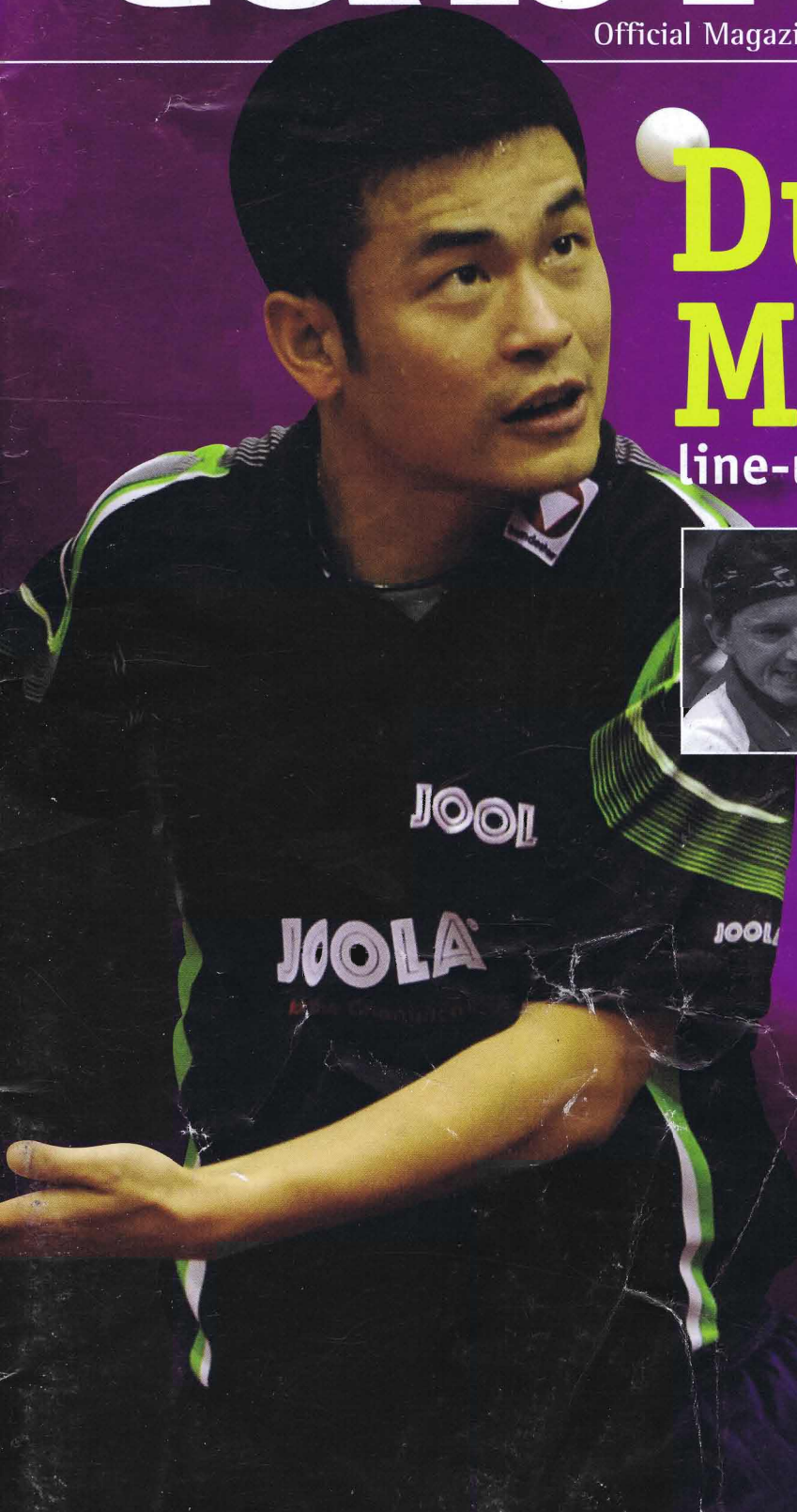


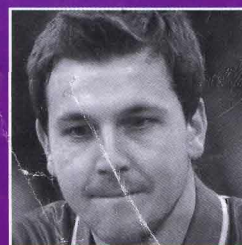
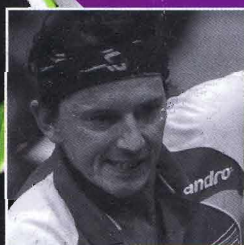
table tennis news

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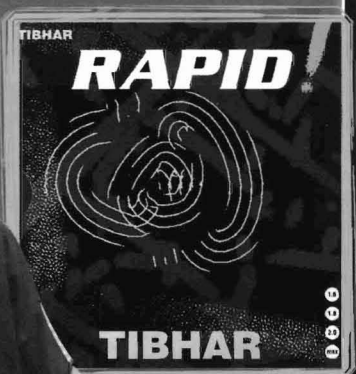
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Matthew Syed

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.



Richard Eaton

Richard has written about racket sports for 30 years, working for newspapers, magazines, radio and websites all over the world.



Steve Kerns

After 15 years as Chelmsford League Press Officer, Steve is concentrating on his duties as British League Press Officer and Essex County Press Officer. Steve has also been a regular member of the Essex Veterans third team.

first word



In January, Sheffield played host to the Europe Youth Top 10. It was a fascinating environment to be in; I like many others became enthralled by watching the exceptional talent first hand. Yes, some of the play was a little rough around the edges and not every shot was honed to the mystifyingly magical fine tolerances of the senior elite, but this made it even more intriguing and highlighted a human element often concealed at senior level. Historically this tournament has a habit of acting as the catalyst for the professional game, shaping the future of European table tennis. With most rivalries still in their infancy and the steely glances across the table yet to be programmed, the Europe Youth Top 10 was once again ready to set the benchmark for future European success. After all, some of the greats have

triumphed in this tournament on their way to the top - Boll, Boros, Samsonov, Maze and more recently the brilliant Dimitir Ovtcharov are all glowing examples.

Unfortunately, this benchmark proved beyond reach for our English contenders as the thin line between success and failure was compounded by clinical and flawless performances from the visitors. None more so than the Czech, Tomas Tregler, whose professionalism and consistency found little response in England's time of need, particularly from a bewildered Darius Knight. Find out more about this tournament with our blow by blow, round by round account of the action page 22.

As well as reflecting on what has been, this issue provides a glance into what's to come. In less than a month, you have the

chance to be a part of double brilliance. By this I mean brilliant table tennis in the supreme auditorium that is the Royal Albert Hall. Find out who's in on page 16 as Matthew Syed confirms a spellbinding line-up.

Finally in this issue, in addition to the regulars, Jeremy Wilson talks to the towering teenager Chris Doran and we also celebrate the lives of two gems of table tennis, Ron Crayden and Ken Armson MBE. Both men had impeccable table tennis credentials and will be greatly missed.

Keep your letters coming in and if you haven't yet tried it, make sure you log on to our new e-zine. With bags of info direct to your e-mail account any self respecting table tennis fanatic shouldn't be without it. Enjoy this issue

As ever, e-mail your views, comments or questions to me at Richard.pettit@etta.co.uk

Richard Pettit, Editor

The highlights from our main contributors...

"Many of you will have had the privilege of meeting Ken over the years and most of will, i am sure, have fond memories of him". Stan Clarke page 18 "Cometh the hour cometh the man, this match will be remembered as a major triumph for Drumchapel's Ryan Jenkins". Steve Kerns page 30 "His build more closely resembles Lennox Lewis or Martin Johnson than Jan-Ove Waldner or Matthew Syed" Jeremy Wilson Page 12

Straight talk

I hope you and your families had a very happy Christmas and New Year celebrations. Unfortunately 2008 started badly for our sport with the passing of Ken Armson MBE; he will be missed by us all.

Publicity - Table Tennis has been included in a BBC TV programme called Olympic Dreams and also on SKY SPORTS with the Transworld Sports transmission.

A number of articles have appeared in the national press and coverage locally in newspapers and on the website is increasing.

We still need more publicity for our sport and the efforts of the PR/Communications Department will assist in this matter with the excellent local efforts of our volunteers.

The first E-Zine newsletter was distributed to over 3,000 members before Christmas. With such positive feedback from the recipients we are sure to see a dramatic increase of this free and excellent service.

Individual Membership - Much input, comments and ideas regarding this programme have been received and during the process of consideration I hope these will continue.

Your representatives at National Council have discussed this during the January meeting and further information will be distributed shortly.

Every effort is being made to make the system easy to operate and club/league user friendly. It is not a programme that is intended to increase work for the volunteers it is a clear mechanism to help our membership, communicate with them better and to meet the needs of our sport from a data collection basis as well as the requirements of our funding partners. The majority of other sports have a process of individual membership which has helped them.

Performance and the BTTF - A recent meeting of the BTTF Board and Performance Management Group discussed a number of ways to help home countries' players who are not at this time funded as part of the World Class Programme, with an increased emphasis on the girls. At

this time funding via the BTTF covers a total of 22 players with 14 male and 8 female players of which 15 are from England.

It is anticipated that some contributions can be made by the BTTF towards home countries' programmes normally supported by the local sports councils to build up the legacy of talented players beyond 2012.

ETTA supports in its own right via the normal budget nearly £100K for the England programme including the Youth Development Squad.

An announcement will be made in the next 30 days about the potential partner as part of the British Olympic Association's FTSE 100 initiative.

Club and Coach Development Award - Following the announcements made by the Secretary of State for the DCMS recently I am confident that the programme will start in the first quarter of 2008.

Recent changes at Sport England have impacted the distribution of the awards and meetings took place in early January to look at this programme, its implication and any new strategies.

We all anticipate that some fundamental policy changes from Sport England will be announced in the next few months which may impact the way our awards planning process for 2009-13 is implemented.

You can be assured that discussions are taking place at the highest levels to ensure our sport is given the resources over the coming years to meet the goals of participation, club accreditation, coaching, volunteering and talent identification.

Butterfly Skills Programme - This programme was announced at the end of last year and substantial quantities of the booklets and other materials have been ordered to meet our anticipated needs over the next 18 months. It is an investment in the future for our sport



Alex Murdoch, ETTA Chairman

We still need more publicity for our sport and the efforts of the PR/ Communications Department will assist in this matter with the excellent local efforts of our volunteers. The first E-Zine newsletter was distributed to over 3,000 members before Christmas. With such positive feedback from the recipients we are sure to see a dramatic increase of this free and excellent service.

and will help in the support, growth and presence of our sport at schools, colleges and clubs.

2007 - Last year had its ups and downs but I consider the following achievements worth a mention:

- European Boys' Junior Team Gold Medal
- Butterfly Skills Award completed
- UKCC endorsements up to Level 3
- The first year of the Fred Perry Urban Cup
- E-mail newsletter started
- 10,000 young people through a coaching programme as part of PESSCL
- Additional awards of £1.5M for the Club/Coach, UKCC and Capacity Building
- Four clubs received £1.2M for upgrades
- Mission 2012 underway

In addition Table Tennis has:

- A sound financial base.
- A growing and well managed competition structure.
- Our club accreditation system recognised by Sport England.
- Improved website and communications.
- Modernisation programme well underway.

2008 - This year we have a number of challenges to face together including:

- Individual membership
- A new 4-year planning cycle 2009 to 2013 in line with Sport England's goals
- Completing our coaching structure
- Improving communications with our membership
- Increasing participation within leagues, clubs and schools
- Fine tuning our competition structure
- Helping to increase our volunteer base
- Increasing our number of qualified referees and umpires
- Revamping our RDO work programme in line with both our and our funding partners' strategies and goals
- Improving and supporting the quantity and quality of players who represent or potentially could represent England
- Increasing our income base with additional marketing of our sport

Please keep your e-mails coming in and my open message about visiting your clubs, leagues and counties to discuss any aspects of our great sport remains.

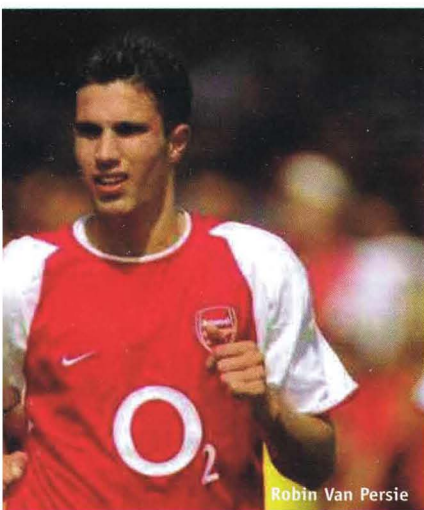
Headlines

The latest stories from the Table Tennis World

PERSIE VISITS PROGRESS

At the ETTA we get all manner of unusual phone calls and requests, some often quite demanding. So it was a pleasant surprise to have a phone call from Arsenal Football Club politely asking if one of their football stars, who really enjoyed playing table tennis, could have a game and pick up a few tips from our top players. The star in question was Robin Van Persie, who was joined, coached and interviewed by Darius Knight and Matthew Syed. For the interview and clips from the day visit our You Tube site www.youtube.com/englishtaletennis.

Now when are Darius and Matthew going to take some shots down at the Emirates?



Robin Van Persie



Mayor Roy Mallon with Paul Drinkhall

MAYOR'S AWARD FOR PAUL DRINKHALL

The BBC may have overlooked Paul Drinkhall's incredible achievements in table tennis, but his exploits have at least been recognised closer to home! For the third year running, the Loftus 18 year old was shortlisted for the BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year award, but despite being the English and European junior no1, he lost out to exceptional achievements of the 13 year old diver Thomas Daley.

The mayor of Middlesbrough, Ray Mallon, visited Ormesby Table Tennis Club to present Paul with a commemorative plate.

After the presentation, he paid tribute to the former Laurence Jackson School pupil, saying: "Paul is a fantastic role model for all young people. It's often the case that the young people of Middlesbrough get a bad press, but the vast majority of youngsters are good and

decent and are contributing greatly to the area. Sport is really important and gives kids that competitive streak which is needed in life." The mayor added: "Paul is making incredible progress in the table tennis world and there's no doubt that he's destined to be one of the top players in the sport in the future. I can see Paul winning Olympic medals because he has the commitment and drive to succeed."

EMILY BATES MAKES THE HEADLINES

A youth paper 'The Newspaper' was established 7 years ago and includes a mix of lively news items and features written for 8 to 14 year olds and delivered to classrooms all over the country each half-term. In the November/December issue the back page was dedicated to Emily Bates and her development as a table tennis player.

Extract from the article:

Young Talent - Emily keeps on winning
Emily Bates has eight national titles and more than 100 trophies - so many that the front room of her home in Grantham, Lincolnshire, is bulging.
The English Table Tennis Association has described her as 'exceptional' and she is a bright hope for the London 2012 Olympics. Not bad for somebody who has only just turned 12.
Her talent was spotted by chance. Brother Michael is also a good player, and he was practising at home with his coach, Hong Hong. Emily asked if she could have a go when she was eight years old, and after only 10 minutes, Hong told dad Mark that Emily was 'special', and within three years she would be a national champion. She was wrong, however ... it only took a year.



Emily Bates

Power

Her height - 5ft 8ins - gives her extra power, but she is also a good tactician and works tremendously hard. 'She has an extraordinary ability to beat the top players,' said proud father Mark. 'She's not always spectacular to watch but she's so effective. She does what she has to do to win each match - her desire to win is so strong she stops her opponent playing to their strengths. She has remarkable strength of mind.'

Exciting

Emily has to show real

dedication. She trains at the National Academy at Sheffield three days a week.

'It is hard work but it's what I need to do,' she said. 'Even though I'd only be 16, I'd love to play at the London Olympics, it would be so exciting, although it would be scary with everyone in the country watching!

Her hero is not a table tennis player, but former British athletics star Kelly Holmes. She famously won two gold medals at the 2004 Olympics ... the country hopes Emily can follow in her footsteps.

WEB STATS

Since the website was re-launched a year and a half ago, it has gone from strength to strength, reaching up to as many as 158,267 unique visitors a month and logging an incredible 1,793,894 hits in the same time.

With the amount of visitors steadily increasing and the amount of pages viewed per visit also going up, plus the recent addition of our YouTube site and the e-zine, this trend is sure to continue. Not wanting to sit on our laurels, if you have any comments or opinions about how we can improve the site then please don't hesitate to let us know. E-mail magazine@etta.co.uk or write to us (details on page 1).

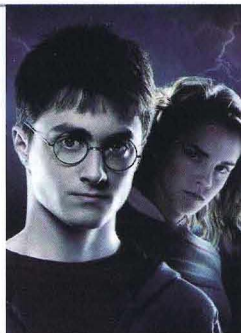
JAMIE OLIVER LOVES TT

Have you seen the tongue in cheek Channel 4 advert with Jamie Oliver playing table tennis? Although Jamie is not one of the highest ranked players in the world as portrayed in the clip, he is a very keen player. If you haven't seen him in action yet then have a look at the clip on our YouTube site www.youtube.com/englishhta_bletennis

In Short

ETTA E-zine

By the time you read this we will have sent several e-zines (electronic news letter) out, so if you haven't signed up yet and you have an email address, then go to www.etta.co.uk/subscribe and register.



Harry Potter

Apparently during the filming of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince the cast relaxes by playing table tennis, with Emma Watson aka Hermione Granger being the top player.



GOVERNMENT BOOST

In January 2007 the Prime Minister announced a £100m campaign to build a greater and fitter sporting nation, with the emphasis being placed around schools. This will be done in the following way:

- Up to five hours of sport per week for all pupils and three hours for those aged 16-19.
- A National School Sports Week in which sports days and inter school tournaments will be encouraged.
- A Network of 225 competition managers across the country working to increase competitive sport in primary and secondary schools.
- More coaches in schools and the community to deliver expert sporting advice to young people.

Representatives from eight national governing bodies and their respective school sports associations were invited to a meeting called by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport to discuss these matters. Table Tennis was amongst those eight invitees and was represented by Richard Yule (Chief Executive of the ETTA) and John Arnold (ESTTA President).

It's a smash!

Residents showed off their smash, slice and topspin in the final of Newham's Inter-community forum table tennis challenge recently.

The event, which completed a series of competitions in each forum area, took place at Newham Leisure Centre, Prince Regent Lane, Plaistow.

More than 150 people turned out to support players that made it through the forum heats to the grand final and over 300 people played in the heats.

The competition had three categories for young people, 8 to 12 years, 13 to 15 years and 16 to 18 years, as well as an adults' challenge.

Winner of the adults' competition, Rahit Kumar, represented Custom House and Canning Town forum and began playing table

tennis at just 10. "It was a wonderful tournament, very well organised and I'm so thankful to Newham Council for encouraging the community to play table tennis" he said. "There was a sense of competition but also a sense of friendliness and positive energy. I had a difficult final match but it was amazing to win it and I felt like a star".

The other winners were Ryan Bueno of Custom House and Canning Town in the eight to 12 category, Luca Mariano of East Ham in the 13 to 15 age group and Anil Vekaria of East Ham in the 16 to 18 category. The community forum table tennis challenge was part of the borough wide LIVE LIFE campaign, which aims to get people active in the community.

UK School Games 2007

After a very successful event in Coventry, the UK School Games will roll into Bristol and Bath for 2008. This year's event will see the ETTA's Martin Ireland being appointed as the new UKSG Co-ordinator for Table Tennis.



Volunteer of the Year

In 2000 Mr. and Mrs. Pearson along with six other experienced players established a club for people with limited experience of the sport, based at Mosterton Village Hall. Then in 2001 they applied for a lottery grant to give younger players the chance to learn the game, this grant was for 4 tables and allowed them the chance to set up a voluntarily run after school club at Beaminster School. Thanks to the Pearsons' coaching skills several of these players are now approaching junior county standard. The Beaminster Club has now been opened to adults as well and has a membership of around 35 aging from 11 to 80.

ALTHOUGH RON WAS A VERY FINE TENNIS PLAYER - as the honours board at West Norwood Tennis Club confirms - his main sporting love was table tennis. Having met with Johnny Leach and Jack Carrington while undertaking duty with the RAF during WW2, the three of them practised and gave exhibitions together. After the war when sport resumed Ron made his debut for England against Wales in 1948.

Since then Ron has been at the forefront of the sport at county, national and international level for well over 50 years. He was there when his good friend Johnny Leach won the World singles title in 1949 and again in 1951. He was also there when the famous Rowe twins Ros and Di became World Champions and again when they won at Wembley, amazingly, on the day of their 21st birthday. He was also there in more recent times when John Hilton won the European title for England and especially when two of his players Jill Hammersley

and Surrey's Linda Howard became European Ladies Doubles Champions and Jill taking the singles title.

It is perhaps as non-playing captain to the English Team that Ron made his greatest contribution. He led the English Team to China in 1961 at the World Championships, the first time that China had opened up its borders to foreigners.

It was really as England's Captain that I got to know him. He took me under his wing when I had my first ever trip abroad as a raw 18 year old to play for England against Denmark and on to the Scandinavian Championships in Stockholm. I was in awe then of Ron's knowledge of the sport, his understanding of the game and his 100% enthusiasm and support of his players.

The 1960's gave Ron his greatest triumphs, captaining the England Women's team to success in European Championships in Sweden in 1964 and Di Rowe and Mary Shannon winning the ladies doubles at the same event. For

Mary, Di and Ron it was a roller coaster era winning countless doubles titles throughout the World starting with the European title in Berlin in 1962, silver medal in the world championships in Prague in 1963 and the national team 3rd in the world championships in Yugoslavia in 1965 behind China and Japan. This era only ended when Di married Ebby Scholer and went to live in Germany.

Ron eventually retired having been captain on 225 occasions before becoming Chairman of selectors and then Vice President of the English Table Tennis Association.

Mary and I have so many memories of Ron from his captaincy times:

There was Ron the photographer - always with his camera snapping away whether in Bratislava, Berlin or Brighton. When the car in which Mary, Di and Ron were travelling in Czechoslovakia overturned on an icy road and finished alongside a mountain upside down Mary

Ron J Crayden



said she crawled out on her hands and knees followed by Di to find Ron already outside taking pictures of them.

There was Ron the Recorder - whenever an international match was played Ron would get all the players to sign one of his magnificent collection of table tennis books suitably inscribed with the date of the match, teams, venue and result in his impeccable writing.

Ron the Captain - resplendent in his blazer with the three lions badge.

Ron the ambassador - he was proud to represent the country and the sport that he loved. He couldn't stand the idea of bad manners or lack of respect and this was imparted on to his charges.

And finally Ron the comedian - he made us laugh with his stories and his antics. A particular memory was at the Ljubljana World Championships having had a long tiring day when we were getting ready to leave the stadium. Ron with his long legs tried to hop over the court surrounds, remarking "just like a gazelle". and caught the top of them bringing them all down with a crash. We were all beside ourselves with laughter and this remark "just like a gazelle" has remained in our family for years and always brings a smile.

Ron was very close to the players in his team perhaps best epitomised when Karenza Mathews, as a very young Karenza Smith, in the absence of her

The 1960's gave Ron his greatest triumphs, captaining the England Women's team to success in European Championships in Sweden in 1964 and Di Rowe and Mary Shannon winning the ladies doubles at the same event.

own father, asked Ron to give her away at her wedding to Ken on a very emotional day in May 1968 and has considered him to be a surrogate father to her since that time.

His dedication to his local Sutton league and county of Surrey is unparalleled. He played for Surrey, captained Surrey, was President and represented the County at numerous events as well as sitting on many committees. His commitment was total and had a positive effect on numerous people involved in the sport. One of Ron's proudest moments was when his local Sutton league team of Mary, Jean Head, Clarice Rose and Shirley Prior became National champions.

On a personal front both Mary and I have known Ron since our early teens and together with his wife Jean have become personal friends. We have shared

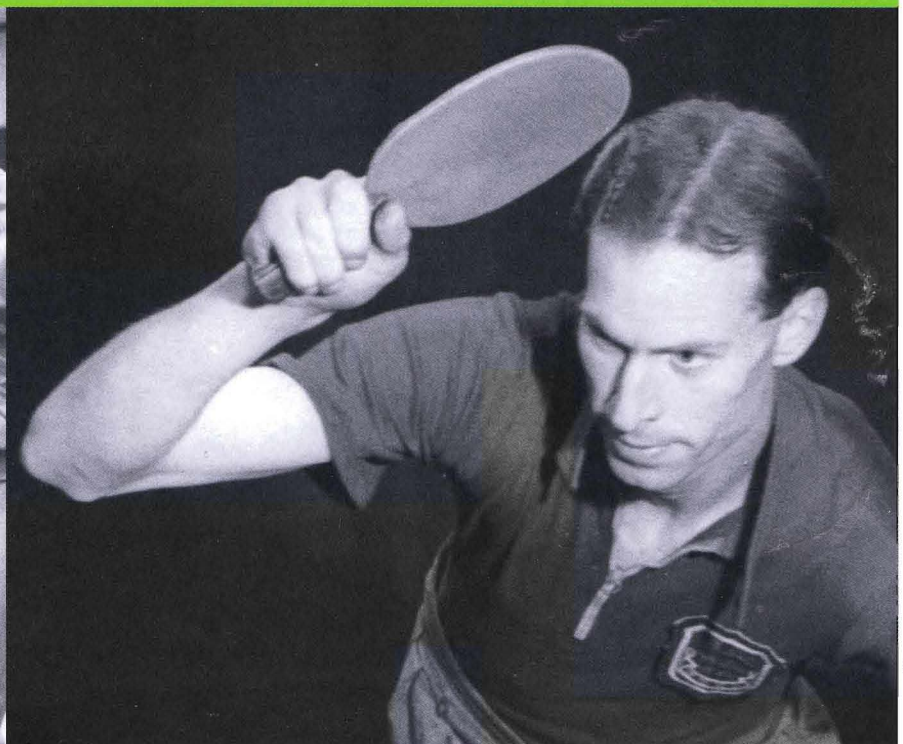
many family events and occasions together; in fact Ron recorded the only cine film footage of our wedding in 1965 which we still have today.

Ron was always ready with a story but also had time to listen to what others had to say. He was never in a hurry and always had time for everything and everybody. I have no doubt that his unhurried approach to life and his attention to detail may have been frustrating for his family but to us it was one of his many attributes.

For all of his sport Ron was very proud of his family and it is to Jean, to Linda and her family and to Martin and his family that we all extend our condolences.

Ron was a lovely man, a true friend and a great loss to us all.

Brian and Mary Wright



Chris Doran

THE path to the top of any sport is rarely smooth, but few young players have taken a less conventional route than England junior international Chris Doran.

Standing at a height of 6ft 6ins and weighing in at around 16 stone, Doran literally towers over most of his opposition. He also powers through the majority of their defences.

A string of victories over some of the leading players in England have helped the 16-year-old rise into the top 35 of the men's rankings, the top 10 of the junior rankings and, after being overlooked as a cadet, into the Under-18 national team.

Having impressed in a team alongside Gavin Evans, Liam Pitchford and Mathew Ware in international matches against the likes of Germany, Austria and Poland, he has been selected for further competitions in Hungary.

Indeed, in the singles' event in Germany, he came within three points of defeating an opponent ranked as high as number 23 in the world junior rankings before losing a thrilling seven-set match. "It's been a breakthrough year," admits Doran, who is now regarded among the top prospects in English table tennis.

Yet his story is unusual in two key respects.

Firstly, and most obviously, his build more closely resembles that of Lennox Lewis or Martin Johnson than Jan-Ove Waldner or Matthew Syed.

A far more significant potential handicap, however, was the need for surgery on his collar-bone at the age of 10 due to a disease in his bone.

The affected bone had to be taken out, and a bone-graft was needed from his hip.

It has left Doran with a scar all the way from his chest to his shoulder. "He looks like he has been bitten by a shark," smiles dad, Keith.

The injury, though, has not affected his table tennis. Indeed, had it not been for his shoulder problem, it is probable that Doran would be striving to follow in the footsteps of Tiger Woods rather than Desmond Douglas.

"I played a lot of sport, especially rugby, cricket and golf," says Chris, "and from the age of about seven to nine, it was golf that was his number one sport. He had real potential, but the problem with his collar-bone meant that he was not allowed to play golf for 12 months. We were just passing the local school and saw a lady taking table tennis

practice and he started from there.

"People said that he had natural talent and, from there, he went to county and regional training."

Doran had been a county junior golf champion and still plays in his spare time with a handicap of five. The fact, though, that his former main golf opponent from Northampton is now playing for England shows what might have been. Indeed, despite not playing seriously since the age of 10, he has still won more money playing golf than table tennis. "I used to just play golf the whole time and the guy I used to compete with is now playing off scratch and is England junior champion," he says.

Golf's loss, though, has undoubtedly been to the gain of table-tennis and it is now very much his number one sport.

A typical week involves around three or four main training sessions, beginning with a three-hour round trip to Nottingham for high-performance practice, and ending with weekend tournaments. There is also one-on-one training with coaches Tim and Greg Yarnall and he is also hoping to spend some time in Sheffield training with members of the England squad.

That schedule has to be fitted in around his school-work and A-Levels in Physics, Maths and History.

"The main problem is finding people better than me in the area to practice with," he says.

Indeed, Doran admits that he is somewhat surprised at his improvement given that he is now also studying for his AS Level qualifications. A key factor has been a subtle change in style.

During his development as a player, which included reaching the Under-13 national championship final, he was renowned as a counter-hitter.

His touch, reach and natural hand-eye coordination often made him an impenetrable opponent.

This year, on the advice of Performance Director Steen Hansen, he has attempted to become more aggressive, particularly on the forehand. A new fitness programme has also been drawn up in a bid to improve the necessary explosive speed and mobility.

"It was felt he didn't go for enough shots," says Keith, "but his strength is probably still his



Chris Doran

consistency and his control. He has never given up and he is starting now to get the results."

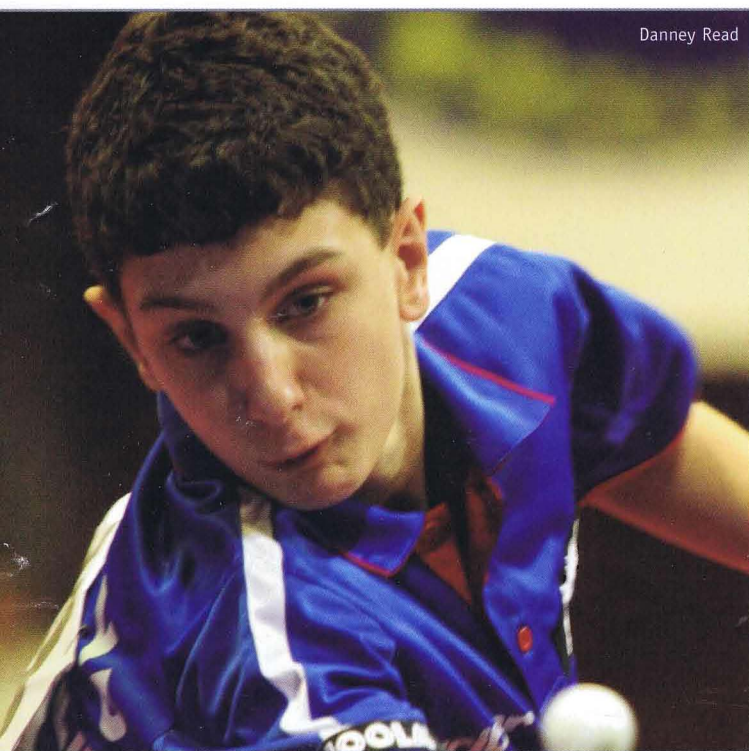
England number eight Tim Yarnall adds: "He is a very good match player and competitor - you can never really rule him out of a match. He is talented, he can play any shot and, if he keeps training hard and working on the physical side, he can go a long way."

Hansen agrees, although adds a word of warning which applies to every emerging table tennis player in England.

"His backhand is good but he must still improve his serve, forehand and physical side. A vital aspect, though, for anyone is to have that hunger. There is a quote from Roger Federer which is very true. It goes like this, 'It is not the speed of the serve, the quickness of the feet or the strength of the forehand, but the size of a player's heart that makes a winner'."

Headlines

The latest international stories from the Table Tennis World



Dannev Read

PALO ALTO, USA

England had four players attending what is the biggest tournament in the junior calendar, the World Junior Table Tennis Championships, held this year in Palo Alto, USA. These players were; Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight, Danny Read and Gavin Evans.

Singles - There were mixed fortunes in the singles, with Gavin Evans being the first casualty, going out in the first round after a very close fought battle (4-3) with Yoshikazu Kai of Japan. Both Darius and Danny Reed could only manage one round further, going out in the last 32, so everything was resting on Paul. Unfortunately he came up against the full force of the Chinese and despite an impressive start

where he won the first, third and fourth matches, An Yan eventually won 4-3.

Doubles - The partnership of Drinkhall and Knight got as far as the last 16, when they met the Singles Champion Sang Eun Jeong, who was teamed up with fellow Korean Young Sik Jung, with the final score being 3 games to 1. Reed and Evans fell early in the competition, going out to Filip Jezo and Kristian Kobes (SVK) 3-0 in the last 32.

Mixed Doubles - With no English women competing at the world champs, the mixed doubles teams became a European affair. It was the youngest English player out first, when the partnership of Gavin Evans and

Alena Dubkova (BLR) went out to Pawel Fertikowski and Katarzyna Grzybowska of Poland in the first round, but at only 14, Gavin is sure to make a lot more appearances at the World Championships.

Darius and Paul both got off to similar starts with impressive 3-0 victories with their partners Natalia Bak (POL) and Elizabeta Samara (ROU) respectively. Getting as far as the last 32, Darius and Natalia narrowly lost out to Michal Obeslo and Hana Matelova (CZE) 2 games to 3, whilst Paul and Elizabeta were put out by Su Sang Lee and Jung Min Choi of Korea 3-1.

Finals Results - It was Chinese domination across the board with the only non-Chinese players in the finals being Sang Eun Jeong of Korea, who won the Men's Singles title and the Japanese doubles partners Kenji Matsudaira and Jin Ueda who came second in the Men's Doubles.

Men's Singles - Sang Eun Jeong (KOR) 7-11, 8-11, 12-10, 11-7, 11-9, 11-8
Ruifeng Xu (CHN)

Women's Singles - Yang Yang (CHN) 11-7, 11-6, 11-7, 13-11
Jia Wen (CHN)

Men's Doubles - Shichao Song/An Yan (CHN) 11-5, 11-9, 11-8, 11-4
Kenji Matsudaira/Jin Ueda (JPN)

Women's Doubles - Xiaodan Li/Jia Wen (CHN) 6-11, 11-9, 11-4, 10-12, 11-3, 11-9
Zi Mu/Yang Yang (CHN)

Mixed Doubles - Ruifeng Xu/Zi Mu (CHN) 12-10, 11-8, 6-11, 11-7, 11-8
Shichao Song/Xiaodan Li (CHN)

New Title Sponsor for Three Pro Tour Events

Hongxing Erke Sports Goods Co. Ltd. is on board of the 2008 ITTF Pro Tour. The fast growing Chinese sports goods manufacturer and TMS International signed a contract for three events of the Pro Tour outside of China.

Qatar Open, German Open and French Open

"Hongxing Erke will be the Title Sponsor for the Pro Tour events in Qatar, Germany and France", TMS Managing Director Mr. Anders Thunström explained the scope of the partnership. TMS is the marketing company working for the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).

Last year's Title Sponsor Liebherr will remain a sponsor of these three tournaments but on a "Major" sponsor level. "With the Title sponsorship from Hongxing Erke together with the sponsorship by Liebherr, these three events will cover the funding that TMS gives the organisers, which is satisfactory for us."

First Deal in the Sports Apparel Business

It is the first time for the young Chinese company, formed in June 2000, to go into a sponsorship with the sport of table tennis. "It's a really good start for us", Thunström added, "because we always look for partners in different product categories. This is the first deal in the sports apparel business and that can be very good for us in the future."

"The agreement is only for the three events in 2008. We will monitor the exposure and the values we can create for Hongxing Erke at these events. Hopefully that will generate an interest for both partners to continue beyond the events in 2008", said Mr. Thunström.



Ashley Willetts

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

It was a long journey but it will no doubt prove to be the memorable and one of the most worthwhile in the life of 19 year old Ashley Willetts from the city of Portsmouth on the south coast of England, a city steeped in naval traditions.

In early November 2007, with coach Tong Feiming, the pair travelled to the Chinese city of Changsha in order for the young Englishman to compete in the qualification tournament for the Hunan Table Tennis Carnival on Thursday 20th December 2007. The young Englishman finished in runners-up spot and duly qualified; undoubtedly, it was the most important result of his career, a dream occasion was to follow.

Tong Feiming - Tong Feiming is a former international for Chinese Taipei and a player who has won and succeeded at the highest levels. She won the Women's Singles title at the English Open in 1997 and was a bronze medallist in the Women's World Cup the following year.

Returns - Success at the qualification tournament meant that it was a flight back to Portsmouth and a return to Changsha in mid December. However, travelling to Asia is not unusual for Ashley Willetts, he spent much of 2006 training in Tainan in Chinese Taipei. At the Hunan Table Tennis

Carnival in front of live television cameras he had to select one Mixed Doubles partner and one Men's Doubles partner. He chose wisely, he chose Guo Yue, the reigning World champion and Timo Boll, the current European champion. It was an occasion he will never forget.

Training - "Tong Feiming has been coaching me in England for four years", said Ashley Willetts (the former Chinese Taipei star is currently living in London). "Also, I've been able to train in Changsha, the level of training is so high, two hours here is worth two weeks in England, the training is outstanding."

It is a fact that has been totally endorsed in recent months with the occurrence of Chinese players losing to those from foreign shores being minimal.

Brilliant - "It was brilliant to be part of the television show", continued the English teenager. "It was the once in a lifetime opportunity; now it's back to college."

Certainly it was a fantastic occasion for Ashley Willetts, an education, one he will never forget and he has set an example for others; maybe more will now follow in his footsteps.

For Ashley Willetts Christmas came early, no present on 25th December could replace partnering Guo Yue and Timo Boll.

Double Happiness

A splendid new innovation was showcased at the recent Volkswagen Pro Tour Grand Finals and at the Good Luck Beijing Invitation Tournament. This was a new "Time Out" device produced by the Double Happiness Company. Over the years, since "Time Out" was first introduced many methods of signalling the break in play have been tried. However, this surely is the most innovative and informative to date. "Time Out" is indicated by a deep red coloured rectangular shaped device that is positioned on the table when the break has been called; it is placed at the end of the table occupied by the player who has requested the one minute pause in proceedings. The device consists of a large letter "T" with the words "Time Out" being scribed vertically along the side of

the large letter. In addition to this, a digital clock counts down the minute in bold red numbers. The effect is that spectators can see exactly what is happening; they are quickly aware of which player has called the "Time Out" and they are also aware of the time that remains. Furthermore, the device is a positive aid to television coverage. It advises the viewer clearly of what is happening and the amount of time remaining before play resumes. It is valuable both for the enthusiast watching at home and for the spectators in the venue with the device being clearly visible on the large video screen. This splendid innovation has been well received by the players and coaches alike; it adds a further degree of professionalism to the sport and enhances an already splendid spectacle.



The headline act is Timo Boll, the lighting-fast left-hander from Germany, who is in with a real shot of taking gold at the Olympic Games in Beijing in August.

The former world number one, Boll has been making tremendous strides in recent months and is looking forward to an opportunity to play in front of four thousand spectators at the world's most prestigious indoor arena. "It is a very famous auditorium," Boll said. "I have seen the tennis on television and I am sure the atmosphere will be wonderful."

But Boll will not have it all his own way. Kalinikos Kreanga, the Greek number one, is widely regarded as the most spectacular attacking player of all time and has previous victories over Boll. Kreanga has thrilled English audiences on many occasions and is terrific form as the final countdown begins for the Masters. "This promises to be one of the greatest table tennis competitions in recent memory," he said. "Everybody knows the Albert Hall and it will be exciting to play there."

Chen Weixing, formerly of China and now playing out of Austria, also has a realistic chance to walk away with the winner's cheque. The hybrid defensive player has an extraordinary all-round game, able to win with his defensive guile as well as by stepping to the table to execute huge counter topspins. Chen is widely regarded as one of the greatest defenders in history and, win or lose, is sure to provide drama and entertainment.

But perhaps the greatest excitement of all will be provoked by the inclusion of Jean Michel Saive, the former world number one from Belgium. Saive won the European Championships in Birmingham in 1994 and is still one of the most consistent performers on the circuit. His strength lies in his indomitable will to win and there is little doubt

that his fighting spirit, and his remarkable defence, will be in evidence as he attempts to win yet another major title.

The line-up is completed by Paul Drinkhall and Darius Knight, the two youngsters from England who are already dreaming of climbing the podium at the London Games in 2012. The big question at the Albert Hall will be whether the teenagers will be able to cope with the skill of the world's best - it is certain to give observers a clear indication of how far they have to travel if they want to live the dream of Olympic glory.

The Dunlop Masters is inarguably one of the most exciting events to take place on these shores for half a century. It is not one to be missed.

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

The return of table tennis to the majestic surroundings of the Royal Albert Hall has created tremendous excitement in the world of table tennis and beyond. The prestigious London venue, opposite Hyde Park, is generally regarded as the world's most atmospheric indoor arena and has tremendous historic significance for table tennis as the venue that played host to major events in the heyday of Richard Bergmann and Johnny Leach.

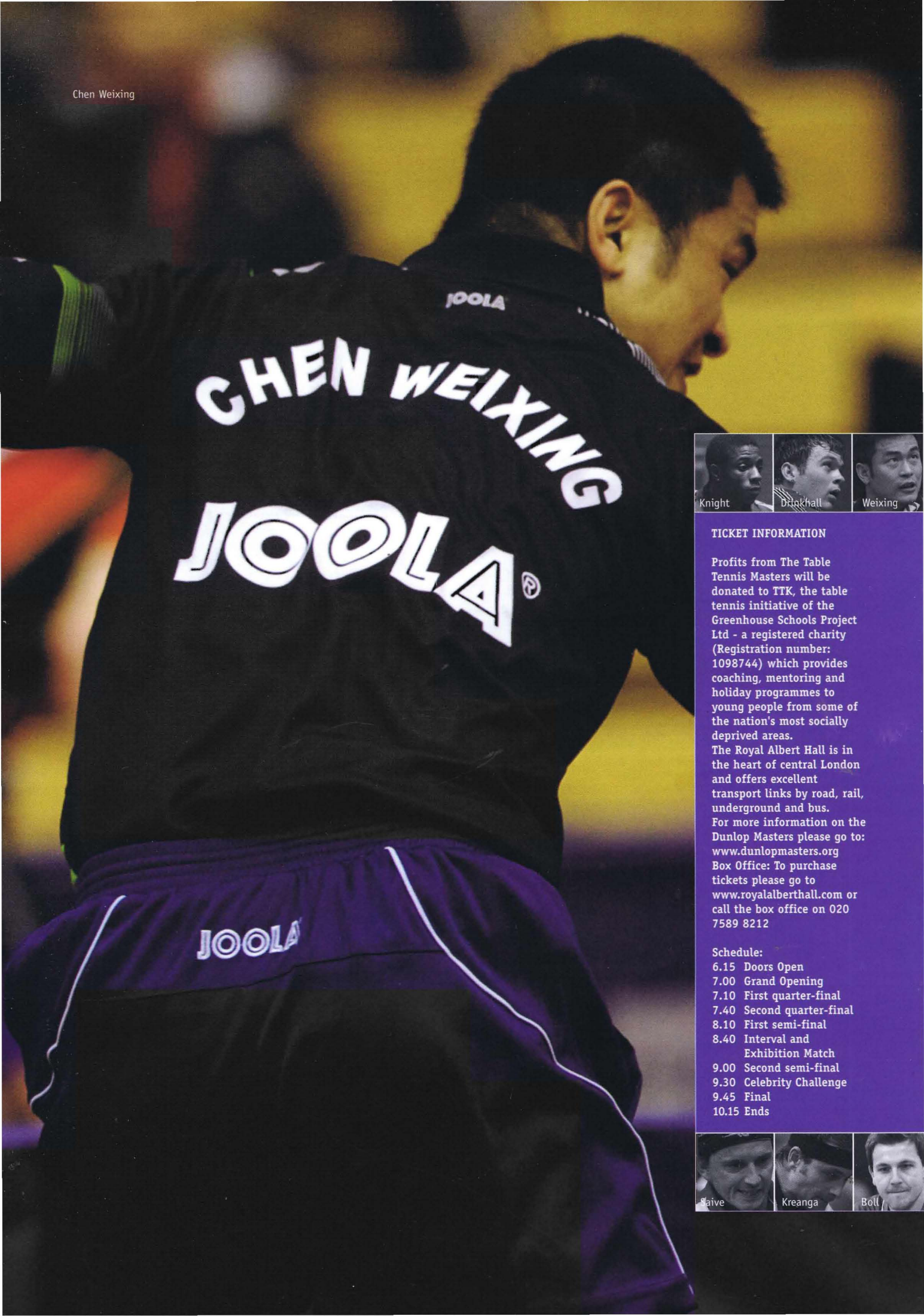
More than 2,500 tickets had been snapped up at the time of going to print, but don't worry: there are still plenty of tickets available. Ticket prices are very reasonable, with the most expensive seats only £15 for adults and £7.50 for children. Choir seats, which also have excellent and uninterrupted views of the court, are £10 for adults and £5 for children.

The seats are "on the round", completely encircling the playing area and creating a gladiatorial atmosphere. The Masters will be broadcast on Sky Sports 1 in the UK and will be beamed to dozens of nations around the world. The event will begin at 7pm and will conclude around 10.15pm.

But don't just expect to see world-class table tennis: there will be features and special guests plus specially installed big screens, featuring action replays and interviews with the players as they happen on court.

the dunlop masters

The anticipation for the Dunlop Masters at the Royal Albert Hall has been lifted a few notches by the announcement of the final line-up for the competition, which takes place in London on March 17th



Knight

Drinkhall

Weixing

TICKET INFORMATION

Profits from The Table Tennis Masters will be donated to TTK, the table tennis initiative of the Greenhouse Schools Project Ltd - a registered charity (Registration number: 1098744) which provides coaching, mentoring and holiday programmes to young people from some of the nation's most socially deprived areas.

The Royal Albert Hall is in the heart of central London and offers excellent transport links by road, rail, underground and bus.

For more information on the Dunlop Masters please go to:

www.dunlopmasters.org

Box Office: To purchase tickets please go to www.royalalberthall.com or call the box office on 020 7589 8212

Schedule:

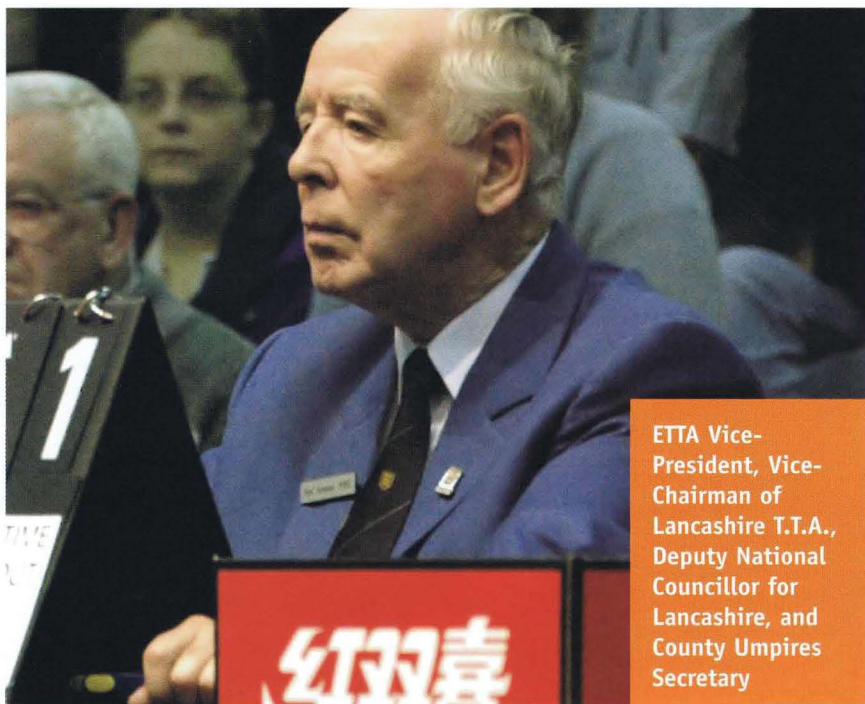
- 6.15 Doors Open
- 7.00 Grand Opening
- 7.10 First quarter-final
- 7.40 Second quarter-final
- 8.10 First semi-final
- 8.40 Interval and Exhibition Match
- 9.00 Second semi-final
- 9.30 Celebrity Challenge
- 9.45 Final
- 10.15 Ends



Naive

Kreanga

Boll



ETTA Vice-President, Vice-Chairman of Lancashire T.T.A., Deputy National Councillor for Lancashire, and County Umpires Secretary

that he was able to devote more time to his beloved sport of table tennis. Having qualified as a County Umpire in 1972 he quickly discovered the tournament circuit and plunged head first into it, travelling the length of the country to hone his umpiring skills. He qualified as a National Umpire in 1992 and passed his International exam in 1994. It was after this time that he became interested in the job of a referee and with a little prompting passed his Tournament Referee qualification in 1995, then the National Referee qualification in 1999, and the pinnacle of his career came when he passed the International Referee exam in Paris in 2005. That is an awful lot of qualifications to pack into a comparatively short time. But that is not the end of the story; he became Chairman of the B.T.T.A.D. and did much to invigorate the fortunes of that organisation. He umpired or refereed in Croatia, France, Ireland, the Isle of Man, Italy, Slovakia, Taiwan, the Shetland Isles and the U.S.A. along with many domestic tournaments and national events.

Ken was, for a long time, concerned with the welfare of umpires and in 2004 he was responsible for the setting up of the Association of English Table Tennis Umpires. He served as secretary until stepping down at the 2007 A.G.M. as he felt that his presence was causing some problems in relationships with the E.T.T.A. Can't have been that bad as he was elected a Vice President of the Association.

He also held the posts of, Vice-Chairman of Lancashire T.T.A., Deputy National Councillor for Lancashire, and County Umpire Secretary, a position very close to his heart, which he filled with great aplomb, he recruited more umpires than any other C.U.S. during his term of office.

A life long Liverpool fan, and it comes hard for an Evertonian to mention that, Ken rejoiced in the City of Liverpool which he referred to as God's country, the place where the sun always shone and the streets were paved with gold. He will be sorely missed both by his family and friends, locally and nationally.

It is with the deepest regret that I have to announce the death, at the age of 77, of my close friend and colleague Ken Armson.

Many of you will have had the privilege of meeting Ken over the years and most of you will, I am sure, have fond memories of him, he was a man of immense charm and had a great passion for the sport of table tennis.

I first met Ken through our mutual involvement in the Liverpool and District Table Tennis League, Ken was the secretary of the Wavertree Labour Club, a position he held for over 50 years and only reluctantly surrendered when his health failed him.

He served on the management committee of the Liverpool League for so long that I can't conceive of the committee without his presence, holding many posts, including Treasurer, Coaching Secretary, Development Officer, Magazine Editor, etc. etc.

Ken spent his working life as an employee of British Rail, except for a short period when he was called up for National Service where he spent two years in the Royal Corps of Signals as a teleprinter operator, before returning to the railways. His service to the rail industry was rewarded with an M.B.E. on his retirement.

His retirement from working life meant

KEN ARMSON MBE

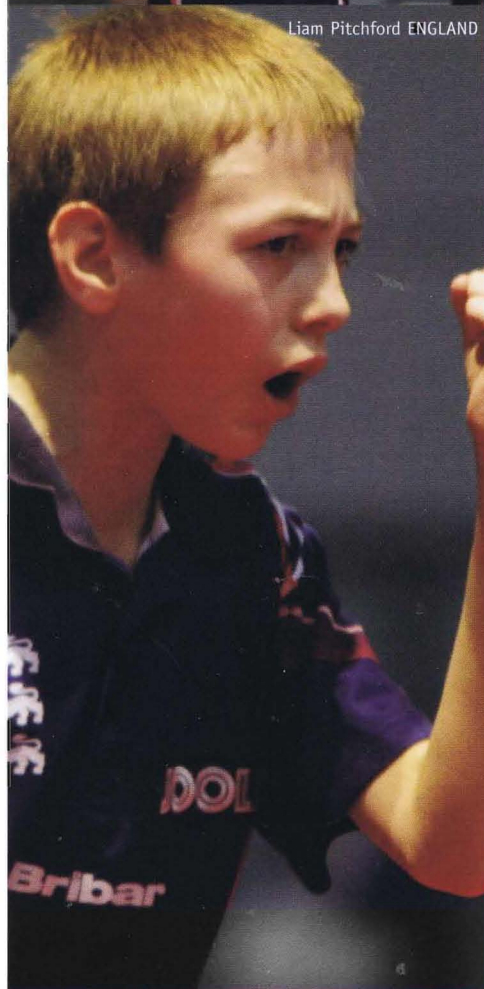
40 of the best



Julien Indeherberg BELGIUM



Karina Lefevre ENGLAND



Liam Pitchford ENGLAND

Achieving their potential is what every sportsman and woman is aiming to do. However, when do you know your potential is achieved?

Certainly, the Europe Youth Top 10 was another milestone for the English elite. It also allowed spectators for the first time in many years to witness, on home soil, our best against the best the rest of Europe had to offer.

With this blow-by-blow account you can find out exactly how the English story unfolded plus we also gain some views from those present:

Friday

Cadet Boys - Gavin Evans started against home opposition, Liam Pitchford was his first round opponent, but despite Liam winning the third game he was unable to hinder Gavin. The second round brought similar results with Liam finding Romain Lorentz too strong. Gavin Evans (England) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 11-8, 11-9, 8-11, 12-10

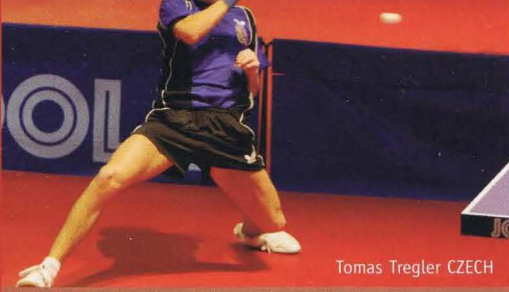
Gavin Evans (England) bt. Anthony Tran (Sweden) 9-11, 11-6, 11-7, 6-11, 11-3
Romain Lorentz (France) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 11-8, 11-7, 11-7

Cadet Girls - This was always going to be a tough tournament for the girls, Karina Lefevre faced defeat in her first two matches. Petrisa Solja (Germany) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-2, 11-5, 11-5

Yana Noskova (Russia) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-9, 11-5, 11-8

Junior Boys - No 1 seed Paul Drinkhall had an excellent start winning his first two matches despite being unwell coming into the tournament. Unfortunately Darius' bad start got worse with two defeats on day 1.

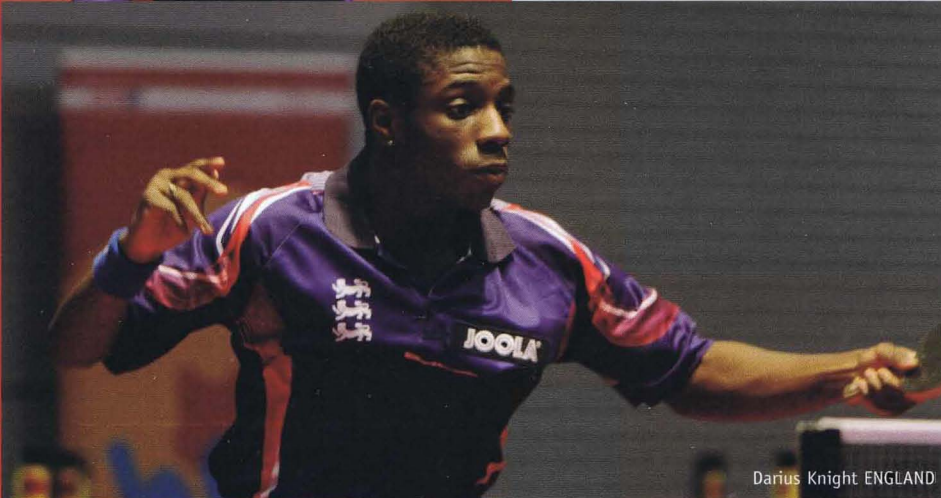
Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-9, 11-5, 11-8, 5-11, 12-10
Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Honor Szocs (Romania) 11-3, 11-8, 7-11, 11-9, 11-5



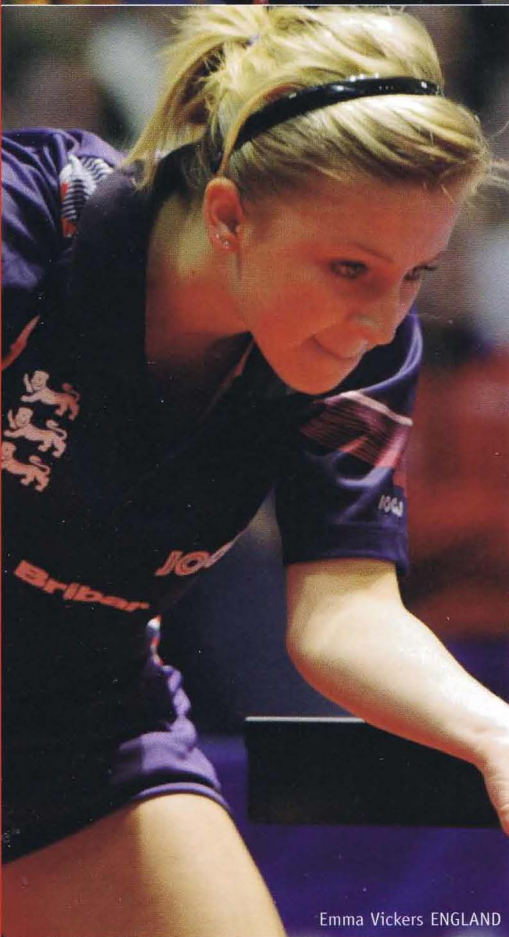
Tomas Tregler CZECH



Paul Drinkhall ENGLAND



Darius Knight ENGLAND



Emma Vickers ENGLAND

Pawel Fertikowski (Poland) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-6, 11-8, 11-7, 11-9

Junior Girls - Emma Vickers started superbly taking the first game against Ekaterina Kolodyaznaya, but the experienced Russian turned it around to take the match 4-1. Next up no 1 seed Amelie Solja of Germany. The German has a most unusual and very effective style which comfortably dispatched Emma 4-0.

Ekaterina Kolodyaznaya (Russia) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 10-12, 11-7, 11-6, 11-4, 11-6
Amelie Solja (Germany) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 11-5, 11-2, 11-4, 11-9

Saturday

Cadet Boys - After Friday's assured start, expectations placed on Gavin Evans were high. However, Cedric Nuytick came at him all guns blazing beating the favourite 3-1. In the third round, Gavin produced a composed display to defeat Aklexander Zhelubenkov, which left him in joint third position. This was swiftly put into jeopardy as he went on to concede defeat to Romain Lorentz.

Meanwhile, Liam Pitchford's illustrious talents were pushed to the limits as his third and fourth opponents powered passed him. Liam's fifth match was a real humdinger. He fought back magnificently against Cedric Nuytick and levelled the scores at 2-2 with some superb free-flowing table tennis. It looked to be going his way as he built up an 8-3 lead in the decider. Amazingly, his opponent found another level of resilience and fought back bravely. At 9-9 the match was anyone's and after a series of frantic and spellbinding match points, Nuytick clinched victory. Unfortunately, this was to be the story of Liam's day: as for the second time Liam was defeated in the fifth, this time against the lightning quick and diminutive Julien Indeherberg.

Cedric Nuytick (Belgium) bt. Gavin Evans (England) 11-8, 11-9, 8-11, 12-10

Anthony Tran (Sweden) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 6-11, 11-9, 11-5, 15-13
Gavin Evans (England) bt. Aklexander Zhelubenkov (Russia) 11-7, 10-12, 11-9, 11-7
Simon Gauzy (France) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 11-5, 9-11, 14-12, 8-11, 13-11
Gavin Evans (England) bt. Dorian Nicolle (France) 11-8, 11-6, 11-9
Cedric Nuytick (Belgium) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 11-8, 11-5, 3-11, 5-11, 16-14.
Romain Lorentz (France) bt. Gavin Evans (England) 11-6, 11-4, 3-11, 4-11, 11-9
Julien Indeherberg (Belgium) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 11-6, 6-11, 13-11, 6-11, 11-6

Cadet Girls - Karina Lefevre performed exceptionally well in her first game of the morning, taking her opponent Patricia Fernandez right to the wire. However, despite a continual improvement in performance level, Karina was unable to manage a win against the high-level opposition. Patricia Fernandez (Spain) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-6, 8-11, 11-6, 12-14, 11-7. Dora Madarasz (Hungary) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 12-10, 11-4, 13-11. Maria Xiao (Portugal) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-7, 11-9, 15-13
Sofia Polkonova (Moldova) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-7, 11-6, 11-9

Junior Boys - Paul Drinkhall continued his form, supplying a 4-0 drubbing to his Swedish opponent Kristian Karlsson. Knight swiftly followed, easing gently past his opponent Hunor Szocz. The close match went to deuce on three occasions, but unlike Friday, Knight demonstrated composure and dispatched his opponent 4-1. Unfortunately the English duo could not sustain their winning form in the next round as both lost to lower ranked opposition. This meant that Paul was now reliant on Tomas Tregler to lose twice on Sunday to retain his title.

Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Kristian Karlsson (Sweden) 14-12, 11-9, 11-6, 11-9
Darius Knight (England) bt. Hunor Szocz (Romania) 11-13, 11-3, 11-9, 12-10, 11-3
Thomas Tregler (Czech Republic) bt. Paul Drinkhall (England) 11-6, 9-11, 6-11, 11-7, 13-11, 11-5. Clement Drop (France) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-7, 4-11, 11-6, 4-11, 11-8, 11-6. Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Pawel Fertikowski (Poland) 8-11, 11-6, 2-11, 11-9, 11-3, 11-3
Berna Kovac (Croatia) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-5, 13-11, 3-11, 11-8, 11-4
Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Piotr Chodorski (Poland) 11-6, 5-11, 11-6, 12-10, 11-8. Darius Knight (England) bt. Kristian Karlsson (Sweden) 9-11, 11-9, 11-6, 11-5, 7-11, 11-9
Junior Girls - Emma Vickers' struggle on the first day was set to continue. Her first

opponent on Saturday was the German no.3 junior Rosalia Stahr who proved too consistent. This theme continued throughout the rest of the days play. Rosalia Stahr (German) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 11-8, 11-7, 11-8, 11-5

Malin Petterson (Sweden) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 11-5, 8-11, 11-6, 11-2, 11-5. Lorine Brunet (France) bt. Emma Vickers 11-7, 9-11, 11-6, 11-0, 6-11, 11-4

Andrea Dospina (Romania) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 11-9, 11-7, 10-12, 11-6, 11-9

Sunday

Cadet Boys - Gavin Evans's last chance of glory disappeared after he was beaten in five games by an inspired Julien Indeherberg. His tiny opponent, perhaps the quickest player in the hall, possibly the noisiest and certainly one of the most talented, never gave Gavin a chance to settle. Gavin recovered and went on to win his next two and finish in third position, a disappointment for the highly rated talent and no 1 contender coming into this event.

Liam Pitchford scored his first win of the weekend, and what a good victory it was against joint leader Hampus Soderlund. An excellent performance. He continued in this rich vein of form, sealing another excellent victory against Dorian Nicolle. Liam finished in a very gallant ninth place. Julien Indeherberg (Belgium) bt Gavin Evans (England) 11-3, 3-11, 10-12, 11-3, 11-7. Liam Pitchford (England) bt Hampus Soderlund (Sweden) 11-8, 11-4, 11-5. Liam Pitchford (England) bt. Dorian Nicolle (France) 11-7, 11-6, 9-11, 11-6

Gavin Evans (England) bt. Hampus Soderlund (Sweden) 11-5, 9-11, 12-10, 11-8. Gavin Evans (England) bt. Simon Gauzy (France) 6-11, 11-7, 6-11, 11-5, 11-5. Alexander Zhelubenkov (Russia) bt. Liam Pitchford (England) 9-11, 7-11, 13-11, 11-6, 11-7

Cadet Girls - Karina Lefevre's introduction to play at this exalted level continued. Despite a sense of improvement, it proved to be another hard day against Europe's best. Bernadette Szocs (Romania) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-3, 12-10, 11-7. Klaudia Kusinska (Poland) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 11-9, 11-8, 11-5. Britt Eerland (Netherlands) bt. Karina Lefevre (England) 13-11, 11-9, 11-5

Junior Boys - Paul Drinkhall scored his seventh win of the tournament, a skillful and solid 4-2 success against Alexander Shibaev. However today was all going to be about the final round. If Darius could beat Tomas Tregler and Paul could defeat Clement Drop, Paul would win the tournament. But it was the

athletic Frenchman who came out on top in six games to pip Paul for second place. Not only had Drop played far above any reasonable expectations, but he had only qualified for the event as second reserve.

There was further disappointment as Darius Knight never looked like producing the form that would break Thomas Tregler's stride. The Czech had it pretty much his own way as he powered through to take the title, Darius finished in a disappointing ninth place. Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Borna Kovac (Croatia) 6-11, 5-11, 11-9, 11-7, 16-18, 11-1, 11-9. Alexander Shibaev (Russia) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-5, 11-6, 6-11, 3-11, 11-7, 6-11, 11-5. Paul Drinkhall (England) bt. Alexander Shibaev (Russia) 6-11, 11-8, 11-8, 6-11, 11-8, 11-9

Piotr Chodorski (Poland) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-7, 11-5, 11-3, 11-4. Clement Drop (France) bt. Paul Drinkhall (England) 11-8, 6-11, 8-11, 10-12, 11-6, 10-12. Thomas Tregler (Czech Republic) bt. Darius Knight (England) 11-6, 11-3, 11-7, 11-4. **Junior Girls** - Emma Vickers improved as the weekend progressed, and she can take credit for an excellent display in her final match against Monika Molnar. This game featured some furious and exciting backhand exchanges.

Hana Matelova (Czech Republic) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 11-4, 11-5, 11-9, 13-11. Cristina Hirici (Romania) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 11-8, 11-6, 11-6, 11-4. Monika Molnar (Serbia) bt. Emma Vickers (England) 9-11, 11-6, 11-3, 11-3, 11-9

First time viewer's opinion

We caught up with Mark Ashenden, a first time table tennis watcher and full time BBC reporter to see what he thought after the tournament.

How would you describe the tournament?

There was a real buzz inside the stadium throughout the three days: it was electric, particularly on the final day. The standard was exceptional; I was simply amazed at the brilliance achieved by all male and female players.

What level of table tennis were you expecting to see?

I wasn't quite sure what to expect but I was blown away by the power and subtle skills shown by many of the players.

What did you think of the English players' performances?

Paul was phenomenal considering he had flu - was a shame he was pipped at the end but was totally inspiring watching a top Brit at the top (almost) of his game. Liam was sensational and it was also great to see the girls who kept

going despite some disappointing results.

What was your favourite moment?

Paul's comeback from 2-0 down was exciting, in front of the rowdy crowd as well - made the hairs on my neck stand on end. Plus seeing Liam in action was brilliant

Would you recommend a friend to come and watch?

I wouldn't think twice. Atmosphere electric and seeing players at the top of their game showing their subtle touches and brute strength, it's a phenomenal sport and I feel honoured at having witnessed these players in such an amazing atmosphere.

Opinions from those in the know

Following the conclusion of the presentations, we managed to gain some views from those at the top.

Alex Murdoch, ETTA Chairman, said, "The new innovation from the ETTU to bring the cadets and juniors together is a great way forward. I am pleased that England has hosted the first ever Europe Youth Top 10", he continued, "The highlight of the tournament [for me] has been watching Liam Pitchford play. He has put in some tremendous performances over the weekend."

Stefano Bossi, ETTU President, said, "The new format has been successful and it was the right choice by the ETTU to add the cadets. From an organisational point of view this has been a superb tournament"

Steen Hansen England's Technical Manager, said "Results wise I think it could have gone better. Being very critical, the only major light was Liam Pitchford's performance. He has been great, always trying to play aggressively and always trying to win". Away from the performance side he went on to say "From an organisational point of view England has a lot to be proud about".

Placings

Cadet Boys

1. Julien Indeherberg (BEL)
2. Romain Lorentz (FRA)
3. Gavin Evans (ENG)

Junior Boys

1. Tomas Tregler (CZE)
2. Clement Drop (FRA)
3. Paul Drinkhall (ENG)

Cadet Girls

1. Petrisa Solja (GER)
2. Dora Madarasz (HUN)
3. Maria Xiao (POR)

Junior Girls

1. Amelie Solja (GER)
2. Cristina Hirici (ROU)
3. Ekaterina Kolodyaznaya (RUS)

For a full list of results and placings visit our website www.etta.co.uk/topten

County Championships

Juniors Division 2C

The first round of matches was played at BATTS TTC in Harlow and saw Essex III lead the way after picking up four straight victories, they lead the field by a comprehensive three points from second place Bedfordshire, although Beds have only played three. Essex thirds scored an excellent 8-2 victory against their own fourth team, as well as beating Northants seconds 7-3. They walloped Norfolk 9-1 but were taken the full distance before squeezing home 6-4 against Oxfordshire. The same five players were on duty for Essex, where no 2 Anthony Kent was the star performer with 8 straight wins, just ahead of team mate Joe Stannard who dropped only one set to county colleague Lewis Ewers of Essex IV, in a thrilling five game 11-9 11-3 8-11 8-11 5-11. Nial Akata, playing at 1 for Essex, produced an excellent return, dropping just 2 from 8, and solid performances from Maddison Andrews with 5 from 8 starts, just one set better than team-mate Claire Austin, as both girls contributed to the team's great start. The Essex III match against Oxfordshire may well prove pivotal, as Oxfordshire led 4-3 at one stage, only to see Essex reel off three straight victories, Akata beat Olafur Pall Geirsson 8-11 11-8 12-10 12-10 to level the match and further victories by Andrews and star player Kent saw

Essex home.

The top two sides still have to face each other when the teams meet again to complete the division, but what might prove crucial was the drawn clash between Bedfordshire and Essex IV, as in the next round Beds will have to beat Essex and hope that their opponents also drop at least another point for them to have any chance of the division.

Division 2D

Things could not be tighter after the first round of matches played in this division, as Sussex II and Kent I are both unbeaten, each recording four straight victories at Sackville School, East Grinstead. Sussex fared better in the first round, as they comfortably beat Buckinghamshire and Dorset II without dropping a set, and they only dropped one set in their clash with their own third team, as Curtis Coombes beat Alex Forshaw 11-13 11-8 9-11 11-7 11-7. Sussex completed their matches with a 7-3 victory over Kent II. Kent I began with a 10-0 win over Sussex III, before beating the second team of Bedfordshire and their own second team 9-1, completing their weekend with a 6-4 victory over Dorset I. Sussex lead the division by two sets from Kent and only

dropped four sets in four matches, with the performance of the two girls just edging out three super efforts from the boys, Yolanda King and Chelsea Furnival both scored 8 from 8. Although 7 from 8 by Heishaw Weerasinghe and Tom Baxter supported by third player Alex Forshaw who dropped only 2 from his 8 is hardly letting the side down.

Over 60s

Division 1A - Yorkshire have always been in the thick of things since the introduction of this event and this season is no different. Despite losing the services of Brian Allison to newcomers Lincolnshire, they lead the division on sets (from Lincolnshire) and were very solid in their four matches, beating Worcestershire 8-2, Cheshire II 10-0, Yorkshire II 7-3 and Warwickshire also 7-3. All the Yorkshire players contributed solid performances, although last season's unbeaten player, Keith Powell, cannot repeat this feat as he was beaten in five by Warwickshire skipper "blue" Graham Hoskin, in a match which proved successful for the midlands skipper as he also beat Corking in five. Lincolnshire are not far behind Yorkshire and had Brian Hill to thank for this, as he contributed eight singles and shared in seven doubles wins out of the 28 sets won by Lincolnshire over the weekend.

Both counties look to be favourites to make the playoffs,

but injuries could play a big part in the final round of matches as Yorkshire look likely to be unable to field Corking who is due an impending knee operation; this could make Lincolnshire slight favourites when the sides meet up at Draycott in March.

Division 1B - Kent have a slight sets superiority over Essex after four victories and one draw in their five matches, beating Middlesex 7-3, Surrey 8-2, Kent II 10-0 and Hertfordshire 6-4 before their draw with Berkshire. Essex will be looking to mount a strong challenge after a disappointing last season petered out due to player availability. The squad of Stuart Gibbs, Ray Murray, Peter Ballard, Brian Adams and Shirley Carroll recorded a fine 7-3 victory against Berkshire, then beat Bedfordshire 8-2 before narrow 6-4 wins over Middlesex and Hertfordshire, which added to their draw with Sussex, meaning they are on nine points the same as Kent, but are three sets adrift of the rivals.

Sussex seem to have had the easier matches, beating Surrey 8-2, Kent II 10-0 and Bedfordshire 9-1 but their draw with Essex shows that they are a force to be reckoned with.

CADETS DIVISION 1A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	4	0	0	32	8	8
CHESHIRE	2	1	1	28	12	5
NORFOLK	2	1	0	18	12	5
CLWYD	2	1	1	23	17	5
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	1	2	0	17	13	4
SUFFOLK	1	1	1	17	13	3
LANCASHIRE	1	0	3	16	24	2
LEICESTERSHIRE	0	0	3	8	22	0
SHROPSHIRE	0	0	4	1	39	0

CADETS DIVISION 1B

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
KENT	6	1	1	66	14	13
SURREY 1ST	4	0	0	33	7	8
WORCESTERSHIRE	3	0	1	22	18	6
SUSSEX 2ND	2	1	1	25	15	5
GLAMORGAN	2	0	2	18	22	4
SOMERSET	1	0	3	15	25	2
SURREY 2ND	1	0	3	12	28	2
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	0	0	4	5	35	0
SUSSEX 3RD	0	0	4	4	36	0

JUNIORS PREMIER DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
HAMPSHIRE	3	0	0	25	5	6
LINCOLNSHIRE 1ST	3	0	0	20	10	6
DERBYSHIRE	1	2	0	16	14	4
DEVONSHIRE 1ST	0	2	1	14	16	2
YORKSHIRE 1ST	1	0	2	12	18	2
SUSSEX 1ST	1	0	2	11	19	2
ESSEX 1ST	0	1	2	12	18	1
HERTFORDSHIRE	0	1	2	10	20	1

JUNIORS DIVISION 2B

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
WORCESTERSHIRE	7	0	1	51	29	14
SOMERSET	6	1	1	52	28	13
WILTSHIRE	6	0	2	52	28	12
DEVONSHIRE 2ND	5	2	1	51	29	12
GLAMORGAN 2ND	2	2	4	42	38	6
AVON 2ND	1	4	3	37	43	6
CORNWALL 2ND	2	2	4	35	45	6
DEVONSHIRE 3RD	1	0	7	22	58	2
DEVONSHIRE 4TH	0	1	7	18	62	1

JUNIORS DIVISION 2C

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
BEDFORDSHIRE	5	1	0	39	21	11
ESSEX 3RD	5	0	1	44	16	10
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 2ND	2	2	2	32	28	6
OXFORDSHIRE	2	1	3	30	30	5
NORFOLK	2	1	3	27	33	5
ESSEX 4TH	1	3	2	26	34	5
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	0	0	6	12	48	0

JUNIORS DIVISION 2D

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
KENT 1ST	7	0	0	58	12	14
SUSSEX 2ND	6	0	1	54	16	12
DORSET 1ST	5	0	2	43	27	10
SUSSEX 3RD	4	0	3	37	33	8
SURREY 2ND	2	1	4	27	43	5
KENT 2ND	2	1	4	26	44	5
DORSET 2ND	1	0	6	17	53	2
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 2ND	0	0	7	18	52	0

SENIORS DIVISION 2A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
DERBYSHIRE 2ND	4	2	0	39	21	10
YORKSHIRE 2ND	5	0	1	38	22	10
CUMBRIA	3	1	2	33	27	7
DURHAM 2ND	3	1	2	31	29	7
CHESHIRE	3	0	3	32	28	6
LEICESTERSHIRE 2ND	0	1	5	21	39	1
DERBYSHIRE 3RD	0	1	5	16	44	1

SENIORS DIVISION 2B

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
DORSET	5	0	0	34	16	10
DEVONSHIRE 2ND	3	1	1	34	16	7
WORCESTERSHIRE	3	1	1	29	21	7
AVON	1	1	3	18	32	3
CORNWALL 2ND	1	0	4	17	33	2
DEVONSHIRE 3RD	0	1	4	18	32	1

SENIORS DIVISION 2C

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
WARWICKSHIRE 1ST	6	0	0	44	16	12
BEDFORDSHIRE	4	1	1	36	24	9
SUFFOLK 1ST	4	0	2	36	24	8
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	3	1	2	34	26	7
WARWICKSHIRE 2ND	2	0	4	24	36	4
SUFFOLK 2ND	1	0	5	21	39	2
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	0	0	6	15	45	0

JUNIORS DIVISION 1A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
STAFFORDSHIRE	2	1	0	21	9	5
CHESHIRE 1ST	2	0	1	20	10	4
DURHAM 1ST	2	0	1	17	13	4
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	1	2	0	16	14	4
CLEVELAND	1	1	1	14	16	3
SUFFOLK	1	1	1	13	17	3
WARWICKSHIRE	0	1	2	12	18	1
ESSEX 2ND	0	0	3	7	23	0

JUNIORS DIVISION 1B

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
MIDDLESEX 2ND	7	0	0	55	15	14
CORNWALL 1ST	5	1	1	47	23	11
MIDDLESEX 1ST	4	2	1	47	23	10
SURREY 1ST	4	0	3	37	33	8
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE 1ST	1	3	3	27	43	5
AVON 1ST	1	2	4	25	45	4
GLAMORGAN 1ST	0	2	5	24	46	2
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	1	0	6	18	52	2

JUNIORS DIVISION 2A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	7	1	0	62	18	15
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 1ST	5	3	0	51	29	13
LINCOLNSHIRE 2ND	6	1	1	48	32	13
LANCASHIRE 1ST	4	1	3	43	37	9
CHESHIRE 2ND	3	2	3	42	38	8
YORKSHIRE 2ND	3	1	4	37	43	7
LANCASHIRE 2ND	2	0	6	30	50	4
LEICESTERSHIRE	1	1	6	35	45	3
DURHAM 2ND	0	0	8	12	68	0

SENIORS PREMIER DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
SUSSEX 1ST	2	1	0	20	10	5
DEVONSHIRE 1ST	2	1	0	19	11	5
MIDDLESEX 1ST	2	1	0	18	12	5
ESSEX 1ST	2	0	1	19	11	4
DERBYSHIRE 1ST	2	0	1	19	11	4
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	0	1	2	8	22	1
LEICESTERSHIRE 1ST	0	0	3	10	20	0
BERKSHIRE 1ST	0	0	3	7	23	0

SENIORS DIVISION 1A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
DURHAM 1ST	4	1	0	34	16	9
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	4	0	1	32	18	8
CLEVELAND	3	2	0	30	20	8
YORKSHIRE 1ST	3	0	2	25	25	6
NORTHUMBERLAND	1	1	3	20	30	3
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	1	1	3	19	31	3
LINCOLNSHIRE	1	0	4	21	29	2
LANCASHIRE	0	1	4	19	31	1

SENIORS DIVISION 2A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
DERBYSHIRE 2ND	4	2	0	39	21	10
YORKSHIRE 2ND	5	0	1	38	22	10
CUMBRIA	3	1	2	33	27	7
DURHAM 2ND	3	1	2	31	29	7
CHESHIRE	3	0	3	32	28	6
LEICESTERSHIRE 2ND	0	1	5	21	39	1
DERBYSHIRE 3RD	0	1	5	16	44	1

SENIORS DIVISION 2D

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
SUSSEX 2ND	3	1	1	30	20	7
ESSEX 2ND	3	0	0	24	6	6
KENT 1ST	2	1	0	20	10	5
SUSSEX 3RD	2	0	3	21	29	4
BERKSHIRE 2ND	0	0	3	9	21	0
KENT 2ND	0	0	3	6	24	0

OVER 60'S 1A

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
YORKSHIRE 1ST	4	0	0	32	8	8
LINCOLNSHIRE	4	0	0	28	12	8
CHESHIRE 1ST	2	0	2	19	21	4
WARWICKSHIRE	2	0	2	19	21	4
YORKSHIRE 2ND	2	0	2	19	21	4
LANCASHIRE	1	0	3	18	22	2
WORCESTERSHIRE	1	0	3	16	24	2
CHESHIRE 2ND	0	0	4	9	31	0

OVER 60'S 1B

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
KENT 1ST	4	1	0	35	15	9
ESSEX	4	1	0	32	18	9
SUSSEX	3	1	0	32	8	7
HERTFORDSHIRE	2	1	2	27	23	5
BERKSHIRE	1	2	1	21	19	4
SURREY	2	0	3	20	30	4
MIDDLESEX	1	0	3	17	23	2
KENT 2ND	0	0	4	9	31	0
BEDFORDSHIRE	0	0	4	7	33	0

TOURNAMENT

JANUARY '07 REVIEW

Cheshire Open Butterfly Satellite Grand Prix

Players were hoping to make their Christmas by taking home a title of Cheshire Open Butterfly Satellite Grand Prix winner.

The men's singles had a difficult start to the day, with many players unable to make it with freezing temperatures and thick fog, this gave unseeded players the chance to get to later stages. One player who took up this challenge was Matt Pernet (Sy) who reached the semi-final where he met fourth seed Kevin Dolder (La). Matt gave Kevin a scare when he took the first, but Kevin regained control winning the next

One player who took up this challenge was Matt Pernet (Sy) who reached the semi-final where he met fourth seed Kevin Dolder (La). Matt gave Kevin a scare when he took the first, but Kevin regained control winning the next three games

three games.

In the final of the men's singles Kevin was joined by Darius Knight (Sy). Darius had defeated Matt Dodds (Ys) in his semi-final and came out as comfortable winner 3-0 in the final.

The women's singles final was a battle between Helen Lower (St) and Steph Donnelly (Cv), with Helen taking the win.

Matt Dodds made up for his defeat in men's band 1 by taking the U21 men's singles beating Jonathan Taylor.

Managing to go one round further than her semi-final in the women's Rachel Baker (La) took home the U21 women's title after beating

Megan Phillips (Wal).

men's band 1 was an all Yorkshire affair with Ritchie Lightowler (Ys) being the eventual victor after a close fought battle with Matt Dodds.

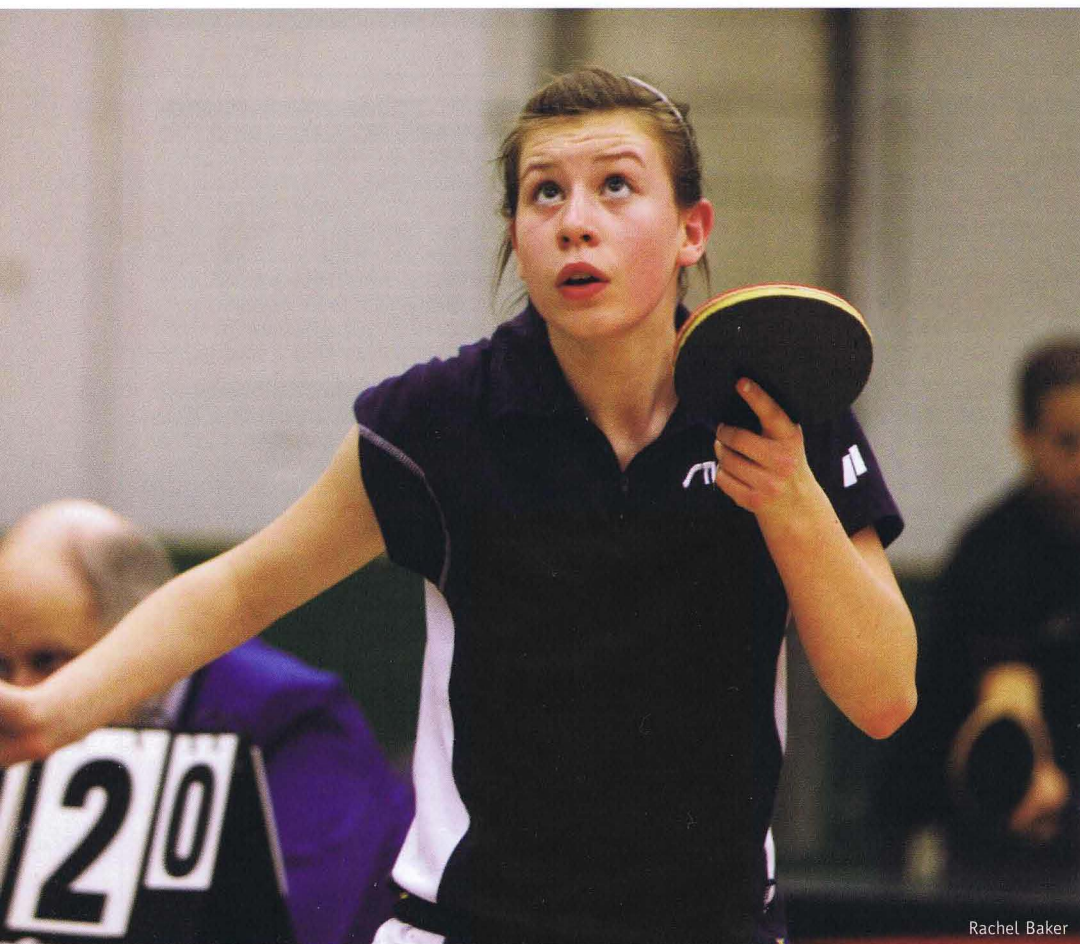
In the women's band 1 Steph Donnelly (Cv), in her second final of the weekend, defeated Fiona Dennett (Ch); this rounded off a superb weekend's performance by the Cleveland player.

Men's band 3 was won by Daniel Kolesnik (Gs). He continued his winning streak in the men's band 2 where he met Matt Pernet in the final. Unfortunately Matt proved too strong and won comfortably in three.

In the women's band 3 Angharad Phillips (Wal) beat Emily Standing (Cu). Emily made up for this defeat by beating Megan Phillips (Angharad's sister) in the band 2 final.

Men's band 4 was won by Billy Pegg (Sp) coming from the second seed position to defeat Shaun Murray in the final, a player he had also beaten in the group stages. The men's band 6 title was taken by Adam Ratajczak (Av) beating John Goodall (Ch) and keeping his run of fine form; he also won the band 5 title by beating Jake Shaw.

Restricted men's was a meeting of the first and second seeds in the final. Top seed Rory Scott beat second seed Matt Pernet 12-10 in the fifth.



Rachel Baker

Cheshire Open Butterfly Satellite
Grand Prix Results

Men's Singles Darius Knight (Sy) bt. Kevin Dolder (La) 11-8, 12-10, 12-10
Women's Singles Helen Lower (St) bt. Steph Donnelly (Cv) 11-1, 11-9, 8-11, 11-3
U21 Men's Matt Dodds (Ys) bt. Jonathan Taylor (Ch) 11-9, 11-5, 12-10
U21s Women's Rachel Baker (La) bt. Megan Phillips (Wal) 11-8, 9-11, 11-6, 17-15
Men's Band 1 Ritchie Lightowler (Ys) bt. Matt Dodds (Ys) 9-11, 11-7, 11-5, 13-11, 11-4
Men's Band 2 Matt Pernet (Sy) bt. Daniel Kolesnik (Gs) 11-4, 11-7, 11-5
Men's Band 3 Daniel Kolesnik (Gs) bt. Scott Crawford (Cu) 11-9, 11-9, 11-8
Men's Band 4 Billy Pegg (St) bt. Shaun Murray (Bd) 11-3, 9-11, 8-11, 11-4, 11-5
Men's Band 5 Adam Ratajczak (Av) bt. Jake Shaw (La) 9-11, 11-5, 11-5, 12-10
Men's Band 6 Adam Ratajczak (Av) bt. John Goodhall (La)
Women's Band 1 1st Steph Donnelly (Cv) 2nd Fiona Dennett (Ch)
Women's Band 2 Emily Standing (Cu) bt. Megan Phillips (Wal)
Women's Band 3 Angharad Phillips (Wal) bt. Emily Standing (Cu)
Restricted Men's Singles Rory Scott (Sx) bt. Matt Pernet (Sy) 11-6, 8-11, 12-10, 4-11, 12-10
Veteran Men Ken Connor (Ch) beat Mark Lagomarsino (Ch) 11-3, 7-11, 12-10, 11-7

Medway Open Butterfly Grand Prix

Men's Singles Hong Ming Zhang bt. Wang Zheng 11-4, 11-1, 6-11, 11-8
Women's Singles Katie Shu Ying Xu (Essex) bt. Egle Adomelyte 11-1, 11-6, 11-2
U21 Men's Richard Andrews bt. Remigiyus Petrosius 7-11, 11-9, 11-7, 12-10
U21 Women's Rachel Jamieson (E) bt. Emily Bates 5-11, 11-6, 11-7, 13-11
Veterans Adrian Moore bt. John Dennison 11-6, 11-9, 11-8
Restricted Men's Jojo Seniorin bt. Paul Davison 4-11, 11-4, 11-8, 11-6
Men's Band 1 Neil Charles (Mi) bt. Niall Cameron (Sco) 11-13, 11-5, 11-8, 13-11
Men's Band 2 Richard Andrews (Bk) bt. Daniel Ives (K) 11-1, 11-8, 11-8
Men's Band 3 Daniel Basterfield (Mi) bt. Dele Ayoola (Sy) 12-10, 11-6, 10-12, 11-4
Men's Band 4 Daniel Basterfield (Mi) bt. Milan Dragojlovic (Gs) 11-9, 11-2, 11-4
Men's Band 5 Adam Ratajczak (Av) bt. Adam Trela (Mi) 12-10, 11-6, 7-11, 13-11
Men's Band 6 Adam Trela (Mi) bt. Sullivan Morais (Mi) 11-4, 11-9, 11-8
Women's Band 1 Rachel Jamieson (E) bt. Sally Smith (Dv) 11-7, 12-10, 11-3
Women's Band 2 Emily Bates (Li) bt. Melissa Wright (Ys) 10-12, 11-8, 13-11, 9-11, 11-7
Women's Band 3 Emily Bates (Li) bt. Melissa Wright (Ys) 12-10, 11-4, 8-11, 11-6
Tees Sport Player of the Weekend: For his outstanding results throughout the entire weekend: Daniel Basterfield.

Medway Open BGP

Emily Bates (Li) and Daniel Basterfield (Mi), both juniors and neither of whom have played a senior Grand Prix event, made an instant impact by taking home two titles each. Twelve year old Emily walked away with the women's band 2 and band 3 titles and in doing so outplayed another junior, Melissa Wright (Ys), in both finals.

TTK Greenhouse player Daniel, with his aggressive topspin attacking play, dominated men's band 3 and 4, overcoming senior players en route to his double success.

Other highlights of the day were: Adam Trela (Mi) the defensive pimpled player, enjoying success in men's band 6, and narrowly missing out in the band 5 final to Adam Ratajczak (Av). Rachel Jamieson (E) was at the top of her game taking the women's band 1 title with her devastating offensive play to overpower Sally Smith (Dv). Men's band 2 went to the

for the Scottish international. Everyone present at the final day's play of the Medway Open Butterfly Grand Prix, held at the Black Lion Leisure Centre in Gillingham, Kent, was treated to a display of Oriental table tennis magic. The men's and women's open singles titles both went to our resident visitors from the Far East.

Eighteen year old Hong Ming Zhang, now training at the DHS London Progress Club, was in a different class as he swept all aside to take the men's open title. Following his straight sets win over Dale Barham in the semi-final, he set up an all-Chinese final encounter against Wang Zheng, the resident Chinese player at Peniel Academy. Wang Zheng had earlier disposed of the number 1 seed, Jason Sugrue in the other semi-final, in four sets. The all-Chinese final was a relatively comfortable victory for Hong Ming Zhang, with an awesome

her work cut out to reach the semi-final with a gritty performance over Jurate Brazaityte. On her way to the final, Egle had a great win over the defensive style of Maria Meihan (Peniel Academy) in the other semi-final.

The men's U21 title went to Richard Andrews who had a tough four set final triumph against Remigiyus Petrosius. Richard had earlier despatched top seed David McBeath and then survived a demanding encounter with player of the weekend Daniel Basterfield in the semi-final.

Rachel Jamieson was crowned women's under 21 champion after coming through hard matches against 12 year old Emily Bates in the final, and Sally Smith in the semi. Emily enjoyed a good win over Melissa Wright to take her place in the final. Adrian Moore took the men's veterans title, whilst Jojo Seniorin won the restricted men's event.

By Geoff Ware

The men's U21 title went to Richard Andrews who had a tough four set final triumph against Remigiyus Petrosius - Richard had earlier despatched top seed David McBeath.

rapidly improving Reading youngster Richard Andrews (Bk) who outshone Daniel Ives (K) in the final. Neil Charles (Mi) found a rich vein of form to take the men's band 1 crown. On his way to victory he took out the number one seed Tom Cutler at the penultimate stage. Despite a spirited fight from second seed Niall Cameron in the final, Charles was just too strong

display of power packed shots. The women's open was also a one sided affair with the title going to Katie Shu Ying (Peniel Academy). Katie was simply sensational, coming through to overpower Egle Adomelyte (London Progress) in straight sets en route to the title, Katie played through the defensive skills of Hannah Hicks. Who, unseeded, had



Richard Andrews

British League

IT AIN'T OVER TILL THE FAT LADY SINGS

However, in this case it almost certainly is..... DHS London Progress (23 points) opened up a five point lead over BATTs Team Peniel (18 points) and Drumchapel Glasgow (18 points), after the completion of the third weekend of British League Premier Division matches at the BATTs Team Peniel Club in Harlow. The first really big match of the weekend saw Drumchapel Glasgow I beat TTK Greenhouse I 6-2. "Cometh the hour cometh the man" and this match will be remembered as a major triumph for Drumchapel's Ryan Jenkins. The Welsh star came out on top 11-7, 11-3, 7-11, 11-5 against Gareth Herbert, but this game paled into insignificance compared with the drama of Jenkins' clash against Andrew Rushton. Both players gave it everything with Andrew determinedly fighting back from 2-0 down, only to miss out 8-11, 5-11, 11-4, 11-9, 15-17. A match of the highest drama as well as Andrew's first defeat of the season. Herbert also found himself "up against it" against Stephen Jenkins, but he held himself together superbly when "under fire" in the fourth game and he eventually came out on top 6-11, 11-3, 8-11, 12-10, 11-6. TTK no.3 Vidal Graham (who started the season in Division Four South & Midlands) fought bravely against Scottish star Craig Howieson and did well to take the fourth end. Craig upped the pace considerably in the fifth end and he ran out a 11-6, 11-5, 9-11, 11-4 winner.

DHS London Progress produced their best performance of the season as they brushed aside Drumchapel Glasgow 7-1, having drawn 4-4 in the opening weekend. This time their super-charged side of Hong Ming Zhang, newcomer Jiang Chang Hong, Jason Sugrue and Zhi Tao Jaing made no mistake as they romped home. Ryan Jenkins could make little impression losing 10-12, 5-11, 11-13 to Jiang Chang Hong and 5-11, 10-12, 7-11 against Hong Ming Zhang. Craig Howieson repeated his first half victory over Jason Sugrue (11-6, 11-6, 11-4) for Drumchapel's only victory. Progress no.4 Zhi Tao Jaing showed Jason "the way to do it", and he retained his 100 % record with a decisive 11-6, 11-7, 11-5 victory over Craig.

Ormesby made no mistake in beating Ellenborough 6-2, with Michael Marsden (two wins), Justin Ma (one win), Nigel Eckersley (one win) and Eddie Smith (two wins), all contributing to their success. Marsden will be pleased with his 6-11, 11-7, 11-8, 11-9 victory against Lorestas Trumpauskas and Lorestas will have been somewhat consoled after he had beaten Justin Ma 13-11, 13-11, 11-6. However, it was Jimmy Walsh who scored the most impressive win of all, an excellent 1-11, 13-11, 15-13, 11-8 victory against fellow veteran Eckersley.

The match between BATTs Team Peniel and TTK Greenhouse should have been a cracker but although it featured some excellent Table Tennis, it lost some of its impact as a spectacle after it was started on the

Tables

DIVISION 1 NORTH						
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DRUMCHAPEL GLASGOW II	7	3	0	49	31	17
ELGRE NOTTINGHAM I	6	4	0	52	28	16
DERWENT I	6	1	3	52	28	13
GRANTHAM	5	2	3	45	35	12
ORMESBY II	1	6	3	35	45	8
ROTHERHAM SCORPIONS I	2	3	5	32	48	7
CHESTERFIELD I	1	3	6	29	51	5
HALTON I	0	2	8	26	54	2

DIVISION 1 SOUTH						
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRIGHTON I	7	1	2	43	37	15
DML WOOLWELL I	6	1	3	44	36	13
DHS LONDON PROGRESS II	4	3	3	43	37	11
FUSION I	4	2	4	45	35	10
BYNG HALL I	2	4	4	37	43	8
CIPPENHAM I	2	4	4	36	44	8
YORK GARDENS I	3	2	5	36	44	8
GENERATION 2 I	1	5	4	36	44	7

DIVISION 1 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS						
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLOP IMPACT I	8	2	0	61	19	18
WESTFIELD I	7	2	1	57	23	16
DHS LONDON PROGRESS III	6	1	3	53	27	13
URBAN PROGRESS II	6	0	4	44	36	12
CARRARA POLSKA I	5	1	4	39	41	11
BEDFORD MODERN I	3	1	6	32	48	7
CIPPENHAM II	1	1	8	19	61	3
OXFORD FP CENTRE II	0	0	10	15	65	0

DIVISION 2 NORTH						
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FASTBATS	7	2	1	54	26	16
BARROW	5	4	1	51	29	14
ELGRE NOTTINGHAM II	4	5	1	43	37	13
SHEFFIELD	4	3	3	46	34	11
NORTHFIELD	3	2	5	33	47	8
MARKET RASEN	2	3	5	36	44	7
DERWENT II	3	0	7	30	50	6
ORMESBY III	1	3	6	27	53	5

DIVISION 2 SOUTH						
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BATTs TEAM PENIEL II	9	1	0	61	19	19
DHS LONDON PROGRESS IV	7	1	2	52	28	15
FUSION II	7	1	2	51	29	15
MOSSFORD	7	0	3	48	32	14
CLUB CORNWALL	2	1	7	31	49	5
BRIGHTON II	2	1	7	28	52	5
HORSHAM II	0	4	6	27	53	4
ASHFORD II	1	1	8	22	58	3

DIVISION 2 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS						
	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
KINGFISHER	10	0	0	61	19	20
EASTBOURNE	5	3	2	45	35	13
ASHFORD I	5	1	4	46	34	11
GUERNSEY	4	2	4	44	36	10
KINGSHURST BRIBAR	5	0	5	33	47	10
HORSHAM I	3	3	4	43	37	9
DE VERE NETTS	2	2	6	30	50	6
BEDFORD MODERN II	0	1	9	18	62	1



Lorestas Trumpauskas

PREMIER DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DHS LONDON PROGRESS I	11	1	0	79	17	23
BATTS TEAM PENIEL I	8	2	1	63	25	18
DRUMCHAPEL GLASGOW I	8	2	2	66	30	18
TTK GREENHOUSE I	4	6	2	53	43	14
ORMESBY I	5	1	5	47	41	11
ELLENBOROUGH I	4	2	6	43	53	10
SYCAMORE	2	3	6	30	58	7
URBAN PROGRESS I	1	0	10	23	65	2
OXFORD FIREPLACE CNTR I	0	1	11	12	84	1

Marsden will be pleased with his 6-11, 11-7, 11-8, 11-9 victory against Lorestas Trumpauskas and Lorestas will have been somewhat consoled after he had beaten Justin Ma 13-11, 13-11, 11-6.

Saturday evening and completed on the Sunday morning after the programme had to be amended following a massive power failure. Whereas Andrew Rushton and Gareth Herbert picked up mobile phone messages and were able to return to the venue, after they had left Vidal Graham was travelling home on his motorbike and was unable to pick up his message. TTK won the Saturday games with Andrew Rushton and Gareth Herbert taking their four singles, whilst BATTS Team Peniel hit back on the Sunday with Craig Bryant (one win), Shuying Xu (one win) and Ritchie Venner (two wins) all picking up their games. Wang Zheng gave

a good account of himself against both Gareth and Andrew losing 4-11, 11-8, 9-11, 5-11 to Gareth and 8-11, 15-13, 6-11, 9-11 against Andrew. The talented Shuying Xu felt the full force of Gareth Herbert's artillery of shots and serves and she lost 6-11, 7-11, 7-11 against the 2002 Commonwealth Games Men's Doubles gold medallist.

DIVISION 3 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HALTON II	10	0	0	59	21	20
MURRAYFIELD	5	2	3	44	36	12
UXBRIDGE I	4	3	3	40	40	11
HARTLEPOOL	4	2	4	42	38	10
WOODFIELD I	5	0	5	39	41	10
DRUMCHAPEL GLASGOW III	3	3	4	40	40	9
ELGRE NOTTINGHAM III	2	2	6	31	49	6
FORMBY	0	2	8	25	55	2

DIVISION 3 SOUTH

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
YORK GARDENS II	9	1	0	58	22	19
TTK GREENHOUSE II	8	0	2	56	24	16
SEH BRITANNIA IPSWICH I	6	1	3	49	31	13
OLOP IMPACT II	3	4	3	41	39	10
HASTINGS	4	1	5	34	46	9
HORSHAM III	3	0	7	26	54	6
ELLENBOROUGH II	2	0	8	25	55	4
CIPPENHAM III	1	1	8	31	49	3

DIVISION 3 SOUTH AND WEST

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DML WOOLWELL II	8	2	0	52	28	17
WESTFIELD II	7	2	1	48	32	16
B @ S GROUP	4	3	3	45	35	11
OXFORD FP CENTRE III	4	2	4	41	39	10
GENERATION 2 II	3	2	5	37	43	9
NWF	3	2	5	37	43	8
BRIGHTON III	2	1	7	31	49	5
FUSION III	1	2	7	29	51	4

DIVISION 4 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SUNDERLAND	9	0	1	64	16	18
PUDSEY	8	1	1	54	26	17
BARNT GREEN	7	1	2	54	26	15
ST MARY'S HULL	7	0	3	56	24	14
ROTHERHAM SCORPIONS II	4	1	5	35	45	9
CHESTERFIELD II	1	2	7	29	51	4
DRUMCHAPEL GLASGOW IV	1	0	9	16	64	2
ISLE OF MAN	0	1	9	12	68	1

DIVISION 4 SOUTH

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRIGHTON CITY	10	0	0	69	11	20
CARRARA POLSKA II	7	0	3	60	20	14
SOUTHAMPTON WEST	6	2	2	52	28	14
DHS LONDON PROGRESS V	6	2	2	46	34	14
DML WOOLWELL III	3	1	6	31	49	7
SEH BRITANNIA IPSWICH II	2	0	8	22	58	4
BYNG HALL II	2	0	8	17	63	4
BATTS TEAM PENIEL III	1	1	8	23	57	3

DIVISION 4 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CRUSADERS	9	0	1	58	22	18
FELLOWS CRANLEIGH	7	1	2	50	30	15
DHS LONDON PROGRESS VI	6	2	2	48	32	14
TTK GREENHOUSE III	4	2	4	43	37	10
ASHFORD III	3	4	3	42	38	10
YORK GARDENS III	3	2	5	37	43	8
UXBRIDGE II	1	1	8	21	59	3
WOODFIELD II	1	0	9	21	59	2



The British League Official Ball

County Notes

Berkshire by Colin Dyke

Having impressively retained their spot in the Senior County Premier Division last season, the Berkshire senior squad of Martin Adams, Dave Barr, Hari Gehlot, Susan Johnson and Mary Allan were on local turf at Cippenham in an attempt to build up some first half points over three matches.

A tough first encounter against Essex, with a side including highly nationally ranked players such as John Holland (15), Abigail Embling (5) and Sara Wang (11), proved too tough with Berkshire going down 2-8. There was an epic victory for Barr over Ashley Stokes 14-12 in the fifth and a great win for Gehlot (12-10 in fifth) over Vytautas Rybakas, ranked inside the top 40. The next encounter against Middlesex proved more fruitful for the girls, with

both Johnson and Allan overturning the Middlesex player, Lindsey Armstrong, in fine style. Despite Gehlot and Adams getting within a whisker of beating Neil Charles, the Berkshire men were unable to significantly build upon this, their only victory being for Barr, who was certainly getting his money's worth, edging out Jimmy Walsh 14-12 in the fifth. 3-7 was the result.

The final match of the weekend was always going to be tough against last year's runners-up, Derbyshire. Another 2-8 defeat ensued with only Adams able to trouble the scorers with good wins over Allan Fullwood and Shaun Marples. Barr narrowly missed out to the talented Sam Perry, whose scintillating backhand attack was at times simply unreturnable, even for the likes of a top defender like Barr.



In the men's semi-finals Adams had beaten Eric Van Looy whilst Banks had a comfortable passage against Ramesh Gehlot. Other contenders fell by the wayside, Krazy Ivanov losing to Banks and Jarred Smith to Gehlot.

It's not all doom and gloom as Leicestershire, like Berkshire, are yet to score a point and Gloucestershire only have one. These will be crucial matches in the second half with two teams targeted for relegation, although the team are also still to play both the top teams in Devon and Sussex.

The Veterans first team picked up just one point in their first two matches. In a 6-4 defeat by Wiltshire, Dave Hilbeck beat Eddie Roofe and Trevor Lloyd, both in five, and Ramesh Gehlot beat Glen Freeman. Gehlot/Hilbeck won the mens doubles 14 in the fifth and it could have been a draw but for Sharon Mitchell's unfortunate 12 in fifth loss to Brenda Baldwin. Geoff Civil/Mitchell then lost the last mixed in five to see the point slip away.

A hard earned draw with Oxfordshire followed coming back from 5-3 down to clinch the point. Gehlot beat Eddie Herry, Civil had a great win in five over Nat Richardson and Hilbeck sneaked home v Herry 11 in fifth. Two mixed doubles successes ensured the point.

Other results: Veterans 3 lost Herefordshire 2nds 3-7, bt. Berkshire 6ths 8-2, lost Middlesex 5ths 2-8
Veterans 5 beat Herefordshire 3rds 9-1, bt. Somerset 3rds 6-4, lost Wiltshire 3rds 4-6
Veterans 6 lost Wiltshire 4ths 3-7, lost to Berkshire 3rds 2-8
Over 60s beat Bedfordshire 8-2, lost to Essex 3-7, drew Herts 5-5, drew Kent 1sts 5-5.

Adams and Allan are County Champions again

Martin Adams and Mary Allan were the winners of the main singles events at the Berkshire County Closed

Championships held recently at the Kingfisher Club. Adams, from Polish Club, won the men's title for the third year running and a record seventh time when he beat Kingfisher's Mark Banks 11-8 11-2 9-11 11-4 in an entertaining final. Allan (Tilehurst Methodists) took the ladies title for the second time beating holder Susan Johnson from OLOP by 11-7 11-6 11-9.

In the men's semi-finals Adams had beaten Eric Van Looy whilst Banks had a comfortable passage against Ramesh Gehlot. Other contenders fell by the wayside, Krazy Ivanov losing to Banks and Jarred Smith to Gehlot.

The men's doubles title was won by Adams and Phil Prady for the third year running when they beat Abhay and Kuldeep Gehlot 7-11 11-9 11-8 11-3. The young Gehlots had proved the giant killers of the tournament, beating Smith/Ivanov and R Gehlot/G Outrim on the way to the final.

Jacquié Lovell and Mary Allan retained their ladies doubles title with an 11-6 10-12 11-5 11-3 win over Jan Wright and Wendy Porter. **Other finals results: Mixed Doubles:** Ramesh Gehlot/Gemma Chapman bt. Mark Banks/Jan Wright 11-7 6-11 11-3 11-8 **Veterans singles:** Ramesh Gehlot bt. Graham Outrim 6-11 12-10 11-7 11-7 **U21 Singles:** Kuldeep Gehlot bt. Abhay Gehlot 11-8 11-4 11-8 **Graded Singles:** A Baker bt. S Purton 11-9 11-5 11-2

Cheshire by Alan Blears

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Kenneth Armson M.B.E. Ken passed away in the early hours of New Year's Day, after being ill for some six months. Everyone who had the pleasure of sharing the enthusiasm he brought to table tennis will miss him greatly. I also regret that another giant of international, national and North West table tennis, Mike Johns is seriously ill, we join with others in wishing Mike and his family the very best of luck in what will be a difficult time ahead.

Local Hero - On a happier note, the Halton club supremo, Karen Tonge, has been presented with a Halton Local Hero award for the dedication to sport in the region.

Besides her club work Karen is chairman of the North West Table Tennis Association, chairman of Sports Volunteering North West and of the Cheshire Playing Fields Association. She has also been known to do a bit of umpiring! Amazingly, she has also made the sports pages of the football-obsessed "Manchester Evening News", an almost unprecedented feat for table tennis!

County Championships - With the first round complete most Cheshire teams are doing well, with several in with a chance of promotion. **Veterans 1A:** - The first team leads, with the second team in fourth place. **Seniors 2A:** - Cheshire are fifth.

Juniors 1A: - Cheshire are second, but only one point separates the top four teams. **Junior 2A:** - The county were second after round 1, but may have slipped back, round 2 having been played. **Cadets 1A:** - Cheshire are second.

National Junior League North West After round 2,

Stockport's Hillcourt 'A' are untouchable in Division 1 South, but to Macclesfield's David Bruce goes the honour of being the only player to have won a set against them out of 60.

Summary of results from Round 1: - Premier Division - Preston 'A' and Wirral 'A' lead having won all their matches, from which you can guess they still have to play each other. A battle royal looms. Preston's Matthew Williams has 100% from 12. **"The Mummy"** She may not be as old as Tutankhamen, nor attract as much attention, but Stockport's former junior star, Karen Shepherd, is now also a mummy! She has a daughter, Kaitlyn - "a lovely little girl". Just like her mum, then! Although her table tennis career is briefly on hold, I'm sure it won't be long before ... "The Mummy Returns".

Cumbria by Gordon Brown

A national honour came the way of a Furness youngster, when the 12-year-old from Ulverston Victoria High School, Connor Brockbank, won table tennis gold at the Norwich Union National Junior Disability Games at Stoke Mandeville. Connor, who also had success at other sports at the Games, said: "Table tennis is my top sport, so I was delighted to get gold." He plays at Barrow Table Tennis Centre and Hoops Centre in the town.

Two years ago, a trophy competition was launched at Barrow Table Tennis Centre in memory of popular local coach Dave Southam. In those two years of slogging it out by the area's top primary schools, only one name has appeared on the trophy, known as the Dave Southam Memorial Trophy, that name is St Columba's Boys, who were again invited by top local coach Duncan Crawford to contest the trophy with Askam, Our Lady's, Dane Ghyll and Holy Family. Askam started with an 8-0 win over Our Lady's, then Dane Ghyll beat Holy Family 6-2, St Columba's Boys beat their own girls 8-0, Askam beat Holy Family 7-1, Dane Ghyll beat St Columba's Girls 5-3, St Columba's Boys beat Our Lady's 8-0, Our Lady's and St Columba's Girls drew 4-4, Askam beat Dane Ghyll 8-0, St Columba's Boys beat Holy Family 7-1, Holy Family beat Our Lady's 6-2, St Columba's beat Dane Ghyll 8-0, Askam beat St Columba's Girls 8-0, Holy Family beat St Columba's Girls 6-2 and Dane Ghyll beat Our Lady's 5-3.

The highlight was the clash in the last round of games between the two unbeaten sides, St Columba's Boys and Askam, with the former winning 5-3. Hats off individually to St Columba's Boys' players Stefan Weatherburn and Oliver Shipley, who remained unbeaten throughout the contest. Weatherburn has also been among the stars so far in Barrow's opening round of matches in the National Junior Premier League, with colleagues Ben and Jake Perry and Ryan Smith equally shining as the side have won four of their five opening matches. Luke Walker, 10, who was in the Askam team in the Dave Southam competition, is also hitting the high spots and was one of the favourites for the Cumbria U11 Championships, which he has won previously.

Derbyshire by Neil Houghton

Not been up to Teesside for a while but hear the Staveley lads have been making their mark up at the Stockton Junior Open. Liam lost 9-11 in fifth in the Junior Final and earlier Sean joined him in the England team winning the cadet team event! The Cadet Singles followed a regular pattern of talented Danny Lowe and the above two all in semi-finals, finishing with a 3-1 win in the final for Liam with Sean runner-up. Emma Vickers was also in action for England, apparently losing in the singles semi to a Peniel adopted Chinese but winning the U18s team final! The seniors have also been in action in this season's first Premier weekend. The first match against Devon was lost 3-7 then a result of 8-2 against Berkshire, finishing v Gloucestershire with a 7-3 win! With close matches all round, this left them lower than expected, fourth. Les commented that against Devon we lost four sets with a net on final point. I always say it helps to have good players, but you do need luck to win in team events!

East Midland Ranking Trials

It seems that the Ranking Trials event was a similar damp squib to recent years, but fairly well supported by Derbyshire players. The absent ingredient is a chance of a place in the Masters by this route. It was very pleasing to hear of Ronan Kelly winning U11s which reportedly was of a very high standard! Abi Millwain winning the U15 girls was also a good result! Ben Goodwin (Cromford) was fourth in U15s while other Chesterfield players going over were Oliver Hampson in U15s, Danny Burton third in U13s and two Isobels, Ashley and Hampson, finishing second and third in Under 13s with Jayden Budworth third in U11s. Well done!

Into the second half of season now and a few important fixtures are coming up, including the Junior County, plus the Derby Schools tournaments which are on again most months and the Derbyshire Schools Individuals are imminent, so get your entry in - phone Les if in doubt. Remember for county events and any

event come to that, including league fixtures and any casual match - if a player can't make it to a team, it is polite and honorable to tell the team captain ASAP, which for county means tell Les Allwood as soon as a player knows so he can inform the NPC. The later it is and if two or three drop out, the less likely it is that the next listed player will have the date free, which will cause problems!

Devon by John Smith

A record 37 teams entered the Devon Schools Teams Championships at Eggbuckland Community College in Plymouth, highlighting the very healthy state of junior table tennis in the county.

Devonport High School for Girls, with three of the top four county juniors, unsurprisingly took the U19 girl's title. Runners-up in the final two years ago, they will again be the county's leading hopes for national honours.

Also at U19 level, the boys from Torquay, with two county players of their own, pipped St Boniface from Plymouth 5-3, despite two wins from the event's topped ranked player, Chris Smith.

The thriving Ilfracombe club enabled the local school to become the only double title holders, winning both U13 boys & U16 girls. Full results were as follows:-

U11 Boys' Winners: St Peters RC (Plymouth). R/U Okehampton.

U11 Girls' Winners: Yealmpstone Farm (Plymouth). R/U St Peters RC (Plymouth).

U13 Boys' Winners: Ilfracombe. R/U Exmouth.

U16 Boys' Winners: King Edward VI College (Totnes). R/U Ilfracombe.

U16 Girls' Winners: Ilfracombe. R/U Exmouth.

U19 Boys' Winners: Torquay. R/U St Boniface (Plymouth).

U19 Girls' Winners: Devonport High School (Plymouth). R/U Eggbuckland (Plymouth).

All the county teams, & the county's leading club, Woolwell, are now looking immeasurably smarter with new Stiga kit provided with assistance from Thorntons Sport & Leisure.

With the first teams in their respective

premier divisions, both junior & senior county second teams were optimistic of promotion to division one this season. The very strong senior team are well on their way after a first day at Okehampton left them unbeaten, with 100% performances from Liz May & Mike Hugh, and only five sets dropped. However, a weakened junior team slipped up at Taunton, losing 4-6 to unbeaten Worcestershire & drawing with Avon II, so have a mountain to climb on the final day at Evesham in January. Following in the footsteps of clubmate David Wetherill, Woolwell's Krysten Coombs has been invited to join the Talent Group training towards the 2012 Paralympics.

Durham by Kevin Wilson

Vince Lombardi, one of the top all time American Football coaches, once said that "it's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get back up", and this is certainly the case for both the Durham junior and veteran county teams after their respective first weekends in the county championships. The junior team finished fourth in Division 1A last season and with all four of their players still eligible for the competition, went into the first weekend of this season's championships with their sights fixed firmly on a return to the Premier Division after a three year absence. The boys in particular look strong this year. Led by England number 20 Mark Simpson and with brothers Graeme and Anthony Barella at numbers 2 and 3, there appears to be no weak link. Sarah Robinson is once again the county's top girl and is this season joined by Eszter Soos at number 2.

The weekend started brightly with a 6-4 victory against Cheshire. The boys were dominant in this match winning all six of their games against Josh Bolt, Matthew Weatherby and Jake Shaw. However, they tasted defeat in their second match against Yorkshire, going down 6-4. Kim Daybell proved to be the thorn in the boys side as he defeated Mark Simpson and Anthony Barella, though both recovered to take their

The weekend started brightly with a 6-4 victory against Cheshire. The boys were dominant in this match winning all six of their games against Josh Bolt, Matthew Weatherby and Jake Shaw. However, they tasted defeat in their second match against Yorkshire, going down 6-4.

second matches. Graeme Barella put up the best resistance as he won twice, but the girls were unable to add to the scoreline.

The final match of the day pitted Durham against Warwickshire and our players bounced back well from the defeat to take a 7-3 victory. Once again the boys showed their class winning all six of their singles and Sarah Robinson completed the scoring with her first victory of the day. So, with two victories and a single defeat from the day's play, the team will be slightly disappointed with their position but promotion is still on the cards and one thing is certain about our players, they won't give up!

At the other end of the age scale the veterans county team were also in action in Division 2A of their County Championships. Without their number 1 player, Tony Gelder, the weekend looked to be a tough one and so it proved. In their opening match Durham lost 7-3 against Bedfordshire, with Keith Weatherby putting up the best resistance in winning his two matches. Dave Bissett was the other victor. The second match proved more successful as the team managed to hold Worcester 2nds to a 5-5 draw. Keith Weatherby continued his fine form winning twice and then teamed up with Shirley Gelder to take the doubles. Shirley had a good match too, producing an excellent victory in her singles and Allan Thompson completed the scoring for Durham with a single win.

This was, however, to prove the high point of the weekend, as the team were beaten in their last two matches 6-4 and 8-2 by Norfolk 2nds and Northants respectively. Against Norfolk Weatherby, Gelder and Bissett all won once and Weatherby and Thompson combined to take the doubles as the team just missed out on what would have been a well earned point. The defeat to Northants would be classed as forgettable were it not for a superb performance from Dave Bissett who got the better of the much higher ranked Steve Silk. So, bottom after the first weekend with just one point, the team will be hoping for better next time around if they are to retain their place in this division next season.

Next month; Senior British League (Premier and non-Premier)

Essex by Steve Kerns

Batts Super League - BATTs legend Neil Brierley takes up the

story - "A scintillating night of table tennis at the BATTs Club in early December surpassed all previous meetings in terms of the sheer quality of players on show. No top Hungarians this time, but four superb Chinese players, plus the elegant and unassuming Ryan Jenkins, and Pan Li-Chun, world ranked no. 143 lady and Chinese Taipei national squad team member. She is also the niece of former English Open champion Tong Fei Ming.

More of Ms Li-Chun later, but suffice to say at this stage that this slight, perhaps shy lady, unknown to virtually everyone in the hall, proceeded with minimal fuss to cut a swath through the finest players in her half of the draw.

All 16 seeds came safely through the first round. An early taste of things to come came in round two as Pan beat Abdul Wuraola 11-3 in the fifth end of a superb match. The clash of the Scots saw Euan Liddle triumph 12-10 in the fifth over debutant Niall Cameron. Notable too was the performance of Ashley Stokes taking the young, supremely gifted Wang Zheng (look out for his Kong Linghui forehand swing) to a fifth set before losing.

Round three saw wins for Jenkins over Xu Shuying, Pan over Dale Barham, Wang Zheng over John Holland and the new London Progress no 1 Hong Ming Zhang against Euan Liddle. Testimony to the strength in depth of the tournament, this round also saw round two losers Abdul Wuraola and Neil Charles playing off for positions nine to sixteen.

Round four (semi-final stage), with uniquely three top Asians in the draw, saw the match of the tournament. If Jenkins was under any illusion that Pan Li-Chun was fortunate to reach this stage, it was quickly dispelled as she raced into a two game lead. The Welsh wizard won the third end 11-9, stormed through the fourth 11-4, but Pan led throughout the fifth. Blocking and hitting close to the table it was a real contrast to Ryan's fierce looping from both wings and she emerged victorious by 11 points to 7.

Unfairly, but understandably, the first semi-final rather overshadowed the second one between Hong Ming Zhang and Wang Zheng in terms of real drama. Just as in the British League Premier Division and at the Medway Grand Prix, Hong Ming was victorious over the new BATTs Team Peniel number 1, in a match of the highest quality. The slim Progress star duly won the final against Pan in four games. His fierce forehand looping and lightening fast smashes must rate him as one of the finest players to grace the BATTs Club since we started out in 1994. He is certainly on a par with Robert Pagonyi, Ding Yi and Carl Prean - perhaps the most illustrious of the big-name players to triumph at the BATTs Super League since its inception.

Fast improving Ashley Stokes also caught the eye with wins over Niall Cameron and Clive Carthy. Congratulations are also due to Hieu Thanh Ngo, Will Cooney and Jide Owalabi for high finishing places on their debuts.

Thanks are extended to Alex and Val Murdoch for coming along (and doing a lot of umpiring as well) and thanks at this festive time of year go to Barry Granger, Fred Dove, John

Jennings and Pat O'Bryne for all their hard work".

Footnote - many players in Essex have questioned Matt Syed's list of the Top Ten players in England. There is a lot of feeling that Chester Barnes should be ranked a lot higher than number nine and some people have even said that in terms of raw talent Barnes should be at number one! Over to you Matthew!

Hampshire by Jeremy Wilson

Miki Sinanan has continued his excellent season by becoming Hampshire men's singles champion for the first time. Sinanan reached the final with a four-set win against Brian Hayes before taking on tournament favourite and former champion Mark Butler. Sinanan, though, produced a level of consistency that Butler was unable to match, producing his best on the decisive points to win in straight sets, 11-7, 11-8, 11-9. Hayes made up for the disappointment of losing in the men's semi-finals by partnering Anthony Johnson to victory over father and son combination, Chris and Glen Wilshere, in the men's doubles final. Johnson also defeated Wilshere Jnr in the intermediate (U23) singles final, running out a narrow 3-1 winner. The ladies singles was won by Matilde Sillard, who defeated Annabelle Morle in the final. Sillard was also victorious with partner Trunk Tran in the mixed doubles over Morle and Hayes. Morle, however, gained some revenge in the ladies' doubles, defeating Sillard and Tressa Armitage in a close final with partner Sue Tompsett. The veterans' events were won by Rod McMullan and Barbara Savage, with Nick Webb and Sue Purton the beaten finalists. In the junior championships, Garth Kinlocke continued his outstanding improvement this season by winning the U18 championships. Kinlocke, who has moved into the top 70 in the England men's rankings, defeated Ruihao Zhang in the final 11-7, 11-9, 11-6. Annabelle Morle beat Tressa Armitage in the junior girls' singles, while the cadet singles events were won by Armitage and Jonathon Evans. Evans

and Armitage teamed up to win the cadet doubles, while Morle and Becky House triumphed in the junior doubles. Armitage made it a brilliant hat-trick of titles in the U13 singles with George Downing winning the boys' U13 event. Hampshire's outstanding junior team, meanwhile, have made a strong start in defence of the Premier Division county junior championships. The squad was weakened slightly for the first round of group matches as Matt Ware and Hannah Hicks were both playing abroad, but the team of Garth Kinlocke, David McBeath, Becky House, Annabelle Morle and Ruihao Zhang were still unbeaten throughout the weekend. They picked up victories against Sussex (8-2), Yorkshire (10-0) and Hertfordshire (7-3). Zhang and Morle were both undefeated throughout the weekend. It leaves Hampshire top of the table ahead of the next round of matches in March. Last year the team became the most successful in the history of Hampshire table tennis by winning the national title. In inter-town competition, Bournemouth lead the Hampshire junior division following the first round of matches, with Matt Haynes and Steve Foster both undefeated. Bournemouth also won the cadet league, defeating Gosport and Fareham 8-2 in the decisive match.

Hertfordshire by Ann Fereday

At last some stronger Hertfordshire men have turned over 60, so the results for the Over 60s team on its first outing to Ashford in November were an improvement on previous years. On the Saturday the team was Stuart Seaholme, Dennis Robinson, Geof Bax, Larry Gregory and Sue Felstead. On Sunday the lady was Jackie Channel. While they lost to both Kent 1 and Essex by 6 - 4 on day one, this was closer

In the men's semi-finals Adams had beaten Eric Van Looy whilst Banks had a comfortable passage against Ramesh Gehlot. Other contenders fell by the wayside, Krasny Ivanov losing to Banks and Jarred Smith to Gehlot.

than former results against these counties. Versus Kent, Stuart won both his singles and Sue beat Pam Butcher 12-10 in the fifth game. The other win came from Dennis versus Essex the men - Stuart, Dennis and Geof won one each. The remaining win was a mixed for Sue and Dennis. Then they drew 5 - 5 with Berkshire. Stuart won 2, Dennis 1, Larry 1 and Mens Doubles for Stuart and Larry. Day 2 brought some bigger points with a 6 - 4 win v Surrey and an even better 8 - 2 v Bedfordshire. Jackie Channel won her singles in both matches.

Three of the over 40 veteran teams played in December. Team 2 suffered a setback when newly returned Derek Balding found his bad back too much of a handicap in the first match and withdrew. They then lost 8 - 2 to Essex 5. A big thank you goes to Alan Lamprell who was phoned and turned up to play in the second match. He won one to help the team draw 5 - 5 with Surrey 3. Team 3 went to New Malden Hampshire fielding 2 substitutes. They all found the venue most pleasant, putting them in such a good mood they beat Middlesex 3 by 6 - 4 and Berks 2 by 6 - 4. The captain was Dennis Robinson with team 3 member Jim Craggs. The very good subs were Dave Langham and Mary Nicholls. Team 6 did not like their venue at all. It would have been a good place to sing 'In the bleak mid winter', it was so cold, said their captain Dave Wilson. They lost 8 - 2 to Cambs 2 and 9 - 1 to Berks 4. Shame, this team did much better last year. Let's hope for happier results in their remaining matches.

Northumberland by Pauline Long

The Veterans county team were, unfortunately, forced to concede their first series of Division 1A matches against Cheshire II, Hertfordshire I and Worcester I over the weekend of 10-11th

November as they were unable to raise a team. Eddie Smith and Dave Godbold were both working and "Benny" Robertson was in Turkey, leaving only Geoff Salter and Christine Burke available for selection.

This was a big blow to any promotion hopes we might have had, as both Eddie and Dave are nationally ranked in the country's top ten players and the men in general would probably have been expected to win most of their games in this division, as well as assisting with some mixed doubles wins. We can only hope that we can do enough in the second series of matches to at least stay in the division.

The seniors were due to play their first series of matches at Wellow School over the weekend of 15-16th December and this team of Eddie, Andrew Wilkinson, Dave, Caron Guthrie and Pauline Long (replacing the unavailable Christine) were at least more or less at full strength. They were also competing in Division 1A against Lancashire, Nottinghamshire, Cleveland, Yorkshire and South Yorkshire.

The Northumbria League representative side of Dave Godbold and Bart Vermoesen went out at the first group stage of the Wilmott Cup men's team competition.

Playing under the new format of two singles each and a doubles, they edged out the Sunderland League team of Kevin Wilson and Andrew Leighton 3-2, with Dave winning two sets and Bart one. However, the Stockton League side of Darren McVitie and Welsh international, Mark Simon, proved too strong and beat Northumbria 3-0 to advance to the next stage. Following on from last month's report on our additions to the Board of Directors in charge of league and county affairs, we have now welcomed Nigel Rodgers as an additional member to bring our current strength up to ten members in total.

Warwickshire by Caroline Williams

The 2007/08 Warwickshire Championships were held on Sunday November 18th at the St. Nicholas Sports Centre in Warwick. From a large entry, Michael Browne from Birmingham was the new name for the Men's Singles champion, though Steven Bertie was runner-up for the second year running. Andy Lebutt took the Veteran Singles title against Michael Browne in a repeat of last year's final. Helen Turner won the Ladies Singles, overcoming last season's winner Rachel Pilgrim, and Helen also won the Ladies Doubles. However, Rachel retained both her Junior Singles title and her Mixed Doubles title with Ian Packford for a third consecutive year. Jack Williamson from Rugby picked up both the Cadet and Junior Boys' titles.

Men's Singles: Michael Browne bt. Steven Bertie **Ladies Singles:** Helen Turner bt. Rachel Pilgrim **Men's Doubles:** Dave Grundy/Andy Lebutt bt. Ian Packford/Earl Sweeney **Ladies Doubles:** Sarah Riach / Helen Turner bt. Samantha Apostol / Charlotte Spencer **Mixed Doubles:** Rachel Pilgrim / Ian Packford bt. Samantha Apostol / Paul Savins **Veteran Singles:** Andy Lebutt bt. Michael Browne **Over 50 Singles:** Phil Paine bt. Mike Bridgeman **Over 60 Singles:** Graham Hoskin bt. Bill Fletcher **Veteran Doubles:** Dave Grundy / Andy Lebutt bt.

Simon Griew / Nilton Green **Junior Boys' Singles:** Jack Williamson bt. Alan Caffrey **Junior Girls' Singles:** Rachel Pilgrim bt. Charlotte Spencer **Cadet Boys' Singles:** Jack Williamson bt. Matthew Outhwaite **Cadet Girls' Singles:** Sanika Karandikar bt. Jessica Birbeck **U13 Boys' Singles:** Matthew Outhwaite bt. Ian Anson **U11 Boys' Singles:** Simon Thompson bt. Leo Twigg **Junior Boys' Doubles:** Alan Caffrey / Tom May bt. Jack Randle / Matthew Outhwaite **Men's Restricted:** Jason Adams bt. Nabil Kalfey **Ladies Restricted:** Charlotte Spencer bt. Jessica Birbeck **Junior Boys' Restricted:** Perry Nash bt. Shane Gales

South Yorkshire by Robert Loxley

Exciting news has recently broken in the South Yorkshire county following Peter Charters' recent visit to the Stockton junior 4* tournament. Having noted some eye catching performances from two of the county's youngest prospects, Peter invited 12 year old Eric Wan and Laura Robinson (13) to attend the next under 15s' England training camp to be held at Lilleshall in early December. Alan Lowe and Matt Kenny, who have contributed a great deal of personal time to Eric, were delighted to hear of the opportunity being afforded to them. Lowe also takes Laura for personal tuition on a weekly basis and both of these promising youngsters regularly attend Lowe's sessions at the English Institute for Sport based in Sheffield. "Laura's outstanding league results have also been a factor in the selection process, she currently ranks top of the leading scorer's list, with 24/30 in division four of the Sheffield League", commented Lowe, the county's sole level 4 coach. Twenty year old Lisa Radford's second division hat-trick not only dented the records of Vulcan D's Cliff Glaves, Aidan Keyworth and Dave Gascoyne, but moved Wadsley Bridge A into third spot in a division in which only the top two are promoted. Lisa, a Plymouth born left-hander, currently ranked 22 in England's senior list and studying Mechanical Engineering at Sheffield University, teamed up with Mark Seddon to win the doubles in the Sheffield Table Tennis League. It was Seddon who made sure of both points for the visitors with a brace. Keyworth, the division's seventh highest scorer, made the biggest impact for the hosts as he finished with a brace of his own.

Adrian Elson's timely appearance for HSBC A against division three leaders, Vulcan F, brought dividends as he registered a hat-trick to inflict the first defeat on the Attercliffe based side. Guy Rothery (2) and Alan Jenkins (1) provided the support in a 6-4 win, which takes the bankers to within one point of pole position. Steve Parkinson produced the host's best effort as he launched them into an early 3-1 lead. Parkinson had notched a hat-trick of his own in an earlier drawn fixture at Crookes G, where Alan Harding and Craig Smith both scored braces to peg back the leaders. In division six, Vulcan P's perfect record came to an end with an 8-2 thrashing at the hands of second placed Abbeydale F, as Mick Ward took a maximum and Rob Childs and John Howlett scored two each. Second placed Crookes A lost the biggest

match of their season together with an unbeaten run of eleven games, as they crashed 8-2 to defending champions and leaders Stocksbridge Rugby A, in the top flight of the league. In a contest where three of the players were attempting to secure their unbeaten runs, only Stocksbridge's Matt Kenny emerged unscathed, beating Shaun Marples 11-4 in the decider. Later in the match, Marples defeated the reigning Sheffield singles champion Stephen Horsfield 11-4 in the fifth. Stocksbridge appear to be irresistible favourites to take their seventh consecutive title as they lead the division by four points.

Surrey by Chris Andrews

At the World Junior Table Tennis Championships, England Boys came fifth with Darius Knight playing at the number two position.

Darius Knight and his doubles partner Paul Drinkhall made it through to the first round of the German Open. Gillingham's Butterfly Medway Grand Prix saw Dele Ayoola as the runner-up in the Men's Band 3 event.

In the Wandsworth and District Table Tennis League, York Gardens A top the table in Division 1, with Laikram Persaud on 100%. Crescent A top Division 2 with Martin Bax on 100%. Division 3 sees Vale C at the head of the table with Ray Endean of XXIV B and Peng Cheng of Wilton B sharing the top of the averages, both having won ten out of twelve matches. Vale D and XXIV E top Divisions 4 and 5 respectively. The top Surrey team in the British Veterans' League is Graham Spicer 1 and David Bangerter is their best player. The Surrey Cadet 1st team beat Sussex 3rd team 10-0. The Surrey Junior II team beat Buckinghamshire's II team and Kent II team. However, they lost to Dorset's 1st team and Sussex's 3rd team. The Surrey Veterans' 3rd team beat Buckinghamshire's II team and drew with Cambridge's 1st team.

Sussex by Graham Carter

The Sussex senior first team has made the perfect start to the defence of their

County Championships title after remaining unbeaten in their opening three matches.

They hold a narrow one-game lead at the top of the Premier Division after beating Leicestershire 6-4, demolishing Gloucestershire 9-1 and holding main rivals Devon to a 5-5 draw during a session of matches at Cippenham. Congratulations to the whole team of captain Ritchie Venner, Nigel Eckersley and Adrian Moore, who was unbeaten throughout, Rose Rainton and Sarah Stedman for another superb effort. With one more series of matches to play next year in Grantham, they are level on points at the top with Devon and Middlesex.

Sussex II also made an excellent start to their campaign and are top of Division Two after gaining two wins and a draw at Tunbridge Wells. Harry McCarney made a fine debut to win five out of six, having been promoted from the thirds. Player-coach Marc Burman was outstanding to remain unbeaten in six matches as Sussex II trounced Kent II 10-0, overcame their own third team 6-4 and drew 5-5 with Kent's first team. Lisa Standen won five out of six for Sussex III, who beat Kent II 6-4 and only lost 7-3 to the Kent first team. Johnny Clarke became the hero of Sussex Veterans when he stepped up from the second team to replace first team skipper Peter Bartram at the Premier weekend in Halifax. The former Sussex men's singles champion won five out of six matches to help them achieve fourth place in the tough Premier Division after their opening matches, having returned to the top flight as Division One champions.

Sussex suffered a disappointing opening match setback against reigning champions Leicestershire, going down 6-4, but they bounced back in fine style to beat Lancashire 8-2, and Devon 9-1. Clarke gained several wins against higher-rated opposition, including Keith Fellows and Dave Gannon, while Venner won five out of six playing at no.1 and King won two out of three singles.

Yorkshire by Barry Snowden

Yorkshire Regional Junior Trials - The Yorkshire regional trials were held at the marvellous Halifax Table Tennis Centre on the first day of December, with six events being held at under 11, 13 and 15 age groups in both genders in the regional round of the ETTA talent identification programme.

Although South Yorkshire provided four of the six group winners with three players in each category qualifying for the national finals, it was the YTTA who provided the greater number of qualifiers confirming the strength in depth of the YTTA.

The under 15 boys was the pick of the events staged and was a success for South Yorkshire Scorpions' player James Grayson, who was the deserved winner having remained unbeaten throughout the group stage and the final.

Yorkshire players James Atkins from Leeds and Doncaster's Chris Hazard took the remaining two qualifying places, which saw Yorkshire trials' top players Reece Lo from Hull and Scarborough's exciting prospect Tom Harrington miss out at the group stages.

The under 15 girls event was won by another South Yorkshire player, as Laura Robinson won all four of her sets which was played out in a round robin, but once again the two remaining qualifying places were filled by YTTA players as Hull player Gemma Cundill took second spot, reversing the order of the YTTA trials by relegating Alex Lee to third place.

Worth mentioning in this category were the fourth and fifth players, two Scarborough girls Jennifer Wood and Jessica West, who were not just there to make up the numbers and mixed it well with the three qualifiers.

In the girls U13 event, the YTTA had a winner as Scarborough player Rhianna Wood took the event from fellow YTTA trials qualifiers Nicole Finn from Leeds and Halifax's Georgia Rose.



KARINA LEFEVRE

Birth date: 27/5/57

Residence: England

Current World Ranking: England: Cadet no 1 Junior no 6, Senior No 13

Current Europe Ranking: Cadet no 72

Interesting Facts - Karina has surged up the national rankings following some spectacular performances. Including victory at the Liverpool Butterfly Grand Prix, where Karina came from an unseeded position to beat Lindsey Thornton-Reynolds (England senior no 6) in the Women's singles final plus some superb victories at the UK School games in Coventry. These results and others have taken Karina to no 1 cadet spot in England.

Player Rankings 2007/2008

TOP 25 SENIOR MEN

Ranking	Player
1.	DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)
2.	PERRY, Alex (DV.) 5585
3.	RUSHTON, Andrew (LA.)
4.	KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)
5.	HERBERT, Gareth (BK.)
6.	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
7.	REED, Daniel (CV.)
8.	YARNALL, Tim (NP.)
9.	PREAN, Carl (IW.)
10.	MEADS, David (DU.)
11.	YOUNG, Terry (BK.)
12.	BRYANT, Craig (DV.)
13.	TRUMPAUSKAS, Lawrence (E.)
14.	BARHAM, Dale (CA.)
15.	MARSDEN, Michael (DU.)
16.	EVANS, Bradley (BU.)
17.	HOLLAND, John J (Dy) (E.)
18.	KENNY, Mathew (Y.)
19.	NOAH, Hubert (E.)
20.	DOLDER, Kevin (LA.)
21.	SMITH, Mark Richard (Y.)
22.	MA, Justin (YS.)
23.	NICHOLLS, Damien (SP.)
24.	ESSOMBA, Marco (SY.)
25.	VENNER, Ritchie (SX.)

TOP 5 JUNIOR BOYS

Ranking	Player
1.	DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)
2.	KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)
3.	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
4.	WARE, Mathew (DO.)
5.	PITCHFORD, Liam (DY.)

TOP 5 CADET BOYS

Ranking	Player
1.	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
2.	PITCHFORD, Liam (DY.)
3.	LOWE, Daniel (DY.)
4.	CULLEN, Sean (DY.)
5.	BARELLA, Graeme (DU.)

TOP 5 UNDER 13 BOYS

Ranking	Player
1.	ZILESNICK, Zac (ML.)
2.	WALKER, Sam (NG.)
3.	WEERASINGHE, Helshan (SX.)
4.	ADEBANJO, Azarel (E.)
5.	WILSON, Ross (K.)

TOP 5 VETERAN MEN

Ranking	Player
1.	VENNER, Ritchie (SX.)
2.	WURAOLA, Abdul (SY.)
3.	ECKERSLEY, Nigel (SX.)
4.	KENNEDY, Joe (K) (E.)
5.	WILLIAMS, Keith (LA.)

TOP 25 SENIOR WOMEN

Ranking	Player
1.	SIBLEY, Kelly (WA.)
2.	PARKER, Joanna (SY.)
3.	BAWDEN, Natalie (E.)
4.	EMBLING, Abigail (E.)
5.	REYNOLDS, Lindsey (LA.)
6.	KEAST, Lesley (LI.)
7.	SMITH, Karen (LE.)
8.	VICKERS, Emma (DY.)
9.	WANG, Sarra (E.)
10.	JAMIESON, Rachel (E.)
11.	RAINTON, Rosemary (SX.)
12.	WILSON, Naomi (SO.)
13.	LEFEVRE, Karina (CV.)
14.	COHEN, Michele (WI.)
15.	BATES, Emily (LI.)
16.	VICKERS, Jane (DY.)
17.	CLEMENTS, Sanya (DO.)
18.	HOWARD, Alice (CH.)
19.	DONNELLY, Stephanie (CV.)
20.	FARQUHAR, Melanie (BK.)
21.	HALLAWS, Caroline (CH.)
22.	RADFORD, Lisa (DV.)
23.	HICKS, Hannah (HA.)
24.	MAY, Elizabeth (DV.)
25.	CHAPMAN, Gemma (BK.)

TOP 5 JUNIOR GIRLS

Ranking	Player
1.	VICKERS, Emma (DY.)
2.	SPRINGTHORPE, Lauren (LI.)
3.	WANG, Sarra (E.)
4.	JAMIESON, Rachel (E.)
5.	HALLAWS, Caroline (CH.)

TOP 5 CADET GIRLS

Ranking	Player
1.	LEFEVRE, Karina (CV.)
2.	BATES, Emily (LI.)
3.	SUNDARARAJAN, Ayonija (BK.)
4.	SLATER, Natalie (ST.)
5.	TRAVIS, Martha (CO.)

TOP 5 UNDER 13 GIRLS

Ranking	Player
1.	BATES, Emily (LI.)
2.	HO, Tin-Tin (MI.)
3.	DAWSON, Jessica (CV.)
4.	MARCH, Bethany (E.)
5.	SMITH, Victoria (DV.)

TOP 5 VETERAN WOMEN

Ranking	Player
1.	SMITH, Karen (LE.)
2.	HARPER, Sandra (BD.)
3.	MUDGE, Kim (K) (SY.)
4.	LOCKE, Gillian (E.)
5.	KING, Sheila (SX.)



For the full list of player rankings go to our website

www.etta.co.uk



Dates for your diary

Table Tennis events for March 2008



2007/2008 COPY DATES

March Issue

Copy Deadline: 04 Feb
Advertising Deadline: 29 Jan

April Issue

Copy Deadline: 03 Mar
Advertising Deadline: 25 Feb

May Issue

Copy Deadline: 07 Apr
Advertising Deadline: 31 Mar

June Issue

Copy Deadline: 05 May
Advertising Deadline: 28 Apr

Saturday 15th:

- Cadet - C. Championships (3)
- Junior- County Championships (6)
County Premier (2)
- Senior - County Championships (7)
County Premier (2)
- Veteran - VETTS Northern Masters,
Blackpool C.Championships

Sunday 16th:

- Cadet - National Cadet League (4)
- Junior/Senior - County Premier (2)
- Senior - County Championships (7)
- Veteran - VETTS Northern Masters

Monday 17th:

- Other - Masters Invitational,
Albert Hall

Saturday 22nd:

- Veteran - C.C. Over 60's Div 1B

Sunday 23rd:

- Cadet - County Championships (3)
- Junior - Stockport 2 Star
- Veteran - C.C. Over 60's Div 1B

Other:

- Friday 28th - 30th**
- Senior - National Championships
- Friday 14th - 16th**
- Cadet/Junior - Six Nations, Guernsey

Saturday 1st

- Junior - National Junior League (4)
- Senior - Women's British League (1)
- Other - ESTTA National Team Finals

Sunday 2nd:

- Junior - Stiga 2 Star, Halton
- Senior - Women's British League (1)
- Veteran - Cippenham 2 Star

Saturday 8th:

- Cadet - City of Derby & Jarvis Sports 4 Star
- Senior - North Herts 2 Star Satellite GP

Sunday 9th:

- Junior- City of Derby & Jarvis Sports 4 Star
- Senior- North Herts 2 Star Satellite GP
- Veteran - C.C. Over 60's - Draycott

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