore her closest match of the tournament was not against any of the Chinese trio. She beat both Zhang Yining and Guo Yue in six games, against Guo Yan she won the decisive seventh game comfortably but in the opening round against Hungary's Petra Lovas had almost departed proceedings. She recovered from a three games to two deficit to eventually win 12-10 in the decisive seventh game. Jiang Huajun was within a whisker of departing proceedings on her first visit to the table!

**"Everybody wants to win, everybody wants to beat the Chinese and our opponents raise their game."** SHI ZHIHAO

"There are only four tournaments before the Liebherr World Team Championships", said Shi Zhihao, the head coach to the Chinese women's team. "All the coaches thought it was important that we played in these events, we want to see how the players perform, we can assess them and then we can decide who to select."

Unquestionably the Chinese prepare thoroughly and competing on the ITTF Pro Tour gives the players a chance to show their worth when placed in pressure situations. Guo Yue clearly demonstrated her credentials by winning in both Slovenia and Croatia but losing to Jiang Huajun in Kuwait underlined the fact that, even though ranked number two in the world, she is still learning. "Maybe she was thinking too much about the match, she was under more pressure than Jiang Huajun, she needs to know when to play harder", said Shi Zhihao. "Everybody wants to win, everybody wants to beat the Chinese and our opponents raise their game."

### MA LIN IN FORM

Meanwhile for Wang Liqin success in Qatar was followed by disappointment in Kuwait with a quarter-final defeat at the hands of Chen Weixing being the order of the day. "Wang Liqin led in the third game, 10-4, I think", said Shi Zhihao. "He lost the game and it changed the match."

However, as Wang Liqin was losing, so Ma Lin returned to form to win in Kuwait. Meanwhile, Wang Hao maintained a good level in all four ITTF Pro Tour tournaments, Hao Shuai threatened to move one step higher, and Ma Long did not quite reproduce the form shown in the latter months of 2005.

"Ma Lin suffered last year as a result of losing to Wang Liqin in the Men's Singles final at the Volkswagen 48th World Championships", said Shi Zhihao. "Now, he's recovered and he's playing well, Ma Long has had a slight leg injury so he's a little down at the moment." Nevertheless, Ma Long has age on his side but the man to beat in early 2006 was Chen Qi. Ever present in 2006, in all four Men's Singles events he lost to the eventual winner: in Slovenia in the final to Wang Hao, in Croatia at the same stage to Vladimir Samsonov, in Kuwait he was the runner up to Ma Lin whilst in Qatar he lost in the quarters to Wang Liqin!







**“The man to fly the flag for Europe was Vladimir Samsonov, he won in Croatia, thus retaining the title he captured twelve months earlier...”** IAN MARSHALL

#### EUROPEANS

Boll also suffered in Qatar, he lost in the third round to Sweden's Jens Lundqvist whilst Jean-Michel Saive, the man the German had beaten to clinch the Men's Singles title at the Volkswagen Pro Tour Grand Finals in December 2005, never reached his seeded position in the draw. In Croatia he lost to China's Lei Zhenhua, a player competing in his first ITTF Pro Tour tournament, in Qatar Evgueni Chtchetinine ended progress whilst in Kuwait he was beaten by Jiang Tianyi. The man to fly the flag for Europe was Vladimir Samsonov, he won in Croatia, thus retaining the title he captured twelve months earlier but in the ensuing tournaments suffered earlier than expected exits. In Qatar he lost in round

two to Lucjan Blaszczyk and in Kuwait in round three to Werner Schlager. The latter displayed a welcome return to form and is undoubtedly determined to maintain his record of being the only player to have qualified for the Men's Singles event at every ITTF Pro Tour Grand Final.

However, in the next round Schlager lost to Ma Lin and that was the problem that faced most men in the first two months of 2006. They couldn't beat Chinese opposition. Only a precious few succeeded, Samsonov and Korbel showed it was possible in Croatia and Qatar respectively as did Dániel Gorak and Patrick Chila. Gorak beat Hao Shuai in Slovenia and Ma Long in Kuwait whilst in the latter event Chila beat former Chinese

international Tang Peng (now Hong Kong) and the number four seed Wang Hao.

Also impressive for Europe was Dimitrij Ovtcharov, reaching two Under 21 Men's Singles finals, being the runner up in Qatar and the winner in Kuwait.

In all four tournaments Chinese pairs won the Men's Doubles title, always a different pairing, and with the Olympic Games in 2008 including doubles in the team event this versatility could be vital.

They suffered some defeats in early 2006 but they returned home with the majority of the titles, the adaptability of their players and depth of talent indelibly underlined.

## ITTF PRO TOUR STANDINGS AND RANKINGS

#### WORLD TEAM RANKINGS MEN

01. China	234
02. Korea R.	232
03. Austria	228
04. Germany	227
05. Chinese Taipei	226

#### WORLD TEAM RANKINGS WOMEN

01. China	192
02. Hong Kong	190
03. Singapore	188
04. Korea R.	186
05. Germany	184

#### WORLD TEAM RANKINGS BOYS

01. China	134
02. Japan	132
03. Germany	130
04. Chinese Taipei	126
05. France	126

#### WORLD TEAM RANKINGS GIRLS

01. China	124
02. Japan	122
03. Korea D.P.R.	120
04. Romania	118
05. Korea R.	116



CHEN QI

#### MEN'S SINGLES

RANKING	COUNTRY	PTS	C
01. MA Lin	CHN	51000	1
02. CHEN Qi	CHN	38250	2
03. WANG Liqin	CHN	38250	1
04. WANG Hao	CHN	30812	2
05. SAMSONOV V	BLR	20187	2

#### MEN'S DOUBLES

RANKING	COUNTRY	PTS	E
01. CHEN Qi/MA Lin	CHN	11250	2
02. WANG Hao/WANG Liqin	CHN	11250	2
03. HAO Shuai/MA Long	CHN	7875	4
04. KO Lai Chak/LI Ching	CHN	6750	2
05. BOLL Timo/SÜSS Chris.	GER	5625	2

#### UNDER 21 MEN'S SINGLES

RANKING	COUNTRY	PTS	C
01. AXELQVIST Johan	SWE	640	2
02. OVTOCHAROV Dimitrij	GER	480	1
03. BOBILLIER Loic	FRA	400	2
04. JIANG Tianyi	HKG	360	1
05. BAUM Patrick	GER	280	2

#### WOMEN'S SINGLES

RANKING	COUNTRY	PTS	C
01. GUO Yue	CHN	35175	2
02. ZHANG Yining	CHN	29075	2
03. JIANG Huajun	HKG	23375	1
04. LI Xiaoxia	CHN	19450	2
05. GUO Yan	CHN	11000	1

#### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

RANKING	COUNTRY	PTS	E
01. WANG Nan/ZHANG Yining	CHN	12000	2
02. GUO Yue/LI Xiaoxia	CHN	7500	4
03. TIE Yana/ZHANG Rui	HKG	3750	2
04. LAU Sui Fei/LIN Ling	HKG	3375	2
05. LI Nan/ZHANG Yining	CHN	3000	1

#### UNDER 21 WOMEN'S SINGLES

RANKING	COUNTRY	PTS	C
01. LI Qiangbing	AUT	540	2
02. VACENOVSKA Iveta	CZE	400	2
03. XU Yan	SIN	400	1
04. YU Kwok See	HKG	36	1
05. BARTHEL Zhenqi	GER	200	2





# STRAIGHT TALK

WITH **ALEX MURDOCH**

Confirmation has been received from Sport England for the £1.032M funding award covering 2006/7 and is part of the £2.64M to support our Whole Sports Plan for the period April 2006 to March 2009. This funding covers all areas of our sport except our World Class Performance funding which will come from UK Sport, covering a programme for the GB Team for the Olympics. We will be granted about £1.2M for facility projects over the next 12 to 18 months; this is in addition to the £1.5M which has been approved for four major facility projects in England.

In the Budget announced on 22nd March the Government agreed to support the UK Sport/BOA plans submitted last October via an additional £200M of public money with a further £100M being sought through private investments for high performance sport to meet the needs of the submitted "option 2", which includes Table Tennis. Plans have been submitted to UK Sport on behalf of Table Tennis for the programme of training and support for potential GB players and medallists at the Olympics through to 2012. These plans will give sufficient funding to enable us to support a significant group of players from Talent Identification to World Class Development through to the Podium. It is anticipated that the details of the funding awards will be finalised during April and once concluded they will be put on the website and communicated to the membership.

In addition the Chancellor announced support for a Schools Olympic Competition Programme which will take place every year up to 2012. Table Tennis

will be one of the five sports involved in this programme.

Both of these initiatives are excellent news for our sport and on behalf of Table Tennis I thank all of those involved with getting these initiatives approved by the Government in particular UK Sport, BOA and Sport England.

Our senior players have now returned from the Commonwealth Games (results were posted daily on our website) and teams will be off to Bremen later this month for the World Team Championships. The experience our young players will get from playing against and being with the best in the world should stand them in good stead for the future.

Peter Bradley has been elected as the Deputy Chairman of the ETTA and at the National Council meeting in early April my nominations for the Departmental Vice-Chairmen will be voted on by Council. I have proposed a number of changes in these positions involving Selection, Coaching, Development and Competitions. During the coming months changes will be made in the responsibilities of some of the Departments which are intended to improve the service and communications to the table tennis fraternity.

The AGMs of the International Table Tennis Federation and the European Table Tennis Union will take place during April. Copies of the propositions have been put on the website and I will report back on these and other meetings in May. The Individual Registration returns from leagues and clubs are still coming in but overall

response has been disappointing. These returns are still needed to expand our database for communication to our members which is currently around 17,000 people. Clearly there is still some way to go and any assistance you need we will gladly help with. Please get in touch as this programme is being done for your benefit and that of all our players and officials.

The UK Coaching Certification is progressing and it is anticipated that over the coming couple of months the trials of the Levels 1 and 2 will take place. By January 2007 we need to have the whole process approved and ready to start.

We still have a number of ongoing issues to resolve, as there always will be for any national governing body of sport. To continue moving our sport forward you can be assured that the staff, management, National Council and the many hard working volunteers are reviewing options and policies to meet the needs of our sport and all those involved in Table Tennis.

The National Volunteer, Club and League conference held at Lilleshall last month was well attended and the feedback from delegates indicate that much was gained from the workshops by those who came from leagues and clubs across the country. Our Youth Development Squad was also at Lilleshall at the same time and it gave our volunteers the opportunity to see our talented youngsters in action.

Please keep in touch and I hope to meet with you on my travels, and that you all have a good end to the season.



# TABLE TENNIS ON THE INTERNET

BY PAUL RAINFORD

Type the magic words 'table tennis' into the Google search engine and it immediately threatens 51,900,000 results. Quite impressive, in a non-impressive sort of way, though I expect if you typed in 'Jordan' you would get quite a few more. (And most of them wouldn't be about motor racing or breakfast cereals either.)

So where to start? The undisputed king of table tennis on the web, at least in the English speaking world, has to be Larry Hodges, editor of the American equivalent of Table Tennis News and no mean player himself, as his website does not hesitate to tell you. Larry seems to have about 300 jobs at any one time, most of them related to table tennis, so how he has found the time to create

[www.larrytt.com](http://www.larrytt.com), a veritable cornucopia of TT treasures, is anyone's guess.

Larry's world encompasses many delights, but the pick of the bunch has to be his collection of pictures of celebrities playing table tennis. Chairman Mao (using the Western grip!); Sean Connery playing topless; Michael Howard MP... they're all here. One particularly pleasing photo features tennis god Roger Federer having a go at the miniature game: you can just tell from the stance and the grip that he shouldn't give up the day job. It's just nice to know he's not brilliant at everything.

The 'Fun and Games' section of [www.larrytt.com](http://www.larrytt.com) is also worth a look, featuring as it does a number of video and animation curiosities, including a 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon' (or is it the other way

round?) style TT game between two excitable Japanese martial arts types and a sequence in which American hardbat guru Marty Reisman whacks several balls at cigarettes stood on their ends on the table. (I'm not sure whether this is a piece of anti-smoking propaganda or just Marty showing off.)

The hardbat tendency is well served by the web, with a number of sites, including 'Classic Hardbat TT', sounding off how about how it was better in the old days before the evil sponge arrived, when everyone played in long trousers and rallies lasted longer than the omnibus edition of EastEnders.

Sayeth Mr Classic Hardbat TT: "A game such as classic hardbat TT, that could draw in excess of 10,000 to packed venues all around the world, should never have been allowed to die."

Perhaps it's time somebody set up

[www.gluedup.com](http://www.gluedup.com) to make the case for the defence.

Of course, the bedrock of table tennis on the web is the club site. These pop up all over the world, from Alaska to Zimbabwe, and range from endearingly amateurish create-your-own-website-in-a-day-type efforts to sophisticated affairs with video clips and sleek logos. Most of them, not surprisingly, are full of results, match reports and photos of people with bad hair accepting ugly trophies, but one or two merit a closer look, with some really good writing. One such is the Halifax & District TTA site [www.stanform.btinternet.co.uk](http://www.stanform.btinternet.co.uk) which features a moving profile of Yorkshire looping legend Kevin Beadsley, telling how 'Beado'

never quite lived up to his great potential, despite being 19-16 up against Des Douglas in the 1983 Cleveland Open and letting it slip. (One of my abiding memories of Kevin was how for a time he modelled his whole demeanour on that of 'The Fonz' from Happy Days - if it wasn't for the broad Halifax accent it might have worked.)

Another club site worth a look is Ormesby's [www.ormesbytabletennisclub.org](http://www.ormesbytabletennisclub.org), not least for the ancient photo of a slimline Alan Ransome! Alan is seen holding aloft the European Club Cup in 1972, with a youthful Nicky Jarvis, a hairy Trevor Taylor and an understandably sweaty Denis Neale by his side. What a team - and what an achievement.

But enough of all our yesterdays. One thing the web is good for is bringing you bang up to date on some of the great players from the past. Type in 'Chester Barnes' and you will get quotes from Chester in his role as valued assistant to Martin Pipes, one of the country's top racehorse trainers. Do the same with 'Skylet Andrew' and you will discover how he won 'Entrepreneur of the Year' at the Black Enterprise Awards for his work as an agent to top footballers such as Sol Campbell.

Of course, with the web, it doesn't take long before you find yourself deep in the Twilight Zone. One site I encountered on my travels introduced 'The Art of Pingpongcountry' [www.pingpongcountry.de](http://www.pingpongcountry.de). In this highbrow German video installation, people were invited to run around a table tennis table while country music was played. What is it they say about the German sense of humour? Sounds like the sort of thing I used to have to do on training camps when Don Parker was in charge, although with The Don it was always bloody 'Rumours' by Fleetwood Mac that was in the ghetto blaster. Finally, and on a more worrying note, I also chanced upon an invitation to play table tennis nude at the Broadlands Sun Association in Norfolk, complete with pictures. Now please - no jokes about pimples or high toss serves.



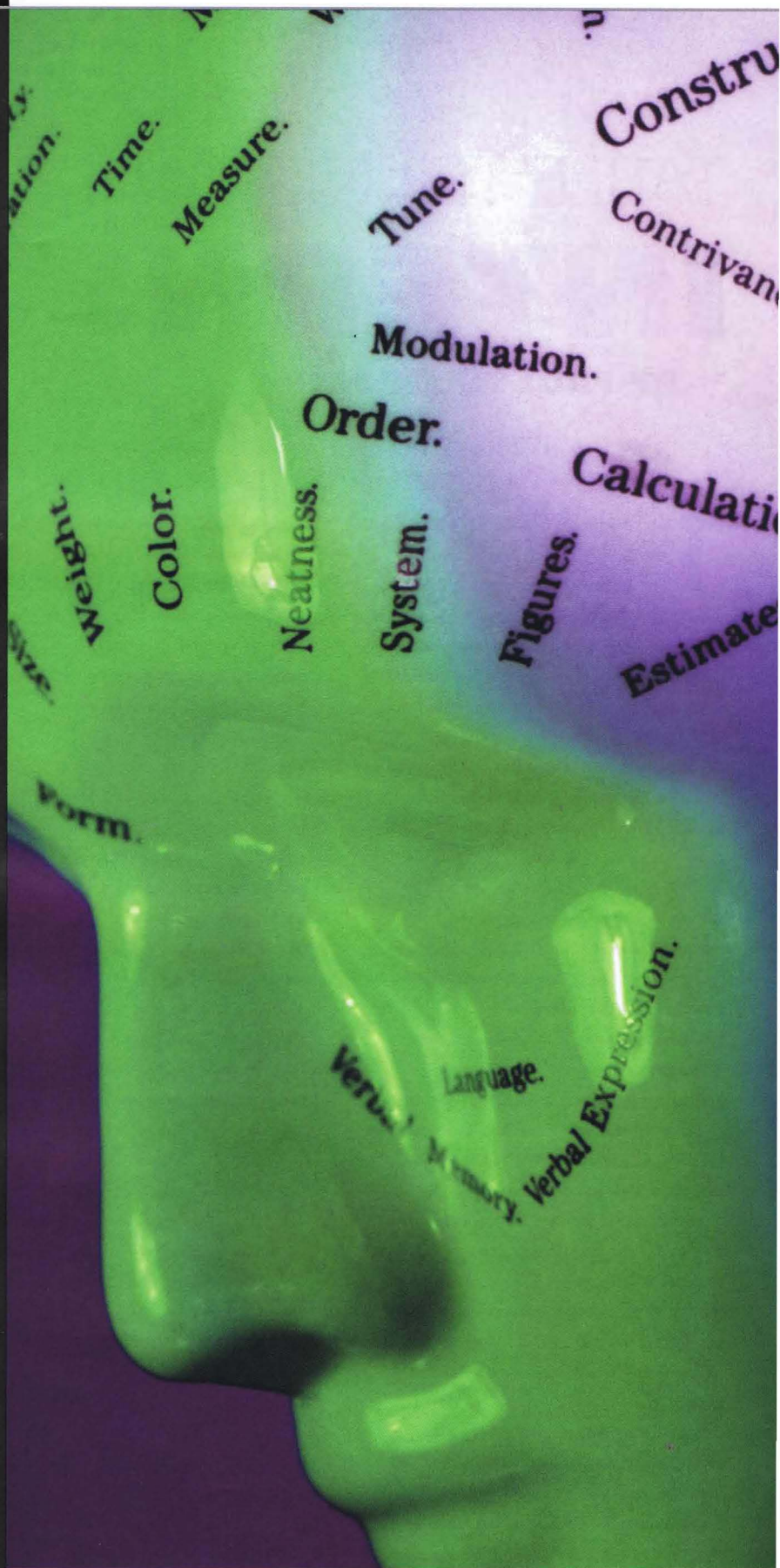
# Mind Body Sole

Table tennis is a complex sport with a host of variable and potential pitfalls, over the next few pages our experts explore three important elements to help sharpen your game and provide vital pointers for peak performance.

**Mind** - Midgie Thompson is a mental performance coach working with athletes and individuals helping them be the best they can be. She inspires excellence in those she works with and uses a wide range of skills, strategies and techniques from coaching, neuro-linguistic programming and hypnosis.

**Body** - Christopher Pettit is a sport and exercise specialist with a wealth of experience in personal training. In addition he is also a recently qualified physiotherapist.

**Sole** - Steve Lyons is one of the country's top podiatrists, his impeccable knowledge has led to him working with many elite performers including the Manchester United and England football squad, however his true passion lies within table tennis.





# ACHIEVING PEAK PERFORMANCES

**Imagine yourself walking into every match with confidence, knowing with absolute certainty that you are strong and powerful and have the unwavering attitude that you are able to win, regardless of your opponent.**

Well, those types of thoughts and attitudes do indeed make a difference to the results you achieve! They help you to be the best you can be every time you go out and perform.

You definitely need the technical skills and know-how to play your game. You also have to do the physical preparation to be strong, agile and flexible. But that is not all that you need! You also need the psychological readiness which includes mental preparation skills and strategies for peak performances.

Mental preparation skills and strategies will help to improve your performance and help to achieve your greatest potential. These skills are like any other skill you currently use. How often do you practice one particular shot until it becomes effortless? Well, mental preparation skills are just the same. You have to repeatedly practice them so they become effortless, easy to implement and make a difference to your performance.

Now, some of you might already use mental preparation skills and strategies, consciously and with intention, for positive results. Some of you might have heard of them and use them occasionally, while others might have never even heard of mental preparation. Whatever the case, it is important to recognise that it does play a key part in your performance and you can benefit from using the skills and strategies!

Alan Cooke knows all about mental preparation which has helped him to repeatedly become the number 1 player in the England. So, what are some of these mental preparation skills and strategies?

Well, you can start using them from the moment you decide to enter a particular competition and use that goal to focus all your preparation. Alan identifies big goals as well as smaller goals. The big goal provides the overall focus for his training and preparation, and the smaller goals are the stepping stone towards the bigger goal. For example, his recent big goal was the Commonwealth Games and his smaller goals are tournaments leading up to the Games.

You may have heard of SMART goals (specific – measurable – achievable – realistic and timely)

with goal setting in the work place and they are equally applicable for your sporting goals. Using mental preparation skills, you take your SMART goals a step further by creating a richer and more tangible picture of what it is you want to achieve. What will you see when you achieve your goal, what will you hear, and what will you feel? Make the outcome as real and vivid as possible.

Your motivating factors are also important to clarify. By knowing the reasons you are going after the goal and the benefits it will give you, you can give yourself an added boost to do what you need to do in order to achieve your goal.

Once you have clarified your goals and your motivating factors, are you clear on when you will do all your training and what you will do in each session? Are you clear on your boundaries of how flexible you will be with other demands in your life such as work, family, friends? Your priorities in life and your boundaries will influence how well the training proceeds and how much impact any distractions make. Alan recognises the importance of boundaries and the need to rest and relax in between matches and in his training schedule. This enables him to recharge his batteries while still maintaining focus on his overall goal. As the big goal draws closer, his focus tends to shift more onto that big goal.

What about your confidence levels to actually do what you're setting out to do? Are they as high as they can be? There are several mental exercises that, with a flick of a switch, you can have that feeling of confidence and 'can do' attitude that anything is achievable! One exercise is called an anchor where you imagine what it would feel like to be in that confident state. By using all your senses, you experience what this confident state looks like, feels like, even what you hear and see. You then determine and set up a 'trigger' which is like your own light switch to flick on that confident state.

Focus and concentration is another mental skill that can be further developed through mental preparation training. Alan has now developed the skill so that as soon as he steps into the hall for a match (his trigger), he is 100% focussed on the game – regardless of life outside the hall and what is happening. He remains cool, calm and focussed so he can pour all his attention and energy into being the best he can be. This tunnel-like vision on your goal and your match plan contributes to helping you achieve peak performance levels.

Mental rehearsal is another aspect of mental skills training. Mentally rehearsing your entire match, from start to finish, helps to 'programme' your unconscious mind with whatever outcome you choose. It's similar to watching a movie where you are the director and actor. So, why not make it as positive as you would like it to be with the outcome that you want?

Another area of mental skills training is dealing with your internal dialogue, that 'little voice inside your head' that we all have. The difference that makes the difference is simply how much we actually pay attention to it. If that internal dialogue is negative, it draws your attention away from being the best you can be. If the voice is positive and supportive, it helps you be the best you can be. Alan's little voice says things such as 'be positive' and 'be the aggressor'. We all have this internal voice and it's by noticing what it's saying to you and make sure that whatever it says is positive and supportive. You can even imagine that voice is your own voice, your coaches or your friends and family that are supporting and encouraging you.

There are many other areas in mental skills training including overcoming any limiting beliefs, achieving instant relaxation, managing your energy expenditure and even developing routines and strategies for outstanding performances. Implementing even a few of the mental skills techniques can help you to be, more often, in 'the zone' both physically and mentally.

The added bonus about learning these mental preparation skills and strategies is that you can also apply them elsewhere in your life whenever you want or need to be switched on and perform ... be that in the workplace making a presentation, going for an interview or even when you are having a challenging discussion with someone. Alan has said that all he has learnt while playing his sport, such as the discipline, the strategies and the focus, has definitely had a positive influence in other areas of his life where he has applied similar skills, strategies and techniques.

So, whether you are a professional athlete at the top of your game or a complete novice, you can benefit from using mental preparation skills and strategies!

# Mind



A woman in a red jacket is running outdoors. The background shows a clear blue sky and distant mountains. The lighting suggests it might be early morning or late afternoon, with a soft glow on the woman's face and jacket.

# Body

Most of us have experienced exercising outside on a cold and windy day, when every part of the body aches and movement is a real effort. Compare this to the ease of movement experienced when you exercise on a still summer's day. The difference is due to a combination of psychological and physiological factors. The aim of a warm-up is to tap into the positive physiological and psychological processes experienced on that summer's day.



# WARMING UP

*“Static stretching performed regularly before and after exercise can help develop body awareness, reduce muscular tension, and increase suppleness.”* CHRISTOPHER PETTIT

**Stage 1 - Slow circular joint rotations in both clockwise and counter clockwise directions, starting from your toes and working up through all the major joints in the body.**

Reason – these rotations facilitate joint motion, lubricating the joints with synovial fluid, the body's own WD40.

**Stage 2 - 5-10 minutes of gentle aerobic activity e.g. jogging, skipping, or any other activity that has a similar cardiovascular output. The intensity should be such that you are slightly out of breath but still able to hold a conversation.**

Reason – raise your core temperature, increase the blood flow in your muscles, speed up nerve conduction and decrease resistance within the muscle, thus increasing the efficiency of movement and reducing the likelihood of injury.

**Stage 3 - Static stretching of all the major muscle groups that will be used during the game. Hold each stretch for 15-30 seconds or until you feel the muscle loosen. Never bounce whilst you stretch.**

Reason – gently lengthen the muscles, improving tissue elasticity/flexibility. If done correctly it can help prevent injuries and increase athletic performance. Performed regularly before and after exercise stretching can help develop body awareness, reduce muscular tension, and increase suppleness.

**Stage 4 - Sport specific movements that replicate the game situation as closely as possible but at a reduced intensity, i.e. a knock up with a team-mate or opponent.**

Reason – psychological preparation, improving response time and reducing the chance of injury.

## STRETCHES

**Quadriceps** - Hold on to a partner or a sturdy support. Bend one leg behind you and hold the ankle. Keep your thighs level, knees close and push your hips forward until you feel a good stretch.

**Adductors** - Sit on the floor and place the soles of your feet together. Hold onto your ankles and press your thighs down using your elbows. Keep your back straight.

**Hamstrings** - Sit on the floor, legs outstretched. Reach along your legs as far as possible keeping your knees straight/tensing your quads and pushing your knees into the floor. Bend at your hips rather than your upper back.

**Hips/gluteals** - Sit on the floor and cross one foot over your straight leg. Pull your knee in towards your chest. Apply pressure on the knee keeping the back straight. To increase the stretch turn to look over the shoulder on the opposite side to your outstretched leg.

**Calves** - From a standing position take an exaggerated step forwards, keeping your rear leg straight. Hold on to a wall for support if you wish. Your front knee should be at 90 degrees and positioned over your foot. Lean forwards slightly so that your rear leg and body make a continuous line.

**Neck** - In a seated or standing position, take your hand and gently pull your head towards your shoulder. Apply a gentle pressure with your arm over your head.

**Upper back** - Kneel down head towards the floor. Bend at the hips until your torso is parallel to the floor. Stretch arms out as far as possible.

**Shoulders** - Pull on elbow with your opposite hand. Gently pull it across your body, aiming the elbow towards the opposite shoulder.

**Chest/biceps** - With your arm fully extended hold on to an upright support at shoulder level. Gently turn your body away from your arm, pressing your shoulder forwards.

**Triceps** - Place one hand between your shoulder blades, hand pointing downwards and elbows pointing upwards. Use your opposite hand to gently press down on your right elbow until you feel a stretch in the triceps.

## How to perform the stretches



Quadriceps



Adductors



Hamstrings



Hips/Gluteals



Calves



Neck



Upper Back



Shoulders



Chest/Biceps



Triceps



## The Sports Shoe

The design and construction of sports shoes depends on the particular movement and the physical demands of the sport for which they are worn.

Movements in table tennis are quick stops and starts as well as side to side movements, not to mention stepping in and out for the flick or drop shot. It is therefore very important to reduce the chance of injury by utilising the correct footwear and thus improve efficiency around the table.

The uppers of the shoe will normally be a mixture of canvas and leather for firm support as well as aiding ventilation and breathing of the foot. Table tennis produces a lot of friction on the foot. This friction increases if the foot is damp or wet and can lead to blisters and athletes foot. If the feet are prone to excessive sweating, then a light dusting of talcum powder applied before you play will help counter this problem. If blisters are a problem, then the wearing of two pairs of socks may help.

The heel counter should be stiff to offset the side to side movements seen in table tennis. Many heel counters start off stiff and stable, but can quickly deteriorate. The main causes of this are jamming the foot into the back of the shoe without unlacing and by placing the shoes into the washing machine to clean them, both can cause permanent damage to the heel counter. If the heel counter has no substance, then it may be wise to consider purchasing a new pair of shoes.

There should be ample length and width in the shoe to help prevent "table tennis toe" which is a reflection of repeated bruising of the toe nail by chronic shoe pressure due to shoes being too short. Other irritations can occur on prominent joints such as bunions, repeated pressure causing these areas to become inflamed. It may be necessary to have shoes stretched at the local cobbler to accommodate these prominences.

The midsole of the shoe is wedge shaped and higher in the heel, taking the strain or pull off the Achilles tendon, a common table tennis injury. The shoe should be lower in the forefoot but thick enough to provide cushioning. The sole of the shoe should be wide enough to provide a stable base against ankle sprains.

There are often customised areas on the underside of the outsole. Toe pivot markings facilitate spinning on the big toe joint. Flex grooves under the ball of the foot aid flexion of the forefoot and prevent increased stresses and strains on the toe joints. The grip of the shoe is also a deciding factor.

All in all the table tennis shoe is an essential item of equipment for the table tennis player. It should provide adequate protection to reduce the incidence of injury and yet improve the efficiency of movement around the table.

# Sole



**30TH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BY GEORGE R YATES**



# Treble for Kohnno

With the England team deep in training for the 2006 LIEBHERR World Team Table Tennis Championships later this month it is a perfect time to reflect on a previous championship.



**“Barnes was completely without fire but there was enough ‘smoke’ from Hydes’ bat to cause captain Leach to note his potential in the top flight.”** GEORGE R YATES

**SWAYTHLING CUP TREBLE FOR KOHNO**

In retaining their hold on the Swaythling Cup (men’s team championship) Japan were much indebted to Mitsuru Kohno whose treble accomplishment in defeating the Federal German trio of Schöler, Jansen and Leick was worthy of high acclaim.

After accounting for Jansen in the opening set, Kohno’s most telling win came in the fourth when he was opposed by “Ebby” Schöler with the match score 2-1 in Japan’s favour. Had the ace German defender been able to subdue the Jap champion, after losing the first game 21 and winning the second 14, the uplift to Jansen’s morale in the final set could well have resulted in the title staying in Europe.

But it was not to be as Kohno stormed home in the decider and, again, after Schöler had beaten Hasegawa to narrow the Jap lead to 4-3, it was Kohno again who denied Jansen that final throw of the dice when he beat Leick for 5-3 victory.

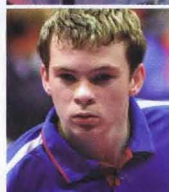
By comparison, the Corbillion Cup final was a drab affair with victory going to Soviet Union whose Zoya Rudnova and Svetlana Grinberg were never extended to a deciding game in beating Rumania’s Alexandru and Mihalca 3-0.

But what of England’s teams under the bright lights of Munich’s Ice Stadium? Our men improved their position from 8 to 6 and to no.4 in Europe and if any one man should take the credit it should be Alan Hydes who blossomed into a world-class player despite the cold winds that, in the first few days of the championships, blew in with fierce intensity.

**RARELY EXTENDED**

In the initial Group A5 matches, our players were rarely extended and in beating Norway, Guernsey and Iran only two of the 15 sets involved went to three, Wright and Taylor dropping second games to Schierning (Norway) and Iranian champion, Bozorgzadeh, respectively.

Through the withdrawal of North Korea and Rumania, the corresponding “B” Group became a much weaker section which enabled both France and Ireland to achieve placings they could hardly otherwise have dreamed of. However, England was assured of a place in the last 12 but seemingly very little above it on the evidence of their first two matches. Disappointing indeed was the opening 1-5 loss to Yugoslavia for chances were frittered away both by Neale, who had Stipanovic 11-4 in the third, and Barnes, who lead Surbeck 13-



8 in the decider. Young Taylor found this company much too hot and lost his place to Hydes in the next match against Japan. Again we went down 1-5 but Neale, who had beaten Korpa in the Yugoslav match, played brilliantly to account for Kohno in straight games and only went down to Hasegawa 17-21 in the third. Barnes was completely without fire but there was enough ‘smoke’ from Hydes’ bat to cause captain Leach to note his potential in the top flight.

**INCLUSION JUSTIFIED**

The 5-4 win over Hungary brought the Yorkshire no.2 into real prominence for the match became “his” when, with the score at 4-4, he defeated the more experienced Istvan Jonyer to give England their narrow victory.

With the score at 2-4 in Hungary’s favour, Neale lost the first game to Klampar and trailed 14-18 and 18-20 in the second. At 3-4, Barnes was down 6-12 to Börzsei in the third, but again defeat was averted and Hydes was given the opportunity of steering the ship into calmer waters with scores of 14 and 11 over Jonyer.

Yet another 5-4 victory followed and Hydes became the master of all he surveyed after beginning with an astounding 14, 9 win over the English Open champion, Stanislav Gomozkov of the Soviet Union. In the vital decider against Vardonjan, with the match score again at 4-4 and after winning the first game 15, the Yorkshire man trailed 16-20 in the second but dug in to win game, set and match.

Barnes fought and played much better than he did against Hungary, beating Gomozkov and Sarkhojan. Despite a fall-off in form Neale, as usual, fought tigerishly and played his part in subjugating Vardonjan in convincing manner.

Both Neale and Hydes were stood down for the final group match against Denmark won impressively 5-0 with Taylor and Wright accounting for the Danish champion Niels Ramberg – the former with a second game score of 21.

Anti-climax came in the play-off for fifth or sixth place against Sweden. It resulted in a 1-5 loss which, to say the least was disappointing with Neale scoring our only win against Bo Person. Hydes put up a tremendous fight against Kjell Johansson but Barnes was well below his best. The reverse resulted in our being placed sixth but above such countries as Russia, Czechoslovakia and Hungary – no mean feat.

OUR ENGLAND TEAM: IN ORDER OF THE PHOTOS ABOVE THE FOUR MEN ARE ANDREW RUSHTON, ANDREW BAGGALEY, PAUL DRINKHALL, DARIUS KNIGHT, AND THE FOUR WOMEN, KELLY SIBLEY, JOANNA PARKER, GEORGINA WALKER , NATALIE BAWDEN



# THE Greenhouse project

BY JOZEF MYCIELSKI

The name Greenhouse may not necessarily suggest an organisation committed to the development of young people through table tennis, yet Greenhouse Schools Project is in fact a charity that uses the power of sport and the arts to teach vulnerable and disadvantaged 11-16 year olds life and social skills, especially targeting young people experiencing learning and behaviour difficulties and those living with a disability. Greenhouse is passionate about nurturing and helping young people to develop their life skills, increasing their confidence, self-esteem and "can do" attitude. Sport has the potential to improve health, raise educational standards and fight crime in addition to building stronger communities. Table tennis is an ideal tool with which to realise this potential, its engaging combination of strategy and speed plus relatively small amount of space required brilliantly enables sporting opportunities for the many rather than the few.

### WHERE IT ALL STARTED

TTK Greenhouse was initially set up in 2003 with the considerable efforts of Alan Sherwood and Mike De Geogio (Founder of Greenhouse), in

response to an article written by Matthew Syed about Darius Knight, an exceptionally talented youngster from Battersea, south west London, who was forced to play table tennis in a garden shed due to lack of funds. By the summer of 2004, 26 schools within the M25 held sessions assisted by part-time coaches for 2 hours up to 3 times a week. As the TTK initiative developed top full-time coaches have been recruited. Full-time coaching now represents 40 hours of training a week for 48 weeks of the year, both in term time and during school holidays. TTK has assembled some of the most experienced coaches available in the country who are delivering programmes of the highest calibre. The focus is on mass participation with coaches selected not only for their technical ability to coach the elite but their aptitude to relate to all skill levels.

### FULLY INCLUSIVE

All programmes are fully inclusive to Years 7 - 8 (aged 11-12 yrs). Whilst working with a large number of young people the coaches will identify players with commitment and the right attitude, followed by talent, for the Excellence Programme. All young people can continue playing regardless

of standard, and on occasions young people have then made it on to the Excellence Programme through persistence, commitment and good behaviour. This system has made table tennis very popular in the schools and frequently it represents the number one sport. Mike de Giorgio says, "We have seen marked improvements in the behaviour of those who attend the sessions. It is about respect for your opponent and the rules."

### EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME

When a young person has made it onto the Excellence Programme he or she is then able to come out of lessons for one hour per week for 1-1 coaching. These individuals are encouraged to train for a minimum of 10 hours a week with an optimum target of 15 hours. This is made up of squad training sessions which run before school 7-9am, after school 3.30-5.30pm and every school has also developed a community club in the evening from 6-9pm. This opens the door to the players who eventually leave the school to carry on practicing and hopefully to develop into future TTK coaches.

With this in mind, TTK is now training up senior players, aged 16 and 17, in view of them training younger players and being good role models. It is important to TTK to give full training to these players in order to retain them and reinvest their knowledge and skills back into the programme for younger players coming through.

### SPECIAL NEEDS SESSIONS

TTK is gradually introducing Special Needs table tennis programmes. These are at various stages of development and will be significantly expanded in due course. However, already it has become clear that the sessions help improve coordination, self-confidence, concentration, touch and feeling, timing and fitness. They are also great fun. Children who take part in the Excellence Programme are encouraged to support Special Needs sessions through coaching, feeding balls, controlling the robot (automatic ball feeding machine) and general support. The long term aim is to get Special Needs children competing locally,

regionally, nationally and, in time, internationally. At the same time TTK will not move away from its core aim – the programmes are for everyone, regardless of standard, producing champions will be an added bonus.

### PRIMARY SCHOOL PROGRAMME

The standard practice is for each secondary school to work with four or more local feeder primary schools. The coaches work with groups of 30 children (at the secondary school) aged from 7-11. This builds confidence, coordination, fitness and also represents a fundamental part of the child's transition from primary to secondary school, making it a less challenging step.

When the young people arrive at the secondary school they already know the coach and have positive experiences of table tennis which in turn provide a boost to their confidence. It immediately prompts interest in the secondary school table tennis programme and also contributes to the ongoing success of the programmes themselves.

### WHAT DO THE SCHOOLS THINK?

The schools have embraced TTK and clearly see the benefit to their pupils. Mrs Gill Bal, Headmistress at Wembley High says, "TTK has provided this opportunity for the school to be involved in this unique project. The results have been incredible and we are very pleased to have been offered this opportunity. We look forward to the scheme growing year on year and following the national success of our pupils."

### A typical day at Greenhouse Club:

7.30-9.00	Breakfast club
9.30-12.30	1:1 sessions
12.30-1.30	Lunchtime sessions
	1:1 sessions
3.30-5.00	After school club sessions
5.30-7.30	Occasional Community Club sessions
Weekends	Tournaments or full day of training





**GW: Hannah has had a meteoric rise through the rankings in both Seniors and Juniors gaining over 3,500 points in a few weeks. You must be delighted with this.**

RF: Rankings have never been a priority with me and I know Hannah is much more concerned with developing as a player – she learns from both victory and defeat. One of her recent remarks after losing from a 7 – 3 lead in the final game was – "Well I made a right mess of that but the other girl played really well at the end and she kept her head – I can learn from that". Immediately after the match ends Hannah is prepared, even though at times she may of course be disappointed, to sit down and debrief. She also has strong views of her own which I welcome – I firmly believe that coaching is a two way process and that coach and player should work together and listen to each other. Almost all top players have a good sense of

what is right for them and this should be cultivated.

**GW: I know from my own experience that there is often a certain amount of resentment when you get successful with pimples. Have you and Hannah encountered this?**

RF: To some extent yes, but most parents and coaches in England have very limited understanding of what is happening in the girls'/women's game at top level. I see most of the top girls in the world play and there is a high percentage of material players. In the World Junior Circuit events for example you often see that up to 12 out of 16 tables in the A-hall have pimped players in the girls' events, both attackers and defenders. World junior stars such as Ai Fukuhara (Japan) and Fan Ying (China) both play with pimples. Almost every girls' cadet team in Europe has material players of one kind or another. Simple statistics in Sweden for example show that

in 99% of cases coaches/parents actively handicap players' development by refusing to allow them to try material between 9 - 14 years. Yet by the age of 16 - 20 over 60% of girls in Sweden use pimples, because they are then themselves in charge of their own development and understand what they need to do to compete at a high level in the women's game. Unfortunately by then it's too late, the style is set and the girls have lost the opportunity they had to reach the higher levels.

**GW: Why should it be too late?**

RF: Most top coaches in Europe don't agree on too much but one area in which they do agree is that the technical development of a player must be completed around last year cadet or normally about 4 - 5 years after starting to play. Table tennis is a fast reflex sport and automatic reactions are next to impossible to change later on in a player's career. This means that is vital to introduce the 'complete package' with the young player and not to leave some aspects until what is considered a

later, more suitable time. Players should also be introduced early to varied sparring, against defenders, left-handers, penholders, pimped opposition, etc. As Waldner said in his book - 'In order to win big titles, you must master play against all styles.'

**GW: I begin to understand now why Hannah even at a beginner stage is learning to twiddle and to use both rubbers on both wings.**

RF: That's right. As you know yourself it takes about 5 - 8 years to completely mature as a pimple player. Hannah started with pimples in October 2005 so she is really only about 40 – 45% effective at the moment. I have also given her what we can call a beginner's pimple racket which ensures that she can at no time achieve more than around 50 – 60% effect from the rubbers – I obviously didn't want her to be completely unplayable from the word go otherwise the opponents wouldn't get the ball back at all, and Hannah would not have been in the position to develop some measure of tactical skills. Her next racket will give her 85 – 92% effect from the

rubbers and of course we can even increase this by using more advanced long pimple gluing techniques. Nor have we experimented yet with differing thickness or hardness of the sponge layers.

**GW: Why do many more women use pimples than the men?**

RF: In the women's game the priority is to be able to control speed not spin. Pimples are just one method of doing this and a quite effective one as they help the player to vary the speed. If all women played the fast, flat, counter-hitting game (as very many do), then the fastest or the one who used the earliest timing would win all the time. Coaches must appreciate (and this is one of the more demanding areas of coaching girls) that there are many more avenues to the top in the women's game and it is up to the coach to point the player in the right direction for her. I feel that one of my strengths as a coach has always been the ability to take players to their maximum potential and to develop their own special style.

**GW: Is there anything else you think is vital in a young player's development?**

RF: It's imperative that the player has the right team behind him or her. Unfortunately in these modern times with the increasing complexity of our sport it is next to impossible for any one coach to be accomplished in all the technical aspects of table tennis. All coaches whatever their level will be good in some areas and not so experienced in others. Some are better 'corner-men' and tacticians, others at ease giving lectures or seminars. Some are more skilled in the development of the girls' game, have comprehensive insight into style development, or in coaching defenders or pimple players. Yet others are specialists in psychological and physical aspects or multi-ball and its various uses. What is needed more and more, if they are to be successful, is for top prospects to have access to a team of specialists. As you know both Matthew Ware and Hannah have a good team behind them – they are both members of Waterside where we have Ken MacLeod and John Fox, and of Bournemouth with myself and Brian Burn. With this level and mix of expertise behind them, it's not really surprising that they are getting good results.

*"I firmly believe that coaching is a two way process and that*

*coach and player should work together and listen to each other."*

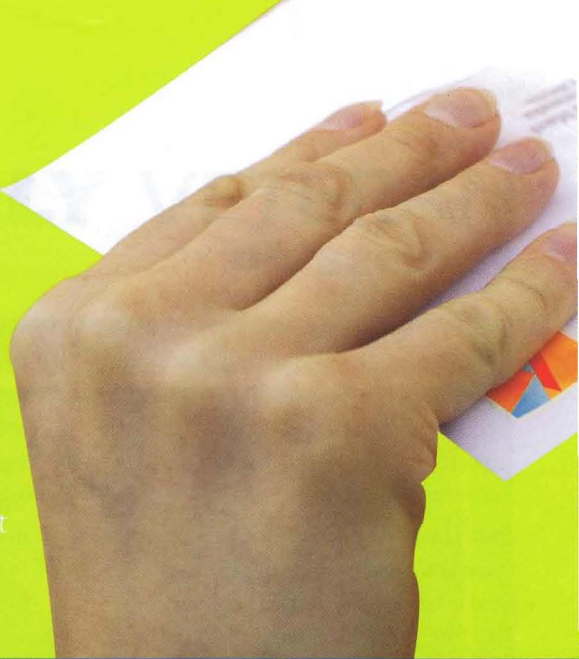
# THE PIMPLE PLAYER

Geoff Ware meets Hannah Hicks' coach, Rowden Fullen, to discuss her latest jump up the rankings and her success with pimples.



# MailBox

Back by popular demand, this page provides you with an opportunity to get issues off your chest. The only regulations are that letters must be in 150 words or less and on my desk by the 1st of every publishing month to [editor@englishtabletennis.org.uk](mailto:editor@englishtabletennis.org.uk)



## County notes continues

"Firstly I must add my congratulations on the new format. Hopefully this is just the start to our sport having the magazine it deserves. Although I am Press Officer for Berkshire, I do have some sympathy with John Evans' view (Issue 315) that County Notes take up a lot of space and sometimes repeat items that are reported elsewhere. I wonder how many readers avidly read all county reports rather than just their own? However, what is needed before there is a case to remove County Notes? I would say that you would need a fairly detailed report on each section of the County Championships with pictures to add to the league tables which you featured in the last issue. Then, to keep people informed on their own county, you could print a directory each time of where each county's information can be obtained, e.g. website address, etc.

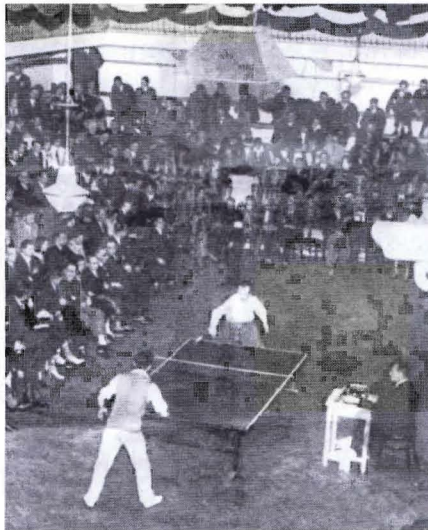
This would then leave more space for reports and results of tournaments and "inter-club" events such as the British League. Many sports thrive on data (e.g. golf, cricket, even darts). So let's see more detailed results, rankings, Grand Prix standings, etc, more in line with the ITTF magazine."

COLIN DYKE

## New style

I've received the last two editions of TT News - wow, it is different, in a positive way. Looks far better and is much clearer in the layout.

Excellent! To answer your question, "how do you want to see your magazine evolve?" I propose a few ideas.....



1. Providing ideas and examples of success stories of clubs that have developed in order to provide tips for others.
2. Equipment reviews.
3. Special offers/competitions for subscribers
4. Fewer pages dedicated to round up/results.
5. Club management - ideas from professionals and subscribers on managing clubs. i.e. software to retain data, insurance needs, development ideas/club admin.
6. PC software - I appreciate that this is a little specialised, but a review of software, setting up club websites, ETTA software
7. Ideas on how to approach sponsorship, both for clubs and individuals.
8. Premier Club/Sport England updates.

LEE DEVANEY

## Editor's Reply

Many thanks Colin and Lee for your comments, your sentiments and ideas are

echoed in many of the letters I have received. Change always provokes discussion and refining our product to provide best fit with you, our readers, is a difficult process; please keep your opinions rolling in, they will make a difference.

## Blast from the past

On seeing the article about Ken Hyde in the February issue I enclose a photo taken in 1937 (shown left) of my cousin Charlie Bull playing Szabados who was also mentioned. My cousin was a county cricketer, played football for Fulham reserves, and table tennis for England.

Interesting to see long trousers, crowd nearly up to the table, and no centre line on the table, I guess it was a different game in those days.

I myself am 84 years old, still fit and play regularly in Southampton Table Tennis League.

WILLIAM BULL

## Editor's Reply

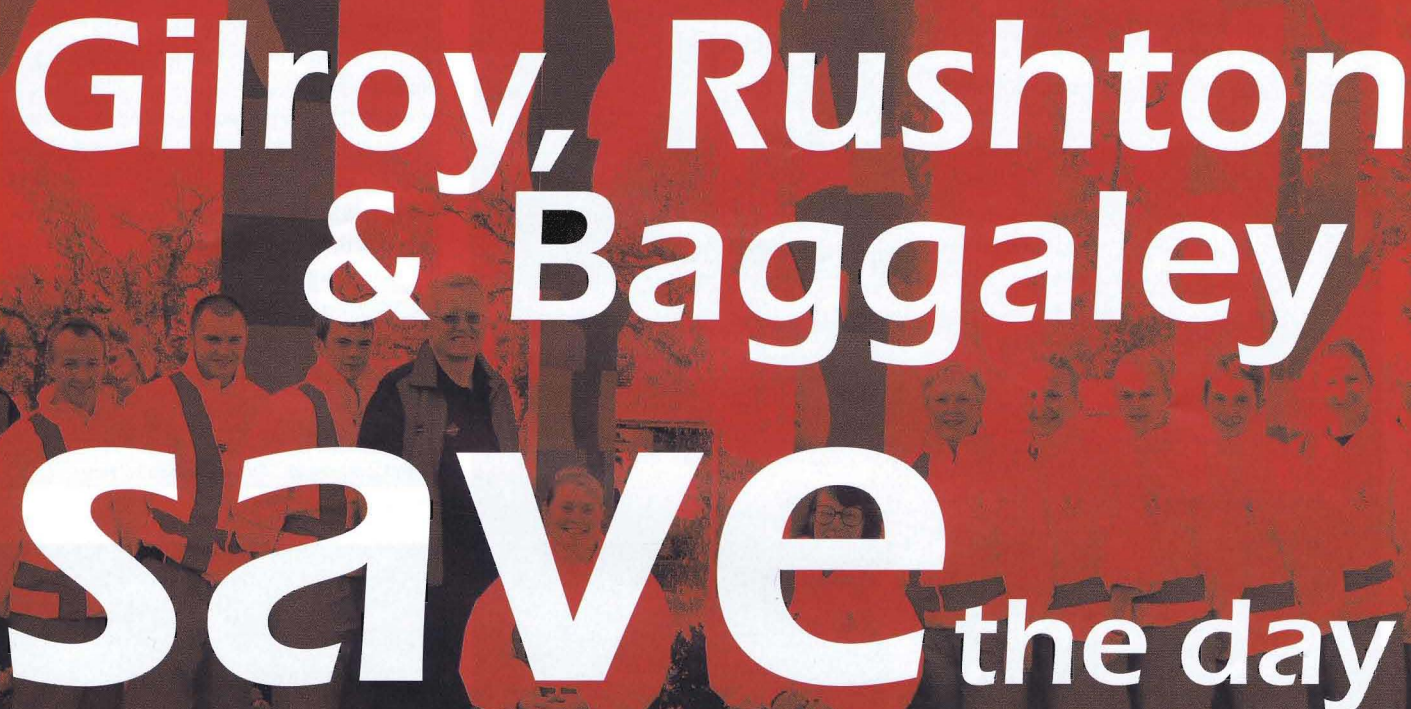
It's great to see that Brian's interview with Ken Hyde was so well received. It's clear that many of our readers enjoy reminiscing on past moments of brilliance, hence page 16 article from 1967.

## Send Your Views to Mailbox

Richard Pettit, English Table Tennis Association, Queensbury House (3rd Floor), Havelock Road, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HF



## COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2006



# Gilroy, Rushton & Baggaley save the day

It would be disingenuous to pretend that the Commonwealth Games was anything other than a disappointment from the perspective of the England table tennis team. Arriving in Melbourne with high-octane expectations, the men, in particular, will feel that they failed to do themselves justice in a team event that was there for the taking.

The high point was the silver medal won by Andrew Baggaley and Andrew Rushton in the men's doubles, particularly as it was so unexpected. It was the first time the two youngsters had played together, and they proved to be a feisty mixture of guile (from Baggaley) and explosivity (from Rushton) that overwhelmed every pairing until the final where they went quiet against the crusading Nigerians.

Sue Gilroy was also magnificent. The 33-year-old from Barnsley has remarkable touch and feel and she deployed those skills to mesmerising effect to retain the women's singles title for elite athletes with a disability. Her geometrical supremacy was considerable, at times using shallow backspin slice to manoeuvre the ball beyond the reach of her opponents. Cathy Mitton, from Leeds, won bronze.

Despite a succession of disappointing defeats in the team event, Paul Drinkhall raised his game in the men's singles and pushed the Singapore number one in a way that provided hope to those who have argued that he can challenge for gold at the Olympic Games in 2012. The 16-year-old has sufficient firepower (he was probably the most powerful hitter in Melbourne) but he needs to combine that with more judicious shot selection and a more solid defence.

Perhaps the most poignant storyline was the failure of Alan Cooke to claim a medal in his final event as an England international. The normally dependable right-hander, who turned 40 during the Games, failed to find the form that he had evidenced in training and will be disappointed to have fallen short in three events (team, doubles and singles) in which he will have dared to hope for gold.

The most uplifting tale, however, was that of Rushton. The very idea that the 22-year-old from Manchester would represent England in Melbourne (let alone win a medal) would have been derided as little as 18 months ago. His ascent into the upper echelons of English table tennis is a tribute to his monumental capacity for

hard work together with a good-natured character that is quick to learn and assiduously enthusiastic. Having someone with such a fine attitude in the training hall is a huge advantage for any coach, since it sets an example for the others to follow. In my later years in the England team I used to relish my practise sessions with Andrew – not so much because of the strength of his play (I hope he will forgive me for revealing that in those days I used to give him five star) – but because of the soul-affirming intensity of the sessions. It will be fascinating to see how far he can go.

The Games themselves were magnificent. My duties were to commentate on table tennis and squash for the BBC but I took any spare time to tour the other sports and venues in my capacity as a writer for The Times. All of the facilities were state of the art, the transportation superb and the volunteers good-natured. If anything, it surpassed Manchester – a remarkable feat when one considers the quality of the festival of four years ago. Melbourne 2006 will live long in the memory.

BY MATTHEW SYED



## MEDAL POSITIONS

### MEN'S SINGLES

GOLD Sharath Achanta (Ind)  
SILVER William Henzell (Aus)  
BRONZE Segun Toriola (Nig)

### WOMEN'S SINGLES

GOLD Xue Ling Zhang (Sin)  
SILVER Jia Wei Li (Sin)  
BRONZE Yan Xu (Sin)

### WOMEN'S SINGLES EAD

GOLD Susan Gilroy (Eng)  
SILVER Faith Obiora (Nig)  
BRONZE Catherine Mitton (Eng)

### MEN'S TEAM

GOLD India  
SILVER Singapore  
BRONZE Nigeria

### WOMEN'S TEAM

GOLD Singapore  
SILVER Australia  
BRONZE India

### MIXED DOUBLES

GOLD Yang Zi/Zhang Xueling (Sin)  
SILVER Cai Xiao Li/Li Jia Wei (Sin)  
BRONZE Jason Ho/Tan Paey Fern (Sin)

### MEN'S DOUBLES

GOLD Merotohun/Toriola (Nig)  
SILVER Baggaley/Rushton (Eng)  
BRONZE Xiao Li Cai/Zi Yang (Sin)

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

GOLD Jia Wei Li/Xue Ling Zhang (Sin)  
SILVER Sharon Tan/Yan Xu (Sin)  
BRONZE Miao Miao/Jian Fang Lay (Aus)



### DAY 1 – TOPPING THE TABLES

England top the tables with both teams firing on all cylinders. England's women beat both Sri Lanka and Vanuatu 3-0. Not to be shown up the men weighed in with 3-0 victories over Kenya, Guyana and Tuvalu.

Helen Lower said: "On paper these were going to be easy matches but we have to approach every match with the same respect. Today was all about concentration and the chance to place ourselves into the competition. The real test is going to be against Australia tomorrow."

### DAY 2 – WALES GATECRASH PROCEEDINGS

England's men won their fourth match in this morning's session, beating Pakistan 3-0. But they then suffered a 2-3 defeat to Wales in their penultimate round-robin match, with Cooke losing to Adam Robertson 7-11, 14-12, 7-11, 11-2, 9-11 in the decider.

Cooke had earlier beaten Ryan Jenkins 11-7, 10-12, 11-9, 8-11, 11-7 in the first contest, but then Drinkhall lost to Robertson 6-11, 7-11, 13-15. Andrew Baggaley put England ahead again with an 11-8, 12-10, 11-3 win over Stephen Jenkins, but Drinkhall then lost to Ryan Jenkins 11-7, 11-13, 6-11, 8-11 as the Welsh team levelled the match – setting up that decider.

Jill Parker, England's Technical Co-ordinator, said: "It was an incredibly close match. We're very disappointed but Wales played very well, and all credit to them. If we can beat Sri Lanka tomorrow we can still finish second in the group and go through to the quarter-finals."

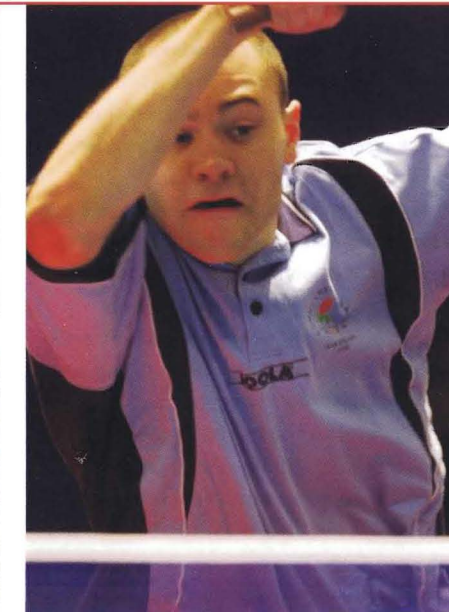
England's women's 0-3 defeat to Australia in their penultimate preliminary round contest means England must beat Nigeria to guarantee a place in the quarter-finals.

### DAY 3 - NIGERIA NULLIFY ENGLAND

England's men started the day well with a comprehensive 3-0 victory over Sri Lanka in the last of the men's round-robin matches setting up a tantalising quarter-final clash against Nigeria.

However, Nigeria proved too strong as England went down 1-3. Andrew Baggaley lost the opening encounter against Segun Toriola 5-11, 7-11, 11-8, 5-11. Alan Cooke put England back in the tie by beating Kazeem Nasiru 11-3, 13-11, 6-11, 11-7, but then Paul Drinkhall lost 6-11, 11-5, 7-11, 11-7, 6-11 to Monday Merotohun and Cooke lost his second contest of the tie against Toriola 6-11, 11-8, 11-6, 8-11, 7-11 to prevent England from reaching the semis.

Alan Cooke said: "Obviously we're very



disappointed to lose the game, but Nigeria are one of the favourites now and we were within a whisker of beating them."

Unfortunately the women suffered the same score line and so missing out on a quarter-final place. Their 1-3 defeat to Nigeria means they finished third in Pool 2 with two wins and two defeats from their four matches. Steen Kyst Hansen, Team England's Technical Manager, said: "We had some opportunities, but we didn't take them, and we made too many silly mistakes. In some matches we had problems closing out the set and we paid the price."

### DAY 4 - FINAL TEAM PLACING

Andrew Rushton set the ball rolling for the England men v. Canada beating Bence Csaba 7-11, 11-7, 11-4, 11-6. Andrew Baggaley beat Faazil Kassam 11-5, 9-11, 11-0, 11-4, and teenager Paul Drinkhall beat Pradeeban Peter-Paul 11-8, 6-11, 11-5, 11-6.

Baggaley, Rushton and Drinkhall did the business again in the fifth place play-off v. Australia. First up, Baggaley beat Trevor Brown 9-11, 11-6, 11-6, 11-7. Then Rushton saw off David Zalberg 11-5, 11-3, 11-9 and Drinkhall wrapped the tie up to secure fifth place with an 11-5, 11-8, 11-4 win over Russell Lavale. The England women's team campaign also ended on a high note with two successive match wins.

England beat Fiji 3-0 in the 9th to 12th classification match to set up a 9th/10th

**"Obviously we're very disappointed to lose the game, but Nigeria are one of the favourites now and we were within a whisker of beating them."** ALAN COOKE

classification game against Sri Lanka, which they duly won with another 3-0 scoreline. Against Fiji, Kelly Sibley beat Venetia Koi 11-2, 11-5, 11-3, Joanna Parker beat Rujuan Qu 11-3, 11-4, 11-3, before Georgina Walker wrapped up the tie with an 11-6, 11-5, 11-4 win over Jeet.

England's win over Sri Lanka to secure ninth place was equally resounding. Parker only needed three games to beat Deepika Rodrigo – a feat she achieved 11-4, 11-6, 11-7. Sibley beat Ishara Manikku Babu 11-4, 9-11, 11-7, 11-4, and Walker rounded off the tie with a 9-11, 11-2, 12-10, 11-3 victory over Ruhansi Wijekoon.

Jill Parker, said: "We would have liked to have been playing in the semi-finals of the team competitions today. But it was great to win all four of our matches today and we can now go into next week's singles and doubles matches on a positive note."

### DAY 5 - SINGLES QUALIFICATIONS RESULTS IN A CRUEL BLOW FOR LOWER

All five of England's players in action in the singles qualification games made a good start to their pools.

Kelly Sibley recorded an 11-6, 11-8, 11-4, 11-4 win over Sri Lanka's Ruhansi Wijekoon in her opening singles contest, while Georgina Walker had an equally impressive victory over Ishara Manikku Babu, also from Sri Lanka. Walker won 11-6, 11-8, 11-8, 11-5.

Joanna Parker beat Rabia Patel from Mauritius 11-3, 11-5, 11-2, 11-3. But Helen Lower missed her singles match and will play no more games through injury. The Wolverhampton player has torn a tendon in her elbow and has been advised by doctors to sit out the rest of the Games.

In the men's preliminary pools, Andrew Rushton got off to a good start, beating Northern Ireland's Jonathan Cowan 11-6, 11-3, 11-6, 11-9, and 16-year-old Paul Drinkhall opened with a 11-5, 11-3, 11-8, 11-2 win over Sean Stanley from St Vincent and the Grenadines.

### DAY 6 - EAD SINGLES COMMENCE

Barnsley teacher Sue Gilroy began the defence of her Commonwealth Games women's EAD (Elite Athletes with Disability) singles title with a straight sets victory.

The 33-year-old wheelchair athlete beat Nigeria's Faith Obiora 11-9, 12-10, 11-6. Cathy Mitton from Leeds also won her opening match



in the same competition, winning 11-7, 11-5, 11-3 against Kenya's Fedelis Wanjuu.

#### DAY 7 - COOKE CELEBRATES

It was a very happy birthday for Alan Cooke as he celebrated his 40th with three wins.

Cooke beat Sri Lanka's Thilina Piyadasa 11-3, 11-4, 11-8, 11-8 to book a place in the last 16 and followed that up with an 11-6, 11-8, 9-11, 6-11, 11-9, 11-7 victory over Nigeria's Kazeem Nasiru. That earned him a place in the quarter-finals against Welshman Adam Robertson.

In between his singles matches Cooke and 16-year-old men's doubles partner Paul Drinkhall joined forces to reach the last 16 of that event, courtesy of a 11-6, 11-9, 11-6 win over India's Shibaji Datta and Subhajt Saha.

After his first match of the day Cooke was taken into the show court at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, where 2,000 spectators sang him 'happy birthday'

"It was a strange day and quite hard to stay focused on the competition. When I got to the table tennis hall my family were waiting for me there with cards and presents".

But Drinkhall couldn't emulate his more experienced partner – he went out of the singles competition in the last 32, losing 11-9, 7-11, 8-11, 11-8, 3-11, 8-11 to Singapore's Zi Yang.

#### DAY 8 - CRUNCH TIME

**Doubles** - There's still a possibility of an all-English men's doubles final as Alan Cooke and Paul Drinkhall booked their semi-final berth by beating the Welsh partnership of Ryan Jenkins and Adam Robertson 11-5, 7-11, 12-10, 11-9. They meet Nigeria's Monday Merotohun and Segun Toriola in the semi-finals and are joined in the semis by Andrew Baggaley and Andrew Rushton who defeated the Indian pair of Sharath Achanta and Soumyadeep Roy 11-8, 10-12, 11-7, 6-11, 11-4. They now face the

Xiao Cai and Zi Yang in the semi-finals.

Rushton said he was pleased to get through to the semis. "It was a good result for us today, it was a close thing, but we played well at the important time and came through. We went for broke in the fifth game, tried to be positive and attacked the ball, and it came off."

But there was disappointment for Joanna Parker and Kelly Sibley in the women's doubles – they were knocked out in the quarter-finals by Singapore's Jia Wei Lin and Xue Ling Zhang 8-11, 11-8, 9-11, 5-11.

**EAD Singles** - Sue Gilroy eased her way through the quarter-finals with an 11-4, 11-7, 12-10 victory over Nigeria's Philomena Konwea to book a semi-final match against another Nigerian player, Vivian Ozurumba.

"When I saw the quarter-finals I panicked a bit as I knew she was a good player, so I've very pleased to have won, I've been playing well in training and have come through my pool matches quite easily, so it was good to have a tough match and win," she added. "I'd love to defend my title here. I've worked so hard in the last four years and had so much support." Team-mate Cathy Mitton also progressed to the semis. She beat Sara Head from Wales in a close 6-11, 11-7, 11-6, 9-11, 12-10 match and now plays Faith Obiora.

"It's great to win, especially when I never expected to," said the Leeds player.

**Men's Singles** - Alan Cooke was defeated by Welsh player Adam Robertson in a marathon men's singles quarter-final match 12-10, 11-13, 4-11, 11-7, 15-13, 9-11, 7-11.

#### DAY 9 - EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

**EAD** - Sue Gilroy was again in impressive form as she beat Nigeria's Vivian Ozurumba 11-5, 11-5, 11-7 in the semi-finals.

Gilroy said: "We travelled to the venue on the same bus as the Nigerians and they were shouting, singing and praying all the way there, which gave me added incentive. I thought today's match would go to at least five games because she's been playing so well, so I was very pleased not to drop a game and play very well, I'm really looking forward to the final. The atmosphere in the hall is brilliant and everyone is so supportive."

But Cathy Mitton missed out on the opportunity to make it an all-English final when she lost to another Nigerian, Faith Obiora, 12-10, 10-12, 6-11, 11-6, 12-14.

**Men's Doubles - Morning** :- Hopes of an all-English final in the men's doubles were also dashed. Andrew Rushton and Andrew Baggaley were two games to one down, but fought back to win the last two games and take the match with a 5-11, 11-6, 9-11, 11-6, 11-6 victory over the Singapore pair of Xiao Cai and Zi Yang. But Alan Cooke and Paul Drinkhall couldn't beat the Nigerian pairing of Monday Merotohun and Segun Toriola – they lost 6-11, 8-11, 6-11. That means they will face Cai and Yang in the bronze medal match.

**Men's Doubles Evening**:- Andrew Baggaley and Andrew Rushton have taken silver in the men's





**“This makes all the hard work worthwhile. There were so many expectations coming into the game that it’s been quite stressful and I’ve felt a lot of pressure”** SUE GILROY

## MATCH POINT FROM MELBOURNE BY J. WOODFORD

Host nations are often judged by their opening ceremonies. Melbourne’s starting ceremonies exceeded most others I have seen in person and on television.

The Queen sat heroically through winged flying trams, a giant inflatable koala and numerous other marsupials combined with a pyrotechnic display so spectacular and so professionally carried out.

The Queen said “Tonight we celebrate the value of sport as a means of bringing together 71 nations and territories from a wide range of cultures, traditions and beliefs”.

England left Manchester in 2002 after winning three Golds and a Bronze, this time we exited Australia with a Gold, Silver and Bronze with Sue Gilroy and Catherine Mitton successfully defending their titles from Manchester and Rushton and Baggaley picking up Silver in the men’s doubles, an event that seems to have become an England speciality.

On the penultimate day, fans and TV viewers were treated to 25 minutes of men’s doubles as Alan Cooke and Paul

Drinkhall just failed in the fifth game to win the bronze medal play-off, losing to the Nigerians Toriola and Merotuhun.

Then followed a TV appearance for Alan Cooke and his family as he announced his retirement from the England team, but confirmed that he will be in future a full-time coach.

Paul Drinkhall again caused a stir and prompted this comment from Matthew Syed – “Paul Drinkhall has more power than any other England player. When he acquires more control over the rest of his game, anything is possible. At the age of sixteen he has an outstanding career to come”.

After Helen Lower pulled out with her arm injury, there was not a lot to report on the England women’s front, except Kelly Sibley and Joanna Parker reaching the quarter-finals of the women’s doubles before going under 3-1 to the Singapore pair Li and Zhang.

Adam Robertson (Wales) proved in the individual events (as he did earlier in the team events) that he was the most successful British player in Melbourne, especially after beating Alan Cooke in the quarter-finals.

This confirms my (theoretical) British ranking list as Robertson at no.1 with Cooke and Perry sharing second spot.

What’s next? New Delhi has finally secured a major world event – the next Commonwealth Games in 2010 – Melbourne will be a hard act to follow.



doubles after going down to Monday Merotuhun and Segun Toriola of Nigeria, 4-11, 9-11, 7-11, in the final this evening. Although disappointed not to win gold, Baggaley, who was aiming to match the gold he took in the same event four years ago, was delighted to take the silver. Paired with Rushton, the duo have looked impressive throughout the competition, but could not show the same winning form in the final. “We played well in spells but you have to play consistently to win a final,” said Baggaley. “We played an incredible match in the semi-finals and also in the quarter-finals, so that may have taken its toll. Maybe the semi-final this morning was our final”, he added. Rushton said, “This definitely makes up for the disappointment I felt at missing Manchester. I am over the moon. It is a great achievement for me”.

England’s other men’s doubles pair, Alan Cooke and Paul Drinkhall lost their bronze medal match this evening, missing out to Li Cai and Zi Yang of Singapore. Cooke and Drinkhall, fell behind early in the match losing the first two games, but managed to clamber their way back to even the score. The success was not to continue though as the Singapore pair took the last game, and the bronze, with a final scoreline of 5-11, 8-11, 11-7, 11-9, 7-11. Afterwards a disappointed Cooke said, “The problem we had in both the semi-finals and the bronze medal is that we started slowly and were always chasing. At the start of the fifth game we just wanted to stay with them, as they can get nervous when they are under pressure, but they handled it well. When I look back on the Commonwealth Games I will probably be proud with the way I played, but right now I am gutted”, he continued.

### DAY 10 – DÉJÀ VU FOR GILROY AND MITTON

Sue Gilroy wins gold and she remains the only player to have won the EAD table tennis title, after the sport made its debut at the Manchester 2002 Games.

Gilroy beat Nigeria’s Faith Obiora in the final 11-9, 9-11, 11-6, 11-9. The second game of the final was the only game Gilroy lost in the whole tournament.

There was more good news at the table tennis table as Cathy Mitton beat another Nigeria player, Vivian Ozurumba, to take bronze 15-13, 11-8, 11-6.

“It’s great to win today, but I’m still disappointed I didn’t get silver as I had match point in my semi-final, but I’m pleased to get a medal. I’ve played my last three matches against more mobile opponents, so I deserve a medal.”



## THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR!

Terry Donlon, whose exploits have been mentioned before in these pages, was again in the limelight, this time nominated for the prestigious Stanley Matthew Award.

The award, presented by former England cricket captain David Steele at a glittering dinner held at the Deanwater Hotel, Woodford, is for Stockport's outstanding volunteer personality, and Terry's name was put forward by among other people, his local newspaper the Stockport Express.

Unfortunately he didn't win the award this time with the title going to a hockey player who had been doing voluntary work since 1953 when Terry was only just making a name for himself at T.T.

"I wasn't disappointed at all. Just to be nominated was enough for me. We had a great time at the dinner and I met some great people." He added: "There's always next year."

Terry is one of the main powerhouses behind the resurrection of the Armoury in Stockport which opened a few years back, and now plays host to scores of youngsters who come down to be coached and to play some serious table tennis every week.

## BRUISED AND BATTERED

No names, no pack drill, but two vets were apparently kicked out of a local Blackpool chippy for not dressing appropriately. The seaside town, better known for its fresh air and fun rather than its strict dress code, caught out our two 'over 40s' there to take part in the Northern Masters, who clearly didn't know about the code when they went in search of their supper. "I admit we were casually dressed and maybe it was out baseball caps that upset the chip shop boss but he wouldn't serve us," said our anonymous and slightly embarrassed couple.

## WEBMASTER

[www.vetts.org.uk](http://www.vetts.org.uk), organised by John Fairweather, is picking up speed. Last month (March) a record 5777 logged on to search for details of tournaments and to download relevant entry forms. ...There's little doubt that this website is proving of real benefit to members and as websites go it will prove even more popular as time goes by. So whether it's the latest rankings, who's who among VETTS VIPs, the history of the VETTS to details of the popular 200 Club, it's all there. And that's mainly thanks to John whose baby this is. So keep him in the picture re results, etc. and watch that viewing figure rise.

**[www.vetts.org.uk](http://www.vetts.org.uk)**  
don't forget to visit our website!



Wayne Percival and Keith Williams  
Over 40's Doubles titleholders

## PERCIVAL'S MASTER CLASS

Congratulations to Cheshire's Wayne Percival who was a popular winner at the Blackpool Masters. Wayne clocked up two titles, winning the over 50s singles against the titleholder Brian Hill and the doubles title with Keith Williams. Next stop Thornbury.

## THE B'S KNEES

By the time you read this veteran Peter Bradley will be home convalescing after treatment for a gammy knee. I know Peter, now Deputy Chairman of the ETTA, has put up with quite a bit of pain for years and a new knee was the only answer to his troubles. Despite all his problems, Peter was one of the most consistent organisers and player on the Master's circuit, and I certainly never heard one excuse when he was off form. Indeed it was only at Blackpool, just days before he was admitted to the Royal Berks Hospital, that it was clear things were going from bad to worse. For a few weeks he'll be going round on a pair of crutches, but I'm reliably informed that he will be up and running for the start of the new season. However, I'm also reliably informed that his new knee will not affect his right arm, which will remain as active as ever when it comes to pushing back the occasional pint.





### Face your opponent

A major aim of Oh Sang Eun when returning service is to stop Wang Liqin playing his devastating forehand with his first attacking stroke. Note the body position of Oh Sang Eun when returning service and the angle of his feet; he is facing his opponent.

## RETURN TACTICS

COACHING TIPS WITH  
**IAN MARSHALL**

### A controlled elbow

Timing the ball before the peak of the bounce enables a short return to be played. Returning service, Oh Sang Eun moves forward with his right foot and upper part of the body; also his forearm is virtually horizontal, exercising control from the elbow.





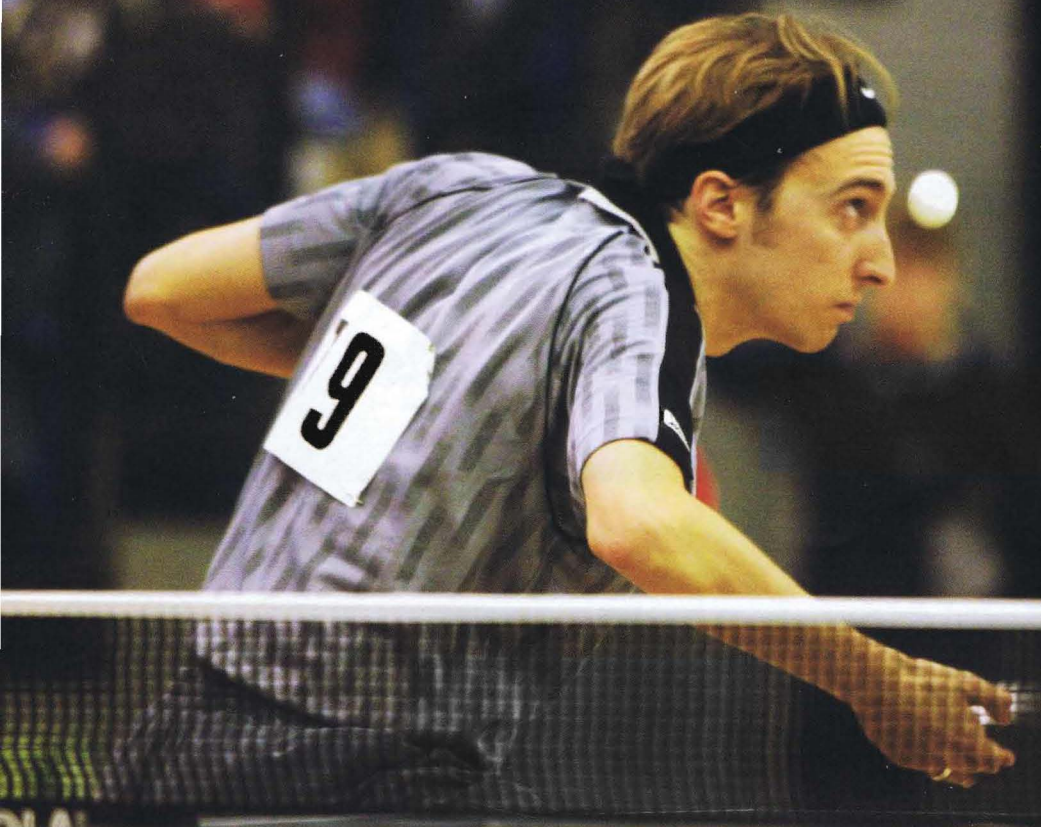
#### Adopt a wide stance

Oh Sang Eun attacks with the backhand. Note the extent to which he uses his legs; also, before making contact with the ball, the elbow is in front of the racket, the body turns, a wide stance is adopted and thus a strong stroke can be generated.

#### A heavy topspin wins the point

Oh Sang Eun plays with heavy topspin deep to the backhand; the most likely outcome is that the opponent will block the ball and play passively. The opportunity therefore arises to move to play a strong forehand and, like Oh Sang Eun, win the point.





# BUTTERFLY

MID-SUSSEX OPEN GRAND PRIX **BY JOHN WOODFORD**

## FOURTH WIN FOR PERRY

Alex Perry, now playing his best table tennis since he won the English title in 1999, landed his fourth tournament victory in succession, despite no top practice as most of the England squad were training for Melbourne in Denmark, writes John Woodford

The venue, The Triangle Leisure Centre, Burgess Hill, provides space for eighteen tables with space to spare. It should have been used before now, but at least it now has a future for table tennis in Sussex.

The final between Perry and our great hope for the future Paul Drinkhall lacked some of the fire and sparkle of the previous rounds, especially the semi-finals where Perry had to beat off a challenge from the Scottish no.1 Gavin Rungay and Drinkhall defeated the Chinese player from Avon, Jing Wei Zhao 7-11, 11-5, 11-9, 12-10.

One round earlier, Drinkhall needed every ounce of his talent armoury to stop Darius Knight 9-11, 11-4, 9-11, 11-9, 11-9, probably the best game of the tournament.

As the four women with tickets for Melbourne

were in Denmark, the women's entry was well below par. The final winner was the top seed Yue Jiao Wu (Avon). She easily defeated Scotland's Rebecca Russell 11-2, 11-3, 11-10 in the final. In the semi-finals Yue dealt even more severely with Devon's Lisa Radford who went down heavily 11-1, 11-6, 11-4.

## BARHAM'S RETURN

Dale Barham (Peterborough) returned to the sport after quitting three years ago when he was regarded as England's most talented teenager. He played four times for the England senior team before getting into problems with coaches and administrators.

He is now aged twenty. He won the Under-21 event with a final win over Dominic Nicholls and he reached the quarter-finals of the men's singles by beating Ritchie Venner but lost to Scotland's Gavin Rungay.

Barham's talent was highly visible – he is now no. 19 on the England list – can he make up for three "lost" years? .

## SUSSEX GP RESULTS

**MEN'S OPEN** - Alex Perry bt. Paul Drinkhall  
12-10, 11-4, 3-11, 11-4

**WOMEN'S OPEN** - Yue Jiao  
Wu bt. Rebecca Russell  
11-2, 11-3, 12-10



Yue Jiao Wu -  
**WOMEN'S OPEN WINNER**

**U21 MEN'S** - Dale Barham bt.  
Damien Nicholls 6-11, 11-5, 11-9, 11-9

**U21 WOMEN'S** - Lisa Radford bt. Rebecca  
Russell 11-7, 8-11, 10-12, 11-4, 11-5

**MEN'S BAND 1** - Mark Smith bt. Chris  
Brown 9-11, 11-9, 11-4, 13-11

**MEN'S BAND 2** - Alex Echavarria bt. Matt  
Spero 11-5, 10-12, 13-11, 11-8, 11-4

**MEN'S BAND 3** - Ashley Stokes bt. David  
McBeath 11-6, 8-11, 11-7, 9-11, 11-5

**MEN'S BAND 4** - Ashley Willets bt. Rashid  
Benellal 11-8, 11-5, 11-9

**MEN'S BAND 5** - Andrew Lasota bt. Shane  
Dolan 7-11, 11-5, 9-11, 11-9, 11-6

**MEN'S BAND 6** - Andrew Lasota bt. Haroon  
Ali 11-6, 11-7, 8-11, 11-9

**WOMEN'S BAND 1** - Gemma Chapman bt.  
Lisa Radford 11-7, 11-9, 11-5

**WOMEN'S BAND 2** - Choi Sze To bt. Claire  
Atkinson 11-2, 11-5, 11-6

**WOMEN'S BAND 3** - Jurate Brazatyte bt.  
Annabella Morle 11-4 5-11, 11-6, 11-3

**VETERAN MEN'S** - Nigel Eckersley bt.  
Ritchie Venner 11-7, 4-11, 11-13, 11-6, 11-3



# COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

BUTTERFLY - OFFICIAL BALL SUPPLIER



## CADETS PREMIER DIVISION

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Lincoln	7	6	1	0	52	18	13
Gwent	7	6	0	1	42	28	12
Surrey	7	3	3	1	40	30	9
Cleveland	7	3	2	2	37	33	8
Sussex	7	2	3	2	33	37	7
Yorks	7	2	1	4	34	36	5
Durham	7	0	1	6	22	48	1
Somerset	7	0	1	6	20	50	1

## CADETS DIVISION 1A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Warwick	3	3	0	0	25	5	6
Notts	3	2	0	1	22	8	4
Cheshire	2	2	0	0	14	6	4
Lancashire	2	1	0	1	12	8	2
Leicester	3	1	0	2	8	22	2
Shropshire	3	0	0	3	5	25	0
S Yorkshire	2	0	0	2	4	16	0

## CADETS DIVISION 1B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Middlesex	7	7	0	0	58	12	14
Wiltshire	7	4	2	1	36	34	10
Sussex	2	7	4	12	38	32	9
Gloucester	7	3	1	3	35	35	7
Glamorgan	7	2	2	3	31	39	6
Surrey 2	7	1	2	4	25	45	4
Berkshire	7	0	3	4	30	40	3
Worcester	7	1	1	5	27	43	3

## JUNIORS PREMIER DIVISION

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Bucks	7	7	0	0	51	19	14
Essex	7	5	0	2	47	23	10
Lincoln	7	3	2	2	38	32	8
Derbyshire	7	4	0	3	36	34	8
Yorkshire	7	4	0	3	36	34	8
Devon	7	2	1	4	34	36	5
Cheshire	7	1	1	5	29	41	3
Kent	7	0	0	7	9	61	0

## JUNIORS DIVISION 1A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
S Yorkshire	7	7	0	0	51	18	14
Hertford	7	6	0	1	52	18	12
Essex 2nd	7	4	0	3	38	32	8
Durham	7	3	1	3	35	33	7
Lancashire	7	2	2	3	36	34	6
Notts	7	2	2	3	26	43	6
Worcester	7	1	0	6	26	44	2
Northants	7	0	1	6	14	56	1

# LEAGUE TABLES

## JUNIORS DIVISION 1B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Hampshire	7	6	0	1	52	18	12
Surrey	7	5	1	1	44	26	11
Glamorgan	7	3	3	1	37	33	9
Middlesex 1	7	3	1	3	37	33	7
Sussex	7	3	1	3	32	38	7
Somerset	7	2	1	4	34	36	5
Middlesex2	7	2	0	5	25	45	4
Bucks 2nd	7	0	1	6	19	51	1

## JUNIORS DIVISION 2A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Cleveland	8	8	0	0	72	8	16
Yorkshire 2	8	6	1	1	54	26	13
Staffs	8	5	0	3	50	30	10
Cheshire 2	8	4	2	2	50	30	10
Lancs 2	8	4	0	4	40	40	8
Lincoln 2	8	4	0	4	38	42	8
Northants 2	8	2	0	6	21	59	4
Durham 2	8	1	1	6	27	52	3
North'land	8	0	0	8	7	72	0

## JUNIORS DIVISION 2B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Cornwall 1	8	7	1	0	66	14	15
Avon 1	8	6	2	0	60	20	14
Glam 2	8	5	2	1	49	31	12
Devon 2	8	5	0	3	51	29	10
Dorset	8	3	2	3	40	40	8
Avon 2	8	3	1	4	39	41	7
Cornwall 2	8	2	0	6	26	54	4
Devon 3	8	1	0	7	25	55	2
Devon 4	8	0	0	8	4	76	0

## JUNIORS DIVISION 2C

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Suffolk	7	6	1	0	61	9	13
Warwick	7	6	1	0	53	17	13
Essex 3	7	5	0	2	45	25	10
Norfolk	7	3	1	3	39	31	7
Essex 4	7	3	0	4	29	41	6
Bedford	7	1	2	4	28	42	4
Leicester	7	1	1	5	19	51	3
Cambs	7	0	0	7	6	64	0

## JUNIOR DIVISIONS 2D

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sussex 2	5	4	1	0	37	13	9
Gloucester	5	4	0	1	33	17	8
Berkshire	5	4	0	1	31	19	8
Kent 3	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Surrey 2	5	3	1	1	30	20	7
Sussex 3	6	2	2	2	29	31	6
Kent 2	6	1	1	4	25	35	3
Bucks 3	5	0	0	5	13	37	0
Oxford	5	0	0	5	10	40	0

## SENIORS PREMIER DIVISION

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Yorkshire	3	2	1	0	20	10	5
Essex	3	2	1	0	17	13	5
Devon	3	2	0	1	18	12	4
Middlesex	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Sussex	3	2	0	1	16	14	4
Durham	3	1	0	2	13	17	2
Lancashire	3	0	0	3	11	19	0
Gloucester	3	0	0	3	9	21	0

## SENIORS DIVISION 1A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Leicester	3	2	1	0	21	9	5
Derbyshire	3	2	1	0	20	10	5
Notts	3	2	1	0	20	10	5
Cleveland	3	2	1	0	19	11	5
Lincolnshire	3	1	1	1	15	15	3
S Yorkshire	3	0	1	2	9	21	1
Cheshire	3	0	0	3	11	19	0
Cambridge	3	0	0	3	5	25	0

## SENIORS DIVISION 1B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Surrey	4	4	0	0	29	11	8
Berkshire	4	3	0	1	24	16	6
Wilts	4	2	1	1	23	17	5
Glamorgan	4	2	1	1	22	18	5
Middlesex 2	4	2	1	1	19	21	5
Kent	4	1	0	3	16	24	2
Bucks	4	0	1	3	15	25	1
Somerset	4	0	0	4	12	28	0

## SENIORS DIVISION 2A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
North'land	5	5	0	0	38	12	10
Durham 2	5	3	1	1	25	24	7
Derbyshire 2	5	2	1	2	26	23	5
Leicester 2	5	0	3	2	21	29	3
Cumbria	5	1	1	3	21	29	3
Warwick 2	5	1	0	4	18	32	2



## SENIORS DIVISION 2B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Devon 2	5	4	1	0	38	12	9
Cornwall 1	3	2	1	0	23	7	5
Worcester	2	1	0	1	10	10	2
Avon	2	1	0	1	8	12	2
Cornwall	2	3	1	0	27	23	2
Somerset 2	5	0	0	5	14	36	0

## SENIORS DIVISION 2C

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Norfolk	5	5	0	0	37	13	10
Warwick	5	4	0	1	29	21	8
Bedford	5	3	0	2	28	22	6
Northants	5	1	1	3	24	26	3
Suffolk	5	1	1	3	22	28	3
Cambridge	5	0	0	5	10	40	0

## SENIORS DIVISION 2D

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sussex 2	5	2	3	0	29	21	7
Dorset	3	3	0	0	21	9	6
Essex 2	4	2	1	1	23	17	5
Hertford	4	1	2	1	19	21	4
Kent 2	3	0	1	2	12	18	1
Berks	2	2	0	1	17	13	1
Surrey 2	3	0	0	3	9	21	0

## OVER 60S DIVISION 1A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Worcester	5	5	0	0	45	5	10
Yorkshire	5	4	0	1	38	12	8
Warwick	5	2	1	2	24	26	5
Cheshire 1	5	2	1	2	22	28	5
Bedford	5	1	0	4	13	37	2
Cheshire 2	5	0	0	5	8	42	0

## OVER 60S DIVISION 1B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Middlesex	6	6	0	0	47	13	12
Essex	6	4	1	1	36	24	9
Kent	6	3	2	1	36	24	8
Berks	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Sussex	6	2	0	4	30	30	4
Hertford	6	0	1	5	15	45	1
Surrey	6	0	1	5	14	46	1

## VETERANS PREMIER DIVISION

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Yorkshire	7	6	0	1	42	28	12
Essex	7	5	0	2	46	24	10
Devon	7	3	3	1	40	30	9
Cheshire	7	3	1	3	35	35	7
Kent	7	2	2	3	35	35	6
Lancashire	7	2	2	3	31	39	6
Northumber	7	2	0	5	27	43	4
Dorset	7	0	2	5	24	46	2

## VETERANS DIVISION 1A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Leicester	7	7	0	0	53	17	14
Worcester	7	6	0	1	47	23	12
Middlesex	7	3	1	3	35	35	7
Norfolk	7	3	1	3	35	35	7
Cheshire 2	7	2	2	3	28	42	6
Oxfordshire	7	2	1	4	26	44	5
Herts	7	1	1	5	26	44	3
Yorks 2	7	1	0	6	30	40	2

## VETERANS DIVISION 1B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Surrey	5	5	0	0	45	5	10
Sussex	5	5	0	0	41	9	10
Kent 2	6	3	1	2	32	28	7
Berkshire	5	3	0	2	30	20	6
Wiltshire	5	2	0	3	22	28	4
Surrey 2	6	1	2	3	23	37	4
Dorset 2	7	1	0	6	14	56	2
Avon	5	0	1	4	13	37	1

## VETERANS DIVISION 2A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Essex 2	7	7	0	0	50	20	14
Essex 3	7	5	1	1	45	25	11
Notts	7	3	1	3	35	35	7
S Yorkshire	7	2	3	2	32	38	7
Lincs	7	2	2	3	35	35	6
Yorks 3	7	2	1	4	35	35	5
Cambs	7	0	3	4	25	45	3
Herts 2	7	0	3	4	23	4	3

## VETERANS DIVISION 2B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Essex 4	6	6	0	0	46	14	12
Sussex 2	6	5	1	0	43	17	11
Hereford	5	3	1	1	32	18	7
Berks 2	7	2	1	4	29	41	5
Bucks	6	3	0	3	26	34	6
Hampshire	5	2	0	3	21	29	4
Kent 3	7	0	2	5	23	47	2
Somerset	6	0	1	5	20	40	1

## VETERANS DIVISION 3A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Norfolk 2	7	6	1	0	50	20	13
Durham	7	5	2	0	49	21	12
Cheshire 3	7	4	1	2	44	26	9
Leicester 2	7	4	1	2	43	27	9
Warwick	7	3	1	3	38	32	7
Yorks 4	7	2	0	5	32	38	4
Shropshire 2	6	0	0	6	11	49	0
Clwyd	6	0	0	6	3	57	0

## VETERANS DIVISION 3B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Northants	7	7	0	0	55	15	14
Bedford	7	5	1	1	49	21	11
Middlesex 2	7	5	1	1	41	29	11
Surrey 3	7	3	0	4	33	37	6
Bedford 2	7	2	1	4	25	45	5
Hertford 3	7	2	0	5	32	38	4
Bucks 2	6	1	1	4	22	38	3
Berks 3	6	0	0	6	13	47	0

## VETERANS DIVISION 3C

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sussex 3	7	6	1	0	48	22	13
Oxford 2	6	5	1	0	41	19	11
Middlesex 3	7	4	1	2	39	31	9
Kent 4	7	3	1	3	34	36	7
Kent 5	7	2	1	4	31	39	5
Wilts 2	6	1	3	2	28	32	5
Hants 2	7	0	3	4	30	40	3
Berks 4	7	0	1	6	19	51	1

## VETERANS DIVISION 3D

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Worcester 2	6	4	2	0	45	15	10
Gloucester	6	5	0	1	43	17	10
Somerset 2	6	3	1	2	29	31	7
Devon 2	6	1	3	2	29	31	5
Middlesex 4	6	2	1	3	25	35	5
Shropshire 1	5	2	1	2	21	29	5
Hants 3	5	1	2	2	23	27	4
Dorset 3	6	0	0	6	15	45	0

## VETERANS DIVISION 4A

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Northants 2	5	4	0	1	34	16	8
Herts 4	5	4	0	1	33	17	8
Staffordshire	5	4	0	1	31	19	8
Yorks 5	5	2	1	2	21	28	5
Lincoln 2	6	1	1	4	29	31	3
Notts 2	5	1	1	3	16	33	3
Norfolk 3	5	0	1	4	15	35	1

## VETERANS DIVISION 4B

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Worcester 3	5	4	1	0	33	17	9
Herts 5	5	3	1	1	34	16	7
Cambs 2	6	3	1	2	36	24	7
Essex 5	5	3	0	2	30	20	6
Oxford 3	5	2	1	2	21	29	5
Northants 3	5	1	0	4	20	30	2
Hereford 3	5	0	0	5	6	44	0

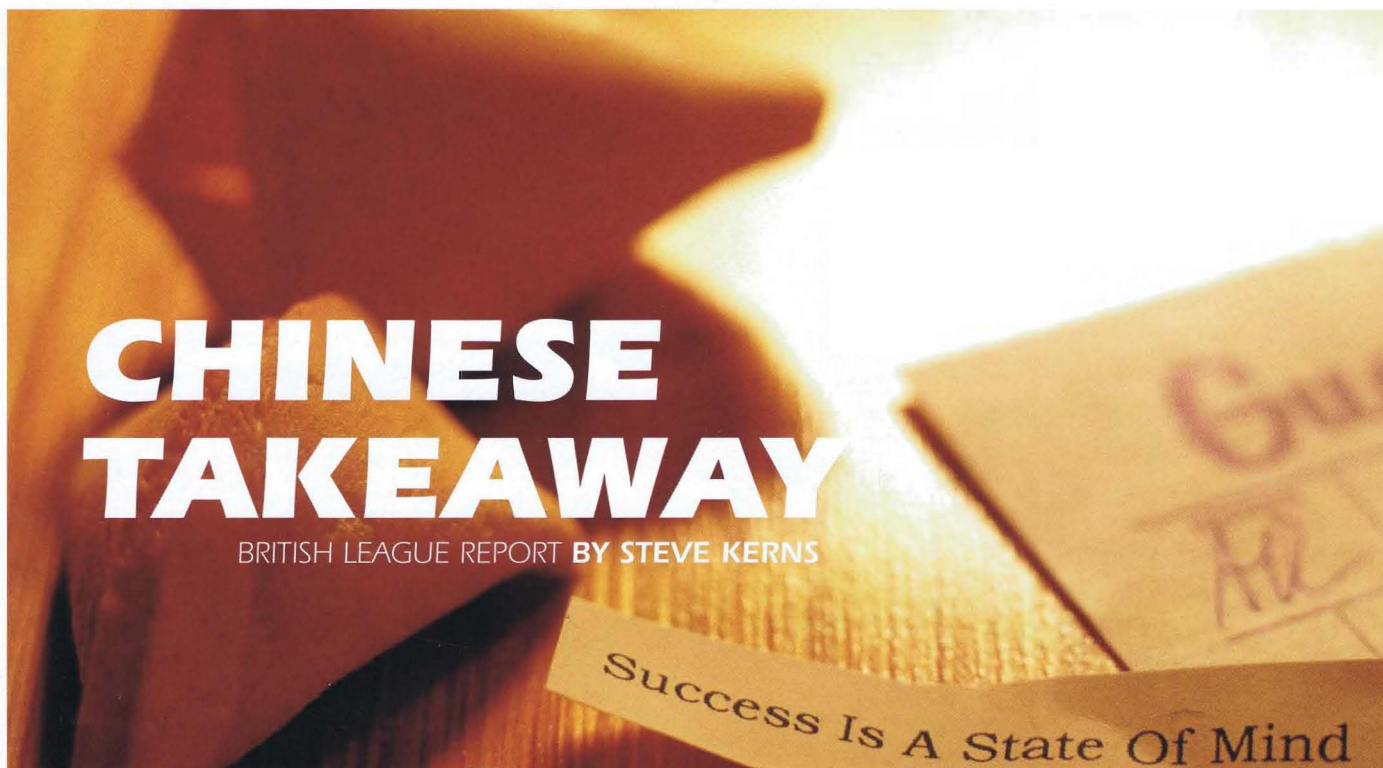
## VETERANS DIVISION 4C

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Surrey 4	6	5	1	0	48	12	11
Hereford 2	6	3	2	1	32	28	8
Devon 4	6	3	1	2	35	25	7
Wilts 4	6	2	1	3	30	30	5
Somerset 4	6	1	3	2	24	36	5
Herts 6	6	1	1	4	25	35	3
Berks 6	6	1	1	4	16	44	3

## VETERANS DIVISION 4D

COUNTY	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Glamorgan	5	5	0	0	41	9	10
Wilts 3	6	4	0	2	33	27	8
Berks 5	5	3	0	2	27	23	6
Devon 3	4	2	0	2	23	17	4
Devon 5	5	1	0	4	20	30	2
Somerset 3	3	1	0	2	9	21	2
Cornwall	4	0	0	4	7	33	0





**S**econd to bottom after the first round of matches, Oxford Fireplace Centre I have won promotion to the Premier Division of the British League. Their two leading players, Bristol Academy stars Ms. Yue Jiao Wu and Jing Wei Zhao, were both undefeated in their 20 singles and suitably inspired their team-mates - Steve Hall, Ian Packford and reserve Owen Clutterbuck all played their part in a sensational success. Eddie Roofe had to miss the last round of matches through injury but his wins in the previous weekends were also of considerable importance.

However, it is Division 2 South which produced the most dramatic finish of the season.

Congratulations are extended to the EBS-Orange Northampton I side who came through to take the title but spare a thought for York Gardens who were pipped for first place despite scoring the commendably high total of 24 points. The two sides met on Saturday afternoon and the "status quo" was maintained as the match finished all square. Olutoye Boyede took his two singles for the Northants team whilst Dave Bangerter hit back for the Londoners with wins over Ryan Keates and Steve Munson. The rapidly improving Dorian Robinson also shone as he scored a fine 3-1 victory over Eser Maniga.

Both leading sides shone again on the Sunday morning. York Gardens disposed of BATTs Team Peniel II 6-2 with Dorian Robinson scoring a sensational win over Joe Kennedy whilst EBS-Orange ended the challenge of third placed Byng Hall I by beating the Kent side 6-2. Former Essex men's singles champion "Toyo" Boyede beat both Phil Cox and Chris Knight whilst Eser Maniga also turned in a very capable display as he saw off the challenges of Mark Romano and Phil Cox.

Round 14 paired EBS-Orange with Generation II and York Gardens with the tricky prospect of playing Byng Hall. With York Gardens three games ahead and the teams level on 23 points things could hardly have been closer.

Northants turned in a superb performance as they brushed aside a strong Generation II side 7-1. Olutoye Boyede, Steve Munson and Simon Pryke were all undefeated whilst Eser Maniga only missed out against Victor Imiseev at 12-10 in the fifth end.

Could York Gardens win as well and clinch the title? They started brightly enough as Dorian Robinson beat Mark Romano 3-2 and Wing-Yung Chan scored a fine 3-0 win over Phil Cox. Martin Hewett dampened their ardour as he hit back with a 3-1 win over Steve Holloway but the hard-hitting Dave Bangerter made no mistake as he beat Chris Knight to give the

London team a 3-1 lead. The next game had a huge bearing on the outcome of the division as Phil Cox turned in his best display of the season to beat Dorian Robinson 3-1. The pressure was now really on, and even more so after Mark Romano levelled the match with his 3-0 victory over Steve Holloway. By now all the other matches had finished but appreciative of just what a battle was taking place something like 50 players and spectators stayed behind to see the climax to this division. Wing-Yung Chan turned in another superb performance as he beat Chris Knight 3-1 which meant that if Dave Bangerter could beat Martin Hewett his side would take the title by a single game. Few players will face a more daunting task than this and unfortunately Bangerter came up against an opponent who was on inspired form. Hewett responded to everything that the hard-hitting Bangerter threw at him and fully one hour after all the other games had finished Hewett emerged as an 11-8 in the fifth set winner. Full marks are extended to Hewett for producing such a fine performance and full marks are extended to both players for producing such a sporting encounter in trying circumstances. EBS-Orange had become champions by a single point after one of the most dramatic finishes the British League has ever witnessed.



**PREMIER DIVISION**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
London Progress 1	9	1	0	67	13	19
Darlington 1	7	1	2	50	30	15
Ormesby 1	5	4	1	47	33	14
Harvey Barn. 1	4	3	3	46	34	11
Ellenborough	3	3	4	39	41	09
BATTS TP 1	2	4	4	31	49	08
Elgre Notts 1	0	2	8	23	57	02
Horsham 1	0	2	8	17	63	02

**DIVISION 2 SOUTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
EBS-Orange NI	12	1	1	78	34	25
York Gardens I	11	2	1	78	34	24
Byng Hall I	9	2	3	73	39	20
Fusion II	7	2	5	58	54	16
Generation 2	5	2	7	49	63	12
Batts Peniel II	2	2	10	42	70	6
OLOP Impact II	1	3	10	33	79	5
Horsham II	1	2	11	37	75	4

**DIVISION 3 SOUTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Mossford	10	4	0	73	39	24
London Progress IV	7	5	2	66	46	19
Sutton Sharks	2	11	1	57	55	15
Ashford II	4	5	5	54	58	13
Horsham III	4	5	5	52	60	13
Ellenborough II	3	5	6	52	60	11
Elgre Nottingham III	2	5	7	48	64	9
Hastings	2	4	8	46	66	8

**DIVISION 1 NORTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sycamore	12	0	2	81	31	24
Derwent I	10	1	3	69	43	21
Norwich	8	1	5	65	47	17
Bedford Modern I	5	3	6	53	59	13
Darlington II	5	3	6	53	59	13
Ormesby II	6	0	8	50	62	12
Grantham	4	3	7	49	63	11
Seasiders I	0	1	13	28	84	1

**DIVISION 2 SOUTH & MIDLANDS**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
London Progress III	11	2	1	79	33	24
Cippenham II	8	2	4	66	46	18
Oxford FP II	8	2	4	63	49	18
Harvey Barnets II	5	7	2	61	51	17
Bedford Modern II	4	4	6	49	63	12
EBS-Orange NII	3	5	6	54	58	11
Kingshurst Bribar	3	1	10	37	75	7
Ashford I	2	1	11	39	73	5

**DIVISION 4 SOUTH & WEST**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
DML Woolwell II	10	3	1	77	35	23
Plymouth Wand'ers	7	7	0	66	46	21
Cippenham III	7	5	2	67	45	19
Cofton Hackett	7	3	4	69	43	17
Southampton West	4	4	6	54	58	12
London Progress V	4	3	7	61	51	11
Guinness Polska II	2	3	9	29	83	7
Brighton III	1	0	13	25	87	2

**DIVISION 1 SOUTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Oxford FP I	11	0	3	76	36	22
DML Woolwell I	9	3	2	74	38	21
Cippenham I	8	1	5	63	49	17
London Progress II	7	2	5	62	50	16
Fusion I	6	2	6	61	51	14
OLOP Impact I	4	2	8	47	65	10
Brighton I	4	2	8	42	70	10
De Vere Netts	1	0	13	23	89	2

**DIVISION 3 SOUTH & WEST**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Guinness Polska I	11	2	1	93	19	24
Club Cornwall	10	2	2	80	32	22
Guernsey	8	2	4	57	55	18
Kingfisher Reading	6	3	5	56	56	15
Waterside	5	4	5	58	54	14
NWF	4	1	9	44	68	9
Oxford FP III	2	2	10	29	83	6
Ashford III	1	2	11	31	81	4

**DIVISION 4 NORTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Ormesby III	13	0	1	89	23	26
Woodfield	12	0	2	87	25	24
Elgre Nottingham IV	11	0	3	78	34	22
Darlington III	7	1	6	62	50	15
Ro'ham Scorpions II	5	1	8	53	59	11
Hotpoint Peterb'gh	2	2	10	31	81	6
Isle of Man	1	2	11	30	82	4
Angels	2	0	12	18	94	4

**DIVISION 2 NORTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Ro'ham Scorpions I	13	0	1	86	26	26
Elgre Nottingham II	10	1	3	68	44	21
McClymont National	8	0	6	67	45	16
Halton Croda I	6	2	6	58	54	14
Northfield	6	1	7	54	58	13
D & B.D. Fastbats I	6	1	7	50	61	13
Blackpool	3	2	9	42	69	8
Uxbridge Burton	0	1	13	22	90	1

**DIVISION 3 NORTH**

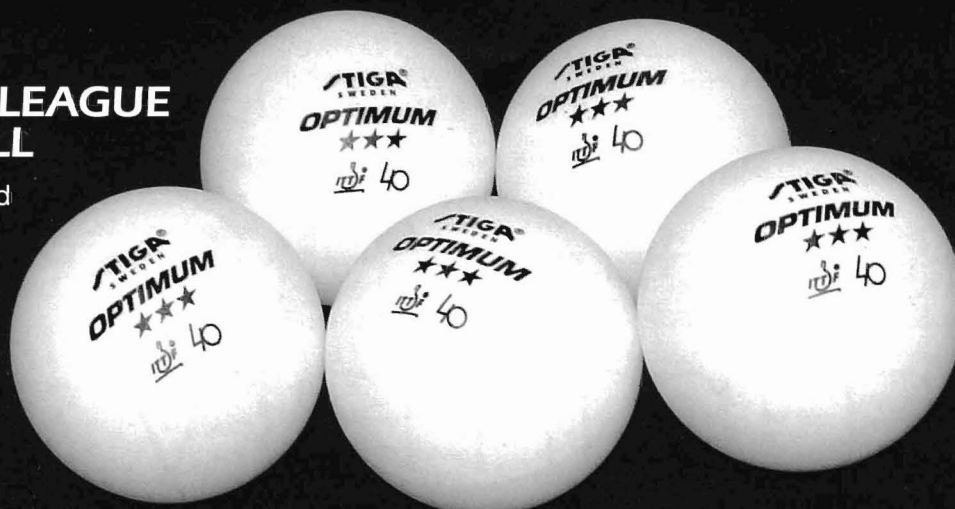
COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Chesterfield	14	0	0	100	12	28
Sheffield	10	1	3	74	38	21
Halton Croda II	9	1	4	64	48	19
Grimsby	6	1	7	52	60	13
Derwent II	3	3	8	49	63	9
Seasiders II	2	4	8	38	73	8
Barrow	2	3	9	41	71	7
D & B.D. Fastbats II	3	1	10	29	82	7

**DIVISION 4 SOUTH**

COUNTY	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Brighton II	10	2	0	80	16	22
Eastbourne	8	2	2	66	30	18
Fusion III	6	2	4	49	47	14
York Gardens II	5	1	6	47	49	11
Byng Hall II	4	1	7	31	65	9
Britannia Ipswich	2	2	8	34	62	6
Harvey Barnets III	2	0	10	29	67	4

**THE BRITISH LEAGUE  
OFFICIAL BALL**

3-Star - ITTF Approved





## BERKSHIRE

By Colin Dyke

Reading Closed Championships: The 2005/06 Reading Closed Championships were held recently at Cippenham Club, Slough. It was the juniors who shone with Richard Andrews, Tom Maynard, Abhay Gehlot, Kuldeep Gehlot and Ben Davis all doing themselves proud in both the Junior and senior events, while Fiona Taylor and Emma Ashley dominated the junior girls events.

In the men's singles quarter finals Mark Banks won a thrilling contest with young Tom Maynard 11-9, 6-11, 11-7, 10-12, 11-6, Abhay Gehlot easily beat Colin Dyke 11-8, 11-5, 11-9, while Ben Davis saw off Div 2's Keith Winter 11-4, 14-12, 4-11, 11-7. Shock of the round though saw no.4 seed Ramesh Gehlot bite the dust losing to young Richard Andrews 11-6, 8-11, 11-7, 7-11, 8-11

In the semi-finals Abhay Gehlot won a tense first game against Mark Banks 15-13 but Banks kept his cool to ease through to the final by taking the next three games 11-8, 11-9, 11-8. In the other semi-final Richard Andrews came up against fellow junior Ben Davis and it was Andrews who booked his place in the final by winning 11-5, 11-9, 6-11, 11-7. In the final Andrews battled hard, but Banks held out after some scintillating rallies for an 11-7, 11-8, 11-8 victory.

In the ladies singles final Mary Allan came up against young Emma Ashley and duly completed an 11-6, 11-5, 11-7 victory to win yet another Reading Closed ladies singles title.

In the junior events the U21 singles produced some superb table tennis and close matches. Abhay Gehlot beat Kuldeep Gehlot 11-7, 11-8, 6-11, 8-11, 11-5 in his semi, while Tom Maynard defeated Richard Andrews 8-11, 11-7, 11-8, 9-11, 11-9 in the other. The final was dramatic with Abhay edging home 4-11, 13-11, 10-12, 11-8, 12-10. Abhay also took the junior boys title defeating Kuldeep 11-4, 11-7, 9-11, 9-11 11-9, after Kuldeep had earlier beaten Tom Maynard 6-11, 9-11, 13-11, 13-11, 11-8 in a titanic semi. Tom picked up the cadet boys title after he defeated Richard Andrews with surprising ease in the final 11-7, 11-4, 11-5, while young Daniel Moses was the U13 winner, beating Daniel Thorne 11-4, 11-

5, 11-7 in the final.

The junior girls title went to Fiona Taylor after she beat Emma Ashley 5-11, 13-11, 9-11, 11-8, 12-10 in her semi-final before going on to defeat Rebecca Lee 11-8, 11-4, 11-6 in the final. Emma Ashley had earlier beaten Fiona in the final of the cadet girls event 6-11, 6-11, 11-8, 11-8, 11-9, while Emma also won the U13 girls singles, beating Fiona in another incredibly close match in the semi 10-12, 11-9, 11-8, 12-14 15-13, before beating Rebecca Lee in the final 11-4, 11-5, 11-5. Rebecca had earlier also won a close semi final by beating Leah Haile 11-6, 11-2, 8-11, 5-11, 11-9.

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

By Steve Rate

Cambridge took their team to play Norwich in the quarter-final of the Wilmott Cup only to come up against an in form Norwich team of Kevin Gray, Devesh Shete and Stanley Zhang. Some great matches were played only for Cambridge to come in second place. St. Neots Table Tennis club have won the Eastern Region Advanced Premier Club of the Year award, congratulations to all, in particular Steve and Lesley Rate whose hard work and dedication made it possible. In addition the club has just been awarded Clubmark a recognition of a quality club. St. Neots would like to thank the previous RDO Mark Dare and his successor Greg Yarnall for their help in achieving this award.

The Individual Schools Championships for Cambridgeshire took place at the St. Neots Table Tennis Club. This was the best entry for a number of years with over 40 children taking part. The whole day was played in excellent spirit and some real talent emerged.

Results: Boys Under 11's Jacob Tose, Girls Under 11's Amy Catlin, Boys Under 13's Ian Gregory, Girls Under 13's Olivia Miller, Boys Under 16's Nick Rate, Girls Under 16's Natasha Fisher, Boys Under 19's Mark Dawkins.

## CHESHIRE

By Alan Blears

Two Cheshire youngsters have participated in the Junior Six Nations Tournament – on opposing sides! Caroline Hallows was playing for England whereas Fiona Dennett has followed older sister Elizabeth in representing Ireland. Caroline helped her team to the silver medal, behind Wales, but suffered a loss to Fiona in the individuals. Fiona herself then fell to the much improved Scottish girl, Corinna Whitaker, in the quarter-final.

Merseyside and Greater Manchester have completed their schools individual tournaments, resulting in a number of Cheshire winners and runners-up. Wirral girls Jordyn Layfield and Maitreyi Shivkumar will go the national finals at U19 and U16 respectively, but Jonathan Taylor (U19), Chris Weir (U16) and Stephen Broad (U13) were all runners up.

In Greater Manchester, Nevill Road, Junior School, Stockport, dominated the U11s as usual, with Natalie Dodd romping away with the girls' section, and Louise Anthony beating team-mate Matthew McCall in the boys. Saran Weatherby took the U13 girls title, but brother Matthew was thwarted in the

U16s by the surprise entry of Josh Bleakley.

In the U13 boys, Josh Boulton used his serves to great effect, and needed to, as he was made to work hard in the final by that most part-time of part-timers Dan Brown. Dan excels at whatever sport he tries whether it be football, cricket (his priorities), tennis, table tennis, French boules, tidlywinks, snail-racing and if ever given the opportunity, moon walking. "Rural" Cheshire's individuals have still to take place. Congratulations to the girls of Nevill Road Junior School who, led by the experienced Natalie Dodd, have reached the U11 team finals on the fourteenth attempt.

Will a good young'un always beat a good old'un? Well, to paraphrase "Porgy and Bess" – "It ain't necessarily so –

- That which you're able
- To see at the table
- Shows it ain't necessarily so."

In a recent Stockport league match junior international Caroline Hallows fell victim to the vast experience of Vince Hankey, who is in his mid-seventies. This should nevertheless be a valuable lesson for Caroline, for "every defeat should be a lesson learned" Desmond Douglas.

## CLEVELAND

By Alan Ransome

Karina wins Derby and four county titles: 13 year old Karina Lefevre from the Ormesby Club won her first select title in the Under 13 Girls singles in the Derby 4 Star Junior Championships.

Karina, who was part of the England Under 13 team which participated in Spain in January, defeated Sarah Russo of Sussex 3 – 0 in the quarter-finals, Cornwall's Martha Travis 11-4 in the decider in the semi-final, and Staffordshire's Natalie Slater 3 – 1 in the final. Karina has been the most successful player so far from a very promising group of six or seven junior girls who are training regularly at Ormesby Club. Karina also excelled in the Cleveland Closed Table Tennis Championships which were played at the Ormesby Club, winning all four women's events from the senior women's right through to the Under 13 title. In the main event, the women's singles, Karina defeated Jennifer Lowther by 3 – 1 in the final match after beating her sister, Katherine, and Chloe Whyte to reach the final. The juniors repeated the women's singles, as Karina again defeated Jennifer Lowther by 3 – 1

# Round Up summary



Premier club Presentation by Alex Murdoch (ETTA Chairman) to Bury St. Edmunds, Stowmarket, Vauxhall and Penkull table tennis clubs



Top month for Karina Lefevre – Cleveland



The final of the cadet event was between Karina and her sister Katherine, after Katherine had defeated Jennifer Lowther. The battle between the two sisters was the closest of the day with Karina edging home at 11-9 in the deciding game. Karina won the mini cadet final with a straight games win over the talented 11-year old, Chloe Whyte by 3 – 0.

To win all four titles, Karina was unbeaten in the women's events throughout the day, winning a remarkable 13 consecutive matches, the majority against players who are of a similar standard.

The men's singles was won by Polish international, Patryk Matuszewski, who beat Darren McVitie, Hartlepool's leading player by 3-1 and Kader's Karl Shaw in the semi final by 3-0. Patryk joined Ormesby last summer and has been playing and coaching regularly at the club ever since.

The junior boys' singles was won by Ormesby's Andrew Dawson who beat Martin Rutter over four games in the semi-final and Robert Besford also 3 – 1 in the final. Besford came into his own to win two titles, the cadet boys' singles where he beat his cousin, Marc Besford 3 – 0 in the final, and Ormesby's Adam Smith 11-8, 11-10, 11-8 in the semi-final. Besford's second title was the banded singles in which he won a very close final, 11-9 in the deciding game against the women's champion, Karina Lefevre. Besford did well to beat the experienced veteran, David Poultney, 3-0 in the semi. Poultney reached the final of the Over 40 singles where he was beaten by Kader's Michael Young by 3-1, and the Over 50 final where Kader's Robert Evans won by 3-0. David Poultney was also unlucky in his third final, the handicap singles, where he won through to meet Northfield's Becky Lavelle. Becky won the title with wins against Karl Shaw (Kader), Andrew Dawson and Katherine Lefevre of Ormesby, and in the final a victory over Poultney by 21-10, 18-21, 21-15 taking full advantage of her 13 points start.

## CORNWALL

By Tim Bowler

County Championships: A new look veterans side are finding wins hard to come by. A trip to Exeter against Devon 3 resulted in a 7-3 defeat with four of the defeats coming in the fifth end. The next match saw them entertain Wiltshire 3 in an 8-2 defeat. The final match played to date saw Berkshire travel to Cornwall and leave with a 9-1 win, Cornwall's point being secured by Mike Credland in a straight sets win over Berkshire no.2 D. Gilam.

West Cornwall Divisional Championships: In the absence of some of the county's top senior players it was left to Cornwall's top juniors to battle out the coveted premier singles title with Darren Reed of Bridge defeating Matt Trevorror of St Ives 11-7, 11-6, 10-12, 11-9 in the final. They then teamed up to win the doubles. In the division 1 singles the much younger Tom Rashleigh overcame the veteran Dennis

Williams in straight games. The Falmouth pairing of Yaina Andrew and Jeremy Hartley beat the young pairing from People's Palace of Richard Harries and Huw Vicary. In the second division the final was an all Bridge affair with James Martin comfortably beating Richard Bannister 11-3, 11-5, 11-5. In the doubles Richard got his revenge where with partner Richard Piggott they beat James Martin and Alistair Smith. In the third division cadet Elliott Welsteed became champion, then with partner and fellow youngster Chris Wood beat Chris Peters and Sam Holden.

County Schools Championship: Tregorrick Park in St Austell was the venue for the recent County Schools Championships. In the under 11 girls event played on a round robin basis Kelly Reed from Portreath was unbeaten, easily winning all her matches.

Runner-up was Natalie Stevenson of Launceston.

The under 11 boys proved a much closer event. In the end 3 players lost only 1 match, James Wright and twin brother Alex and Jamie Bassett. By virtue of beating his brother 3-0 James was the overall winner with Jamie Bassett finishing second due to a better games won percentage. The under 13 boys was played in 2 groups. The semi-finals saw Alistair Smith beat Ryan Bowler 11-8, 11-9, 11-9 in a quality match whilst Chris Peters beat Jonathan Grant. In the final Alistair was a comfortable winner 11-1, 11-3, 11-6. In the under 16 girls a round competition resulted in Cape Cornwall producing both the winner, Kaye Stenner, and the runner-up, Ellie Trenner. The under 16 boys was well attended with 4 groups taking part. The semi-finals predictably featured Darren Reed who beat Richard Harries 11-9, 11-5, 11-2 and Matt Trevorror who beat Huw Vicary 11-4, 9-11, 15-13, 11-7. A high quality final saw Darren win as expected 11-3, 11-5, 11-7.

## CUMBRIA

By Gordon Brown

A wealth of young talent keeps coming off the schools conveyor belt, this was proved at both Cumbria Schools Association individual and team finals.

After winning the U11 title, for the second successive year, Matthew Smith, of Victoria School, was hoping it would be second time lucky. The title is the gateway towards the national finals, but last year he had to enter hospital just before the big event in Stoke-on-Trent and missed it.

In the county final, Matthew was stretched all the way by Jake Perry (St Columba) in a five-setter. His fellow pupil from the school, Adella Bassett, took the U11 girls' championship, beating Ebony Miles (Askam) in the final. U13 girls' champion for the second successive year is Emily Standing (Dowdales), while from the largest entry for an event at the championships, the U13 boys, Tom Smith, also from Dowdales, emerged victorious with a final

win over Joe Alaimo (Dallam School, Milnthorpe). Favourite Helen Crawford (Dowdales) beat school colleague Emily Standing in the U16 girls' final, and also took the U19 girls' honours, beating Katie Shepherd (also Dowdales). Helen's brothers had mixed fortunes. Jonathan (Barrow Sixth Form College) won the U19 boys, but Scott (also Dowdales) was surprisingly beaten by Dallam School's Adam Fox in the U16 boys' final. Jonathan helped his college to the county U19 boys team title over Dallam. Reigning National Champions Dowdales defeated St Bernard's in the U13 boys. St Columba beat Askam in both the boys' and girls' U11 finals. Queen Katherine School, Kendal, won the U16 boys' title.

## DERBYSHIRE

By Colin Deaton

The excellent news that the Derbyshire first team has gained promotion to the Premier Division of the National County Championships is good news for our game throughout the county. It is eight years since we last played in the Senior Premier and our squad of players and officials are to be congratulated on a very fine achievement. Appearing for Derbyshire to gain this promotion was Shaun Marples (Chesterfield), Adam Frost (Derby), Robin Pearce (Burton), William Cooney (Chesterfield), Keith Bird (Burton), Sam Perry (Chesterfield), and the ladies Emma Vickers (Derby), Emily O'Sullivan (Derby) and Jane Vickers (Derby). Non-playing captain was county secretary Les Allwood.

Chesterfield had a good entry for their annual closed event but disappointingly the league's top players consisting of Andrew Henry, George Pittas and Shaun Marples were missing.

The men's singles winner was the Clowne teenager Sam Perry, who beat Allan Fullwood in a fast and furious final. The two main successful players were Liam Pitchford and Lucy Davidson. Davidson, the pocket rocket, emerged as the ladies singles champion with a brilliant display of power hitting over the veteran county player Pat Thorley. In winning this she became the youngest player ever to win the event and in addition to this the dynamic 11 year old went on to win three more titles.

England's no. 2 U13 player Liam Pitchford notched three titles in these championships winning the U13 and U16 boys and the mixed doubles. Our game in the Matlock area seems to be getting more popular. The recently held Matlock Closed attracted a good entry being held at the Whitworth Centre. Geoff Gill became the men's singles champion but 12 year old Emma Coles stole the glory by becoming the ladies singles champion thus creating a record as the youngest female to win the title.

Another young lady player in the limelight is 11 year old Abbie Milwain from Derby who also recorded the fete of becoming the youngest ever winner of the



women's singles event in the Burton League. In the final she beat Heather Lunn by 3-1

In the English Schools' National Team Finals at Hinckley Leisure Centre, Staveley Springwell Community School U13 boys' team won the national title. They were represented by Daniel Lowe, Sean Cullen, Cory Upton, Kyle Needham and Steven Stockley.

Congratulations are extended to Shaun Marples on winning the North Herts Satellite GP. In winning this it became his first open men's singles title. He beat a Polish player in the semi-final and went on to beat Darek Zuroski also from Poland, in the final by 3 games to 1. It was special for Shaun to achieve this victory as he had lost to him in the same event the previous year. To make it a commendable double he also won the U21 event.

Finally international recognition has once more come the way of Chesterfield's star U13 players. Liam Pitchford, Daniel Lowe and Sean Cullen have been selected to attend special training in Barcelona. All three are ranked in the top five of the ETTA U13 ranking classification.

## DEVONSHIRE

By John Vincent

Devon Schools Individual Table Tennis

Championships: These were run by Graham Pearson, the Devon Schools Table Tennis Association Secretary. The Primary Schools children used the Plymouth League HQ as a venue with the other age groups going to Egguckland Community College.

Results: Under 11 Boys Champion OLLIE BUDDLELL r/u PAUL HANDY, Under 11 Girls VICTORIA SMITH r/u GEORGIE TALBOT, Under 13 Boys JOHN HANDY r/u BEN TAYLOR, Under 13 Girls LAURA MCLEOD r/u ALICE PHILLIPS, Under 16 Boys RICHARD MARSHALL r/u CHRIS SMITH, Under 16 Girls HANNAH BRADFORD r/u KIRSTY LEGGE, Under 19 Boys CHRIS WARN r/u TOBY MATTACOTT, Under 19 Girls SALLY SMITH r/u LUCY O'CALLAGHAN.

The champions have been invited to represent Devon in the Nationals. Exeter Junior 2 Star held at Okehampton Table Tennis Centre:

Results: Under 12 Boys LEWIS WILLIAMS (GWENT) r/u DOMINIC SUSSEX (DEVON), Cadet Boys MATTHEW TREVORROW (CORNWALL) r/u PATRICK THOMAS (GWENT), Junior Boys CHRIS SMITH (DEVON) r/u PATRICK THOMAS (GWENT), Under 12 Girls CHLOE THOMAS (GWENT) r/u RACHEL TREVORROW (CORNWALL), Cadet Boys CHLOE THOMAS r/u LAURA MCLEOD (DEVON), Junior Girls SALLY SMITH r/u DAYNA PEARCE (GWENT).

Devon Junior Closed Championships: Brian Worts was the organiser of these Championships at Exmouth Community College. Sally Smith and Richard Marshall, both from DML/Woolwell T.T.C., became triple champions with outstanding performances.

Results: Under 11 Boys PAUL HANDY r/u OLLIE BUDDLELL, Under 13 Boys DAVID WHITE r/u BEN TAYLOR, Under 15 Boys RICHARD MARSHALL r/u CHRIS SMITH, Under 18 Boys RICHARD MARSHALL r/u SIMON POYNER, Boys Doubles RICHARD MARSHALL DAVID WETHERILL Rs/u CHRIS SMITH FREDDIE CUTLER, Under 11 Girls VICKY SMITH r/u LAUREN BROWN, Under 13 Girls ALICE PHILLIPS r/u VICKY SMITH, Under 15 Girls LAURA MCLEOD r/u AMY WHITING, Under 18 Girls SALLY SMITH r/u LAURA MCLEOD, Girls Doubles SALLY SMITH VICKY SMITH Rs/u HANNAH BRADFORD KATIE WILSON, Mixed Doubles SALLY SMITH CHRIS SMITH r/u LAURA MCLEOD RICHARD MARSHALL

## ESSEX

By Steve Kerns

M&G Investments Chelmsford Closed

Tournament: This year's M&G

Investments sponsored Chelmsford Closed Tournament took place at a top-class new venue – the Anglia Ruskin University Sports Hall in central Chelmsford. Although the event was scattered with surprises it was the

League's two most successful players of modern times who dominated the

Championships. David Cole retained his Men's Singles title with some brilliant forehand hitting to take the final against old rival Rik James, whilst Julie Vansertima won an unprecedented sixteenth Ladies Singles crown, giving county junior Laura Pyman no chance to impose herself on the final at all.

Next year Cole will be looking to equal a feat which was last achieved in 1955, when the legendary Charlie Wheeler won both the Men's Singles and Veteran Singles titles in the same year.

Colchester junior Greg Green equalled a record last achieved in the early 1980s by Peter Hayden. He won the Junior Doubles title for a third year and with a third different partner. This time he paired up with Holly Stubbings to add to his successes in 2004 with Simon Webber and in 2005 with Tom Hill. For those who like to reminisce it is worth noting that Peter's partners were Julie Dowsett (now Julie Vansertima) in 1980, Chris Knight in 1981 and Andy Wadling in 1982. Peter, Julie, Chris and Andy all went on to achieve very successful playing records as seniors, and Peter returned to the fore this year after a lengthy absence from the League by winning the Tournament's newest event - the Veteran Doubles, paired with Rik James.

Results: Men's Singles David Cole bt. Rik James 11-9, 17-15, 12-14, 11-5. Ladies Singles - Julie Vansertima bt. Laura Pyman 11-2, 11-2, 11-7



Pocket Rocket Lucy Davidson – Derbyshire U13 Boys Singles winner Liam Pitchford above

Men's Doubles - Rik James/David Cole bt. Tony Haling/Charles Sweeney 11-8, 11-7, 12-10. Mixed Doubles - Julie Vansertima/David Cole bt. Melanie Bonnett/Steve Kerns 11-8, 11-4, 11-9. Ladies Doubles - Julie Vansertima/Jean Chasmer of Laura Pyman/Janet Pannell 9-11, 11-4, 4-11, 11-5, 11-9. Veteran Singles - Rik James bt. Peter Hayden 11-6, 11-8, 11-9. Veteran Doubles - Peter Hayden/Rik James bt. Peter Ballard/Hamish Innes 11-3, 11-2, 16-14. Over 60s Singles - Peter Ballard bt. Ian Whiteside 11-5, 6-11, 11-9, 11-2. Junior Boys' Singles - Vytas Rybakas beat Bradley Hudgeall 11-5, 11-3, 8-11, 11-7. Junior Girls' Singles - (Round Robin) (1) Holly Stubbings (2) Laura Pyman. Junior Doubles - Holly Stubbings/Greg Green bt. Hannah Pitt/Tom Hill 15-13, 11-3, 11-5. Under 16 Singles - Tom Hill bt. Bradley Hudgeall 8-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-3. Under 14 Singles - Adam Pitt bt. Hannah Pitt 11-3, 11-8, 11-6. Two Down Singles - Julie Vansertima bt. Dave Calleja 6-11, 9-11, 11-6, 11-5, 11-7. Four Down Singles - Bradley Hudgeall bt. Russell Forde 11-3, 12-10, 10-12, 11-4. Six Down Singles - Peter Sun bt. James Cheesman 12-10, 12-10, 11-5.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

By Ann Fereday

Excellent results for Hertfordshire Juniors in the County Championships Div.1A after two sets of



grouped matches.

Results as follows: First Group, Hertfordshire 8-2 Worcestershire, Hertfordshire 8-2 Durham II, Hertfordshire 10-0 Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire 9-1 Nottinghamshire. Second Group, Hertfordshire 7-3 Essex II, Hertfordshire 3-7 South Yorkshire, Hertfordshire 7-3 Lancashire. Well done to all the players – William Maybanks, Alim Hirji, Ben Swart, Darius Atashoo, Haylee Potts and Tamsin Holland. There has been plenty of other action to write about as well. The senior squad travelled to Tunbridge Wells with two juniors, William Maybanks and Alim Hirji, in for two of the men plus Richard Murrell, Janice Laing and Claire Rogers. Both juniors excelled winning all their games against Sussex II, final score was 5 – 5.

For their second set of grouped matches Veterans I had to make the long trip to Halifax captained by Sally Bax who finished with 100% average in the singles, Sally was supported by Tom Carr who pulled out a few good results. Unfortunately that was it; the other two men did not have a good outing. Results: Hertfordshire 4 - 6 Middlesex, Hertfordshire 4 - 6 Norfolk, Hertfordshire 2 - 8 Worcestershire. Veterans III went to Ashford for three grouped matches without some of the team's regulars. Against Middlesex II Jeanette Maybanks was triumphant both in the singles and mixed doubles while captain, Dennis Robinson, beat John McCance for the first time in 20 attempts; unfortunately this is where it ended, Hertfordshire 3-7 Middlesex II. Versus Bedfordshire II, seven matches went to five sets with Hertfordshire only winning two. Though Dennis won both his singles the score finished Hertfordshire 4 - 6 Bedfordshire. Northants are the top team with a lady ranked in the top 10 veterans; Jeanette beat her and won both her mixed doubles. Veterans IV should have beaten Staffs.I: in several matches they were up in the fifth game but instead they blew it and ended up losing 4-6. Veterans V were miles away taking on Hereford 3. For them – Barry Phillips (captain), Andrew Nash, Brian Gale and Mary Nicholls, it was business as usual – they won 9 – 1. Well done! Hertfordshire VI didn't fare so well losing 4-6 to Wiltshire due to a better game average.

## NORTHANTS

By Dennis Millman

A quality entry for the Wellingborough Closed Tournament produced a splendid day's play and in Chris Doran a new men's singles champion. Doran, recent winner of the Cotswold 3 Star Cadet Singles, in which he beat both the no.1 and no.2 seeds WingYung Chan and Matthew Ware, was in fine form throughout the day. Only once was he taken close when in an early round he stood two points from defeat in a fourth end against David Waples. Four points later disaster had been averted

and with no further problems Doran took the title in a straight set finale against Chris Gibbons. Neither player featured in a doubles final won by John Fuller and Gordon Shaw who accounted for holders Richard Elliott and Alan Ashberry in straight games. One of the day's surprises was Ashberry's triumph over Gibbons in the Over 40 singles, but it was all to no avail for Fuller was ready and waiting in the final. Kettering Town colleagues met twice with honours even. Fuller added a second title in the Over 50's event but Shaw proved the victor in a men's quarter-final before succumbing to Gibbons. Fuller's doubles expertise was rewarded with two further titles. Playing with Ashberry in the Over 40's competition a 13-11 fifth end finish was a step too far for the long established pairing of Gibbons and Michael Edwards. Changing partners, Fuller together with Shaw got the better of Geoff Atkinson and Ashberry one age group higher.

The ladies section was dominated by Muriel Cox who beat Clare Coles in the final and then joined her beaten opponent to add the doubles. Cox also made sure of the veterans' event, though taken close by Carol Leeson.

Doran took two further titles, the Rod Marchant Memorial Trophy for boys, followed by the Under 15 title, with Daniel Smalley and Sam Wildman the respective beaten finalists. Smalley's consolation came when he and Matt Horrocks successfully struggled to get the better of Wildman and Charlotte Binley in the corresponding doubles. The hard bat singles was the most popular event with Doran's class overcoming unfamiliarity to take him to a final where he met Alan Ashberry, the leading exponent in the old fashioned art. The Boston based player demonstrated his prowess to telling effect and Doran suffered his only defeat of the day.

In the mystery doubles Kevin Bird, remembered by me as a great enthusiast in his junior school days, successfully tutored Wildman to victory after some stirring encounters. Bird also reached the semi-finals of the consolation singles but it was Keith Lucas who scaled the final summit.

The 18-23 singles again saw the perennial trio of Lucas, David Gibbons and Martyn Hancox in opposition with the last named emerging triumphant. Winners in the respective divisional handicaps were Doran, Smalley, Arthur Adams and Jo Bayes who beat her mother Jane in the final.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

By Pauline Long

The cadet team appears to be doing well in its league competition, and after the last round of matches occupied a mid-table placing.

The county junior tournament, which included cadet and U13 events as well as the junior singles for the Norman Moore Memorial Cup, was to take place at

Cramlington Sporting Club on the evening of Friday 24th March, with the main senior closed event being held at the same venue the next day, Saturday 25th March.

Current Northumbria League leaders are as follows:

Premier Division - Washington A, Division 1 - North Shields YMCA A, Division 2 - Alnwick A, Division 3 - Cramlington Casuals, Division 4 - Cramlington Lions.

The Team Handicap Knockout Cup competition had reached the last 16 at the time of writing, although three teams - Byker 'A' (Premier Division), Old England FAATS (Division 3) and Cramlington Casuals (Division 3) – had already played their rounds to reach the quarter-final stage.

## SHROPSHIRE

By Terry Ridgway

Telford League Division One - Albrighton A have caught up with their matches in hand and currently lead Telford's top division by four points although this season is proving to be harder than ever as Industrial Bearings, Abbey A and Bridgnorth C are all closing the gap with every match. The Albrighton team have so far only dropped points with a 5-5 draw against Bridgnorth A (having recovered from 2-5 down) and a very rare 10-0 "claimed" defeat to GPO (which is still up for discussion by the league committee).

New team to the league Mathesons A are desperately struggling at the foot of the table with a played 16 lost 16 record and it looks like last season's Division Two champions, Owens TV, may join them in relegation at the end of the year.

Division Two is starting to "hot up" as

Mathesons B head the table by a 20 point margin but the battle for second place is between my hot tip Lilleshall B, Abbey B or Shifnal with Bridgnorth D as dark horses for a late sprint for the runner-up trophy. Shrewsbury Premier Division - Pontesbury A are taking the division by storm this year and currently have an unbeaten 12 out of 12 to their credit, as with previous seasons Cricket Club A, B and C are fighting

for the second place, and it's good to see Hospitals mounting a serious challenge for honours with Gary Thompson, Billy Pegg, Steve Brown, Steve Chislett and new signing Ian Playsted pushing the top sides all of the way.

Pontesbury C top Division One by a narrow margin and are closely followed by Cricket Club D and Unison B. Midlands League – Shrewsbury's A team of Rob Mansfield, Rod France and Mike Dudley are finding the going a little tough in Division One as they currently occupy the second from bottom slot, however better fortunes for the second squad of Matt Croft, Graham Phillips and Terry Ridgway who head Division Two by three points from Kettering and Stafford A.

County Veterans - Dave Elkins' A team are in second spot in Division 3D with wins against Somerset II and Devon II under their belt, Tony Akeroyd, Elkin, Brian Rainford, Rod France and Wendy Baggott playing superbly well for the county this season. The Second squad of Malcolm Langford, Mike Dudley, Rob Mansfield, Terry Ridgway and Jane Bevan are having a hard time in Division 3A with a played 6, lost 6 to date.

## SOMERSET

By John Wood

Taunton League Championships: No.1 seed Jon Hughes took the Taunton Table Tennis League's Open Singles title for the fourth consecutive year, when he defeated Ed Martin in four games in the closed tournament at Castle Sports Centre. Hughes trailed 5-0 in both of the first two games but recovered to win one of them, and he gradually overpowered the in-form no.2 seed.

Since the formation of the league in 1932, no player has won five open single titles in succession. Could Hughes be making history in 2007?

Results: Open Singles final J Hughes bt E.Martin 3-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-9. Division 1 final J.Corke bt C.Nomman 12-10, 7-11, 12-10, 7-11, 12-10, 11-7 Ladies

Singles final J.Crook bt J.Watson 11-9, 11-9, 11-9. Junior final A.Hussey bt R.Corke 13-11 11-4 11-9. Steve Hayman final M.Crook bt V.Jackson 11-3 11-7, 11-6. Open Doubles final E.Martin and C.Allsopp bt A.Stone and D.Yardle 11-8, 12-10, 11-6. Vintage Veterans final M.Homer bt T.Brown 7-11 11-8, 11-7 5-11 15-13. Plate final J.Corke bt D.Adeniji 11-6, 11-7 11-8.

Mendip League Championships: The hot favourite, Jerry Musselwhite, duly won the senior singles title without losing a single game and teamed up with Martin Rumary to take the doubles trophy. Following a close five game semi-final Rumary defeated Max Lines three straight to take the Division 1 title, whilst Dave Montano accounted for team mate Alan Cribb in their Division 2 encounter. Joe Vine and Karen Millard won the junior singles and ladies singles, respectively, as well as sharing the junior doubles title. Many thanks go to Brian Gibbs for running the event on the day.

Results: Senior singles J.Musselwhite bt N.Branch 11-2, 11-8, 11-5. Division 1 singles M.Rumary bt M.Lines 11-9, 11-7 11-9. Division 2 singles D.Montano bt A.Cribb 11-6, 11-2, 7-11, 11-6. Ladies singles K.Millard winner J.O'Dare runner-up. Junior singles J.Vine winner K.Millard runner-up. Cadet singles B.Ramsey bt A.Williams 11-5, 13-11 11-6 Handicap singles D.Montano (0) bt J.O'Dare (+6) 15-21, 21-18, 21-11 Consolation singles G.Clarke bt K.Millard 11-7 14-16, 12-14, 11-8, 11-5. Over 50's singles G.Clarke bt A.Lockyer 3-1. Senior doubles J.Musselwhite/M.Rumary bt A.Lockyer/A.Dobbs 3-0. Junior doubles K.Millard/J.Vine bt A.Williams/B.Ramsey 11-7 8-11 11-7 11-6.

## SUFFOLK

By Andrew Doshier

Plenty of tournaments at this time of the season so firstly congratulations to Andrew Warner on his wins in both the Britannia Club Championships and the Veterans Suffolk Closed, his win over over Ryan Collins in the former (final) was outstanding. County Veterans Championship results:- Men's 040s singles final Andrew Warner bt. Fred Dove 3-1, Mens 050s singles final Fred Dove bt. Dave Halliday 3-0. Restricted singles final Malcolm Collins bt. Ian Brown 3-2, O 60s singles final Dave Halliday (round robin) Handicap singles final Dave Halliday bt. Fred Dove 2-0 (21 up). Men's doubles final Warner/Dove beat Halliday/Tallent 3-1.

At the Suffolk Closed Junior Championships in a thrilling boys' final Lee Barnes saved two match points against Ryan Collins, to retain his title, 11-7, 4-11, 10-12, 12-11, 11-6. Other results: Girls U18 Group final (5) Chelsea Bennett (4 wins) Gemma Butler ( tied 1 match each with 2 other players - r/up on countback) Girls U15 Group final(5) Stacey Howard (4 wins) Alice Carroll r/up. (3 wins) Boys U15 final Jake Collins beat Josh Broadbent 11-3,

12-10, 11-5.

This season's top 16 invitation event (based on the 555 World Cup) saw a number of new faces and some from the past. The only seeding upset was that of Peter Hayden beating Martin Gray to come top in their group, which Gray reversed when they played off for third and fourth positions. In the end, the final pitched former Scottish international Ian McLean against two time champion Andy Wignall 11-4, 11-9, 11-9 in favour of McLean.

In the Bury St Edmunds Championships Aaron Self (16) showed just how far he has come taking out the junior handicap and men's singles titles. Other results: Division 2 final Jepson bt Freeman 7-11, 6-11, 11-5, 14-12, 11-6. The Division 3 final Jordan Bush bt. Tim Jolly 7, 11-9, 11-7, 6-11, 7-11, 11-7. Veterans' final Brown bt Baxter 6-11, 11-4, 14-12, 11-7 Men's final Self bt Brown 9-11, 11-8, 11-7, 11-4. Women's final Lynn Green bt Katie Meadows 12-10, 11-5, 11-9.

I am informed both Stowmarket and Bury St Edmunds Table Tennis Clubs were awarded Clubmark accreditation and their officials, Peter Fordham and Tim Jolly (Bury), Tony Mooney and Geoff Brook (Stowmarket), were presented with their awards at the English National Championships at Sheffield recently by Alex Murdoch. Congratulations to both clubs who have the honour of being the first clubs in the county to achieve this accreditation. On the schools front, where our last involvement in the ESTTA annual team and singles competitions was in the season 1999/2000 - a new committee is being formed facilitated by Greg Yarnall, East Region Development Officer, with the objective of full participation in the 2006/7 season. Many of our junior players and schools are looking forward to this development and the competition that it will bring.

## SURREY

By Chris Andrews

Surrey became National U21 Champions in both men's and women's events, where Darius Knight and Joanna Parker were both victorious. Darius beat his World Championship team-mate Paul Drinkhall in the final (who is also European Cadet Champion) having already beaten Tim Yarnall and Adam Bleakley, players he has lost to previously, while Joanna beat her England team-mate and doubles partner Kelly Sibley.

Whitgift School is to represent the English Schools, as the U16 champion boys school team, at the World Schools Table Tennis Championships in Shanghai, China, from 5th-12th April. The schoolboys attending are Wing-Yung Chan, Adam Ryder, Patrick Hui and David Johnson. David Williams is the non-playing captain. Wing-Yung Chan, ranked no.2 in the U15's, has been selected to represent England in Glasgow and also in Spain. At county level they remain unbeaten, which is in



U 18 boys singles winner Damien Nicholls Shrewsbury B TEAM, Top of the second division in the Midlands League L/R Graham Phillips, Terry Ridgway, Matt Croft above



sharp contrast to the Senior 2nd team who have lost both their matches. In Division 1, the 2nd Cadet team did well with a number of players making their debuts to finish about mid table. The Junior 1st team just missed out by finishing second having played 7, won 5, drawn 1 and lost 1. Still having more matches to play, the Junior 2nd team have won 3 and drawn 1. Like the Senior 1st team, the Veterans' 1st and 4th teams remain unbeaten. The Veterans' 2nd team is playing in the same division as the 1st team; they have drawn 2 and lost 3. In Division 3 the 3rd team have won 2 and lost 2. There are junior regional training days going ahead for the South East region at Angle School, Cranbrook, Kent, from 10am-4pm. Anyone is welcome and Ken Muhr can be contacted on Ken.Muhr@swkentpct.nhs.uk The dates are as follows 9/4/2006, 14/5/2006 and 18/6/2006. In the Croydon League, Monk Hill A are top of Division 1 by just 1 point over Forresters A. In December York Gardens A topped Division 1 of the Wandsworth and District League with South Mitcham four points behind. Christopher Lewis was top of the averages with 100%.

## SUSSEX

By John Woodford

Once again Ritchie Venner and Rose Rainton are the undisputed "king" and "queen" of Sussex table tennis having beaten off all their younger rivals at Cuckfield in the all-Sussex Senior Championships. Our leading juniors are Liam Vine, Andrew Waddingham, Stacey Furnival, Lisa Standen and Sally Hughes who recently recorded a shock win over Sheila King who is now a regular in the England Over 50s team. Sussex officials have been struggling for some time to find tournament venues. The Six Villages Centre at Fontwell is fine except for its geographical position requiring a 100-mile journey from places like Hastings. The Triangle Leisure Centre, Burgess Hill proved to be first class for the Butterfly Mid-Sussex Open Grand Prix - 18 tables, could take 20-22, first class refreshments and plenty of room for spectators with a large balcony. Another fine, new venue has been found in mid-Sussex - the new K2 Centre at Crawley will be used for the last Butterfly Grand Prix of the season. Stacey Furnival, 16, from Hastings, older daughter of the Sussex secretary Lyn Furnival, is the only player at this time "pulling up trees". She has now played in over 100 matches for Sussex juniors and is becoming a fine senior player. In three county matches Sussex senior 2nd team secured three 5-5 draws with Stacey winning four of her six games. Liam Vine (Worthing) is still the Sussex no.1 ranked boy, whilst Ritchie Venner and Rose Rainton have regained the status as our top senior players.

## WORCESTERSHIRE

By Ken Walton

With an entry similar to last year, the County Closed (Senior) Championships took place under the watchful eye of Dave Roden and his merry band of helpers. Held at the Arrowvale School/Leisure Centre complex in Redditch, the standard of entrant was high with only a few absentees due to injury and in my case, recovery from ill health. As predicted by yours truly, Lee Horton retained his men's singles title with an awesome, relentless display of top spinning on both wings in defeating Lewis Siket 17-15 in the fifth game. This was a repeat of last season's final, and Lee wasn't finished there because in tandem with Chris Maiden, he captured the men's doubles title, beating the Bromsgrove duo of Mark Fiddian and Dave Rogers, also in 5 games. In the semi-finals, Chris and Lee beat Sacha Grotokov and Pat McCabe in 5, having earlier put out the strong pairing of Steve Horton and Lewis, my tip for honours beforehand!! Lewis captured his first veteran title in beating Steve Horton 3-1 in the final. Steve had beaten Ray Dixon easily in his semi, and other results saw Russell Duncan beating Pat McCabe and Ray Dixon beating Roy Norton in earlier matches. Martin Madkins turned his attention to the mixed doubles this year and in partnership with Lynda Reid duly collected the trophy, beating Ann Barnes and Dave White in the final. Lynda also collected the Veteran Ladies trophy with victory over friend and county colleague Margaret Dignum. Kate Hughes became Ladies singles champion after a win over Joanne Hill. More shocks in the veteran doubles with favourites Steve Horton and Lewis Siket losing to Ray Dixon and Paul Garner, another prediction of mine going haywire. The U21 event was captured by Joe Higgs, who defeated brother Jack on his way to the title. Unfortunately, due to ill health, Chairman Ron Butterson was unable to attend the event, leaving able 'stand in' Doug Young to do the presentation of prizes. Best wishes go to Ron for a speedy recovery from his current health predicament, from all involved with matters Worcestershire County Table Tennis. Sue Leech (with a little help from her friends - wasn't that a great Beatles song) ensured that players and officials alike were kept fed and watered throughout the day, and thanks go to her as well for all of her efforts. Late news has reached me of another victory for the county Veteran 2nds, this time 9-1 against Middlesex 4ths. Ray Dixon lost the 1, leaving Nicky Mytton, Chris Maiden and Margaret Dignum unbeaten on the day. This win should ensure promotion for the team, with only 1 or 2 matches to play before the season ends.

## YORKSHIRE

By Barry Snowden

The whole county is basking in the glory of the Veterans Premier title that was won by the Yorkshire first team as they triumphed in a thrilling second weekend at Ashford TTC. The team started the weekend joint top with Devonshire as both counties had a 100% record after the first round of matches at Halifax, both counties having three wins apiece. Yorkshire got off to the worst possible start as in their first match on Saturday morning they lost the services of Richard Whiteley of Harrogate, who playing his first ever match for the county at veterans level, was despatched to hospital with a broken bone in his foot. To make matters worse the match was against their roses rivals Lancashire, and a 6-4 defeat was not the start that Yorkshire wanted although they did steady the ship on Saturday afternoon with Northallerton's Steve Cooper replacing Whiteley, and the White Rose county responded with a fine 7-3 victory against Northumberland. Sunday morning saw the crunch match against Devonshire and in a thriller which went down to the wire it was Yorkshire who triumphed 6-4 as Mick Stead of Bradford and Huddersfield's Tim Dyson joined inspirational skipper, Harrogate's Linda Simpson, to the brink of premiership glory. The final match was against Essex who were also beaten 6-4 including a straight games victory by Stead of reigning English Closed Champion Clive Carthy. Yorkshire were crowned Premier Champions as smiles, excitement and tears were all displayed at the end of the day. Although I would have liked to have been in Ashford I ended up at Halifax TTC to see Yorkshire veterans 2nds be relegated from Division 1a of the County Championships. The squad had played in previous seasons under the leadership of Sandra Rider and had usually managed to avoid the drop. Helen Shields replaced Rider this season and despite hard work from all concerned they could not survive. The squad of Mick Wilcockson, Nigel Pennock, Neil Harris and Alan Dickinson got off to a bad start in the first weekend at Milton Keynes and left themselves too much to do at Halifax. Their only success was a 9-1 victory over an understrength and short handed Cheshire 2nds by which time their fate had already been sealed, although they did not go down without a fight as all their defeats were either 4-6 or 3-7 and they even held a set point against champions Leicestershire which would have earned them a draw and possible safety. Next season promises to be interesting as the veterans 2nd and 3rd team will be in the same division.



# Conrad Jaschke

1924 – 2006

## MY FRIEND CONRAD, WHAT A DETERMINED MAN!

He arrived in this country as a war refugee from Vienna in 1938 after taking a ferry from the Hook of Holland to Harwich. At the tender age of 14 he found himself on his own as it was a bank holiday and there was no one to meet him in London or Oxford. Unable to speak English he was sent to an internment camp where he stayed for three years. My first meeting was when he walked into our table tennis club with his wife Brenda, I think it was in 1951 and Conrad would have been 27.

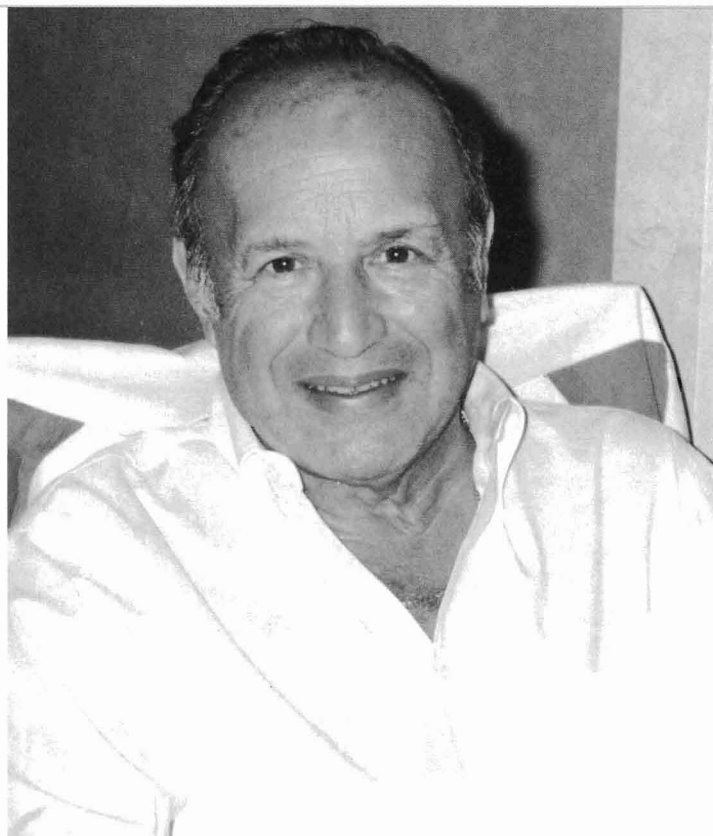
His table tennis was mediocre but he was soon organising the Club, then the North West Kent League and then onto Kent County before finally being ETTA Deputy Chairman in 1967/8 and Chairman 1968-70. He was the driving force behind the ETTA's initiative in setting up the Commonwealth Championships in 1968/69, and he was appointed Chairman of the committee which was set up to draft the rules of the competition. Conrad was a man of great integrity and force, at home with the ordinary working class or the bigwigs. He did everything he thought was right and good for table tennis in his adopted country, nearly losing his job at Linguaphone because of it. In the end he decided to retire and run his own business.

In the years to follow he made many friends and some enemies but his heart was always in the right place. He liked to travel and visited places such as Vienna, America, Malta and Barbados.

For 55 years Conrad was a good friend of all our family, almost like a father figure, and will be greatly missed by us all.

JOYCE ELLIS NEE FIELDER

**“Conrad was a man of great integrity and force, at home with the ordinary working class or the bigwigs. He did everything he thought was right and good for table tennis in his adopted country... ”**



## ANGELICA ROZEANU (ISR) (1921-2006)

**One of table tennis 'greats' passed away after a short illness.**

Throughout her playing career Angelica won 30 medals at World Championships which included 6 times consecutive World Singles Champion between 1950 and 1955, representing Romania. Angelica was a small frail figure full of determination and fighting spirit. During the late 40s and early 50s she dominated the women's table tennis scene, overcoming a number of hardships which occurred throughout her life.

In latter years Angelica attended World Championships in various parts of the world as a spectator and was last seen taking part in a fantastic opening ceremony at the 2005 World Championships in Shanghai, China.

Her graceful presence throughout the years will be sorely missed. It is with sadness and deep respect that we bid her farewell.

DIANE SCHÖLER, PRESIDENT SCI



# RANKINGS

The youngsters continue to move up the rankings; Paul Drinkhall and Tim Yarnall in particular are in blistering form. For further details please ring Jennifer Sherwin on 01424 722525

## SENIOR MEN



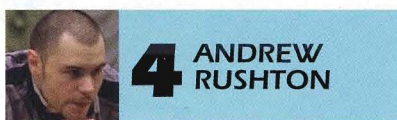
**1** ALAN COOKE



**2** ALEX PERRY



**3** ANDREW BAGGAILEY



**4** ANDREW RUSHTON



**5** PAUL DRINKHALL ↑



**6** GARETH HERBERT ↓



**7** TERRY YOUNG



**8** DARIUS KNIGHT



**9** TIM YARNALL ↑



**10** ADAM BLEAKLEY ↓

- 11 J HOLLAND
- 12 L TRUMPAUSKAS
- 13 D MEADS
- 14 C BRYANT
- 15 B DRINKHALL
- 16 D BARHAM
- 17 M R SMITH
- 18 D REED
- 19 J HILTON
- 20 S MARPLES

### JUNIOR BOYS

- 1 P DRINKHALL
- 2 D KNIGHT
- 3 G EVANS
- 4 T YARNALL
- 5 D MEADS

### CADET BOYS

- 1 G EVANS
- 2 W-Y CHAN
- 3 M EVANS
- 4 M WARE
- 5 C DORAN

### UNDER 13 BOYS

- 1 G EVANS
- 2 L PITCHFORD
- 3 D LOWE
- 4 S CULLEN
- 5 G BARELLA

### VETERAN MEN

- 1 A WURAOLA
- 2 N ECKERSLEY
- 3 J HILTON
- 4 P GILES
- 5 C CARTHY

## SENIOR WOMEN



**1** HELEN LOWER



**2** JOANNA PARKER



**3** LINDA MARCH



**4** KELLY SIBLEY



**5** GEORGINA WALKER



**6** NATALIE BAWDEN



**7** ABIGAIL EMBLING



**8** LINDSEY REYNOLDS



**9** LAUREN SPINK



**10** JOANNA ROBERTS

- 11 C PEERS
- 12 K SHEPHERD
- 13 L KEAST
- 14 N WILSON
- 15 S HUANG
- 16 K SMITH
- 17 G CHAPMAN
- 18 R RAINTON
- 19 N WHITE
- 20 L RADFORD

### JUNIOR GIRLS

- 1 K SIBLEY
- 2 L SPRINGTHORPE
- 3 L SPINK
- 4 S WANG
- 5 E VICKERS

### CADET GIRLS

- 1 E VICKERS
- 2 R JAMIESON
- 3 M WRIGHT
- 4 H HICKS
- 5 M FULLER

### UNDER 13 GIRLS

- 1 M TRAVIS
- 2 A SUNDARARAJAN
- 3 K LEFEVRE
- 4 E BATES
- 5 L DAVIDSON

### VETERAN WOMEN

- 1 S HUANG
- 2 J HARRIS
- 3 K SMITH
- 4 S HARPER
- 5 J JOHNS



# MAIN EVENTS MAY 2006

MONDAY 1	WEDNESDAY 3	THURSDAY 4	FRIDAY 5	SATURDAY 6	SUNDAY 7
TUESDAY 2				VETTS National Masters, Thornbury Junior Masters	VETTS National Masters, Thornbury Junior Masters
MONDAY 8	WEDNESDAY 10	THURSDAY 11	FRIDAY 12	SATURDAY 13	SUNDAY 14
TUESDAY 9				Cheltenham Open Butterfly Grand Prix	Cheltenham Open Butterfly Grand Prix
MONDAY 15	WEDNESDAY 17	THURSDAY 18	FRIDAY 19	SATURDAY 20	SUNDAY 21
Vetts World Championships, Bremen	Vetts World Championships Bremen	Vetts World Championships Bremen	Vetts World Championships Bremen	Vetts World Championships National Team Finals	Vetts World Championships National Team Finals
TUESDAY 16					
Vetts World Championships, Bremen					
MONDAY 22	WEDNESDAY 24	THURSDAY 25	FRIDAY 26	SATURDAY 27	SUNDAY 28
TUESDAY 23	ITTF Pro Tour - Asia	ITTF Pro Tour - Asia	ITTF Pro Tour - Asia	ITTF Pro Tour - Asia	ITTF Pro Tour - Asia
MONDAY 29	WEDNESDAY 31	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TUESDAY 30					

VISIT [WWW.ENGLISHTABLETENNIS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.ENGLISHTABLETENNIS.ORG.UK) FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FORTHCOMING EVENTS



LES SMITH  
TROPHIES AND ENGRAVING



PERKINS SLADE

Queensbury House,  
Havelock Road, Hastings,  
East Sussex TN34 1HF  
Tel: 01424 722525

2 Market Street, Blythe.  
Tel 01670 351435  
Official Travel Agents

Trophies and Engraving  
Strood, Gloucestershire.  
Tel 01453 886686  
Official Trophy Suppliers

Acorn House, Forstal Road,  
Aylesford, Kent ME20 7AF  
Tel: 01622 882233

3 Broadway, Broad St,  
Birmingham B15 1BQ  
Tel: 0121 698 800  
Fax: 0121 625 9000



Ball Supplier  
British League 2004-2006



Joola Equipment & Balls for  
all Junior/Vets/Womens British  
Leagues 2005-07  
ETTA National u11/12/13/14  
Championships 2005-07  
National Team Finals 2005-07  
England Team Clothing 2005-07



Grand Prix 2005-2007  
ETTA Senior/Junior/Cadet  
Nationals 2005-07  
Ball Supplier - County  
Championships 2005-07  
Ball Supplier - National  
Junior/Cadet Leagues 2005-06



Suppliers of exciting and  
innovative coaching aids  
90 Martins Lane,  
Northampton, NN4 6DJ  
Tel: 01604 762711