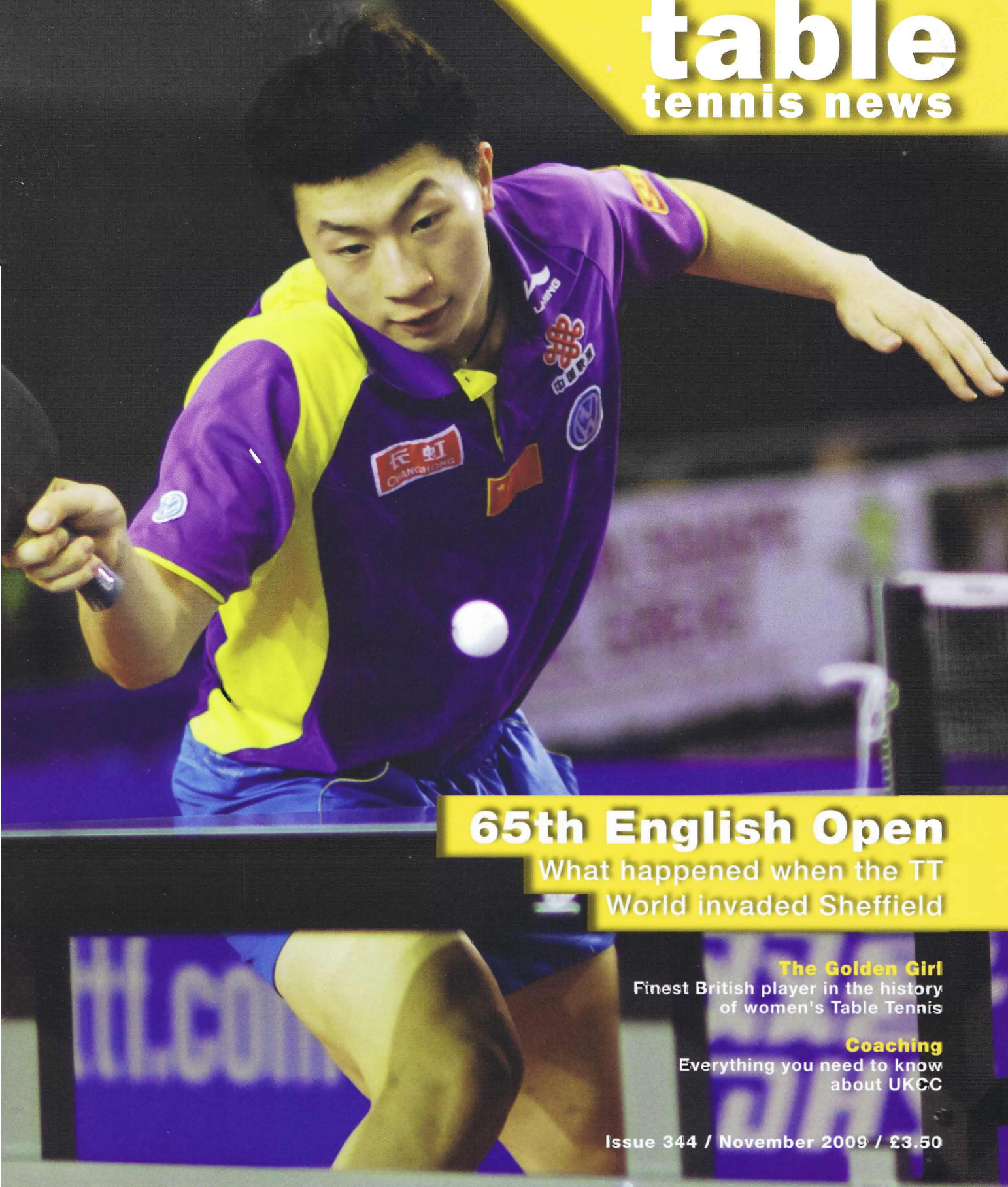


table tennis news



65th English Open

What happened when the TT
World invaded Sheffield

The Golden Girl

Finest British player in the history
of women's Table Tennis

Coaching

Everything you need to know
about UKCC

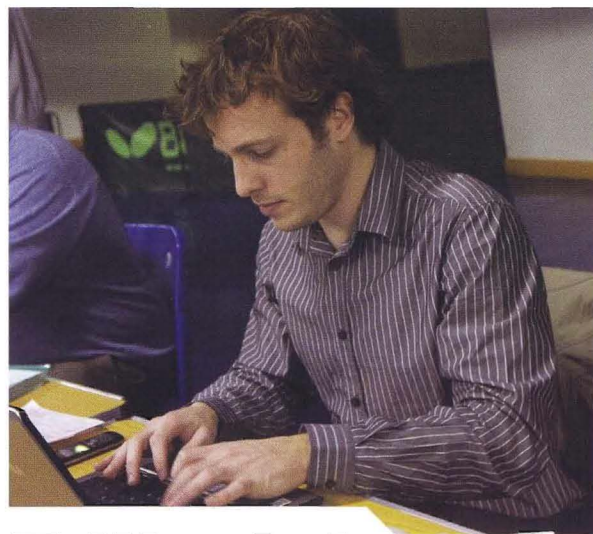
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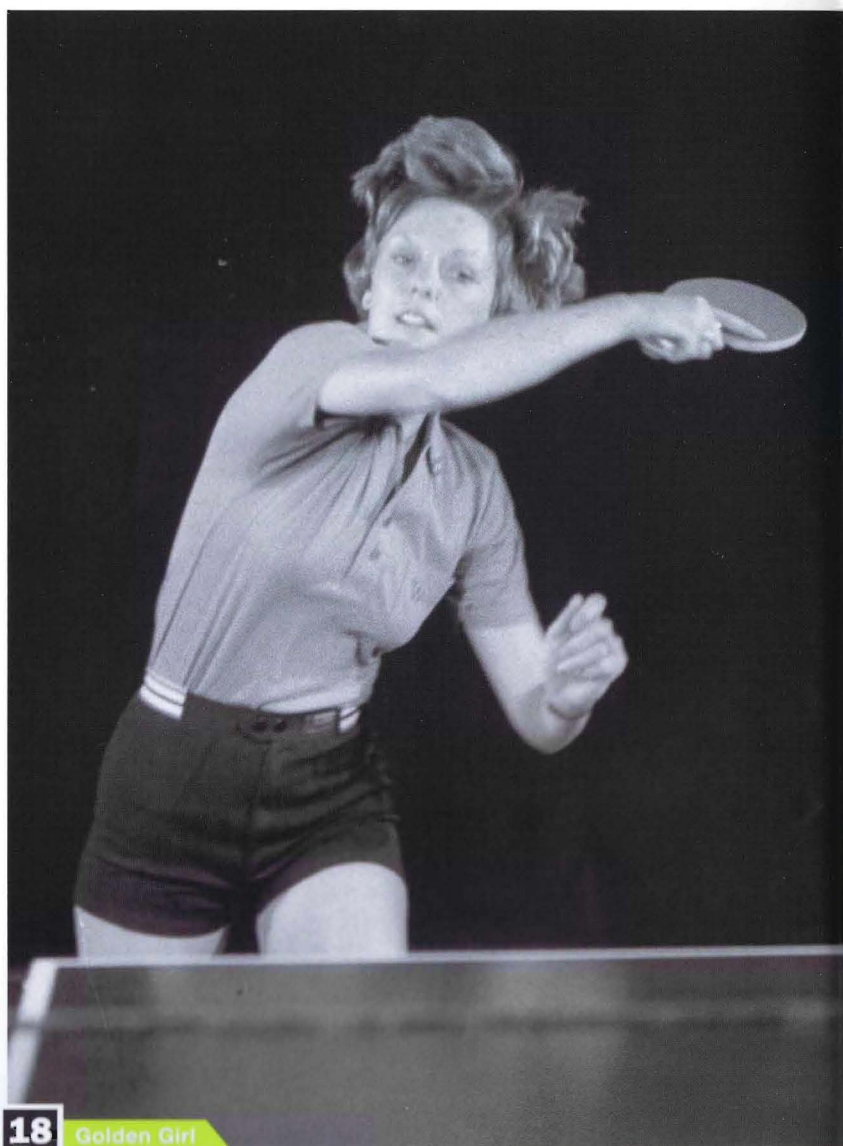
Editorial

Sitting here at the English Open, deprived of sleep, but on a caffeine high from my millionth cup of tea/energy drink/chocolate combination to keep me going, I'm wondering what mammoth task I will have been involved in next time I have to write this piece. Issue 1 was being compiled around the time of our inaugural social media intervention and now as I write this, the biggest competition to have ever taken place on home soil during the playing careers of the current England squad has just finished. Going into a slightly quieter time of year I think my biggest challenge before my next editorial will be the start of the Christmas shop and working out what to get my better half; come to think of it maybe the 15hour + days and trying to simultaneously inform the table tennis community via twitter, facebook and our website of what was going on at the Open will be easier!

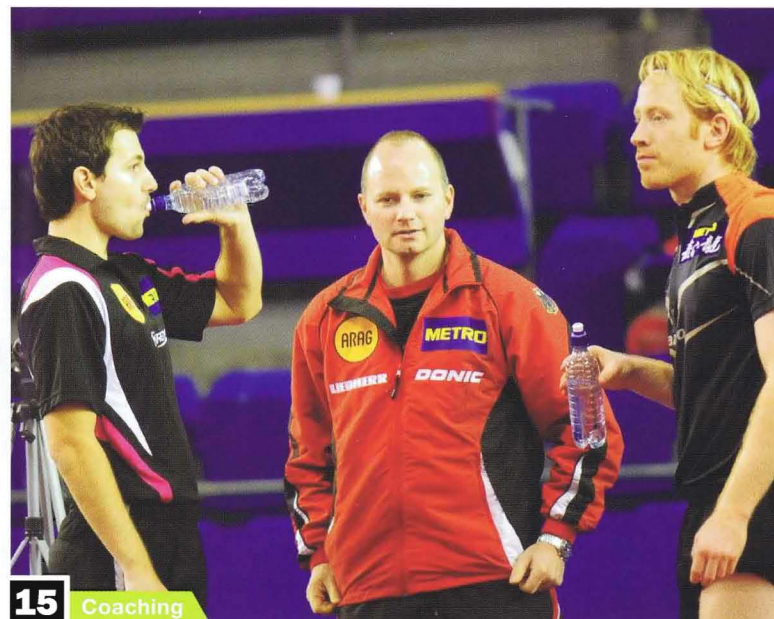
Overall I think the 65th English Open was a great success, yes there are areas to improve on, I think anyone who ran such an event and thought they had done it flawlessly is either a fool or a genius. It was great to see the very best the world had to offer, fighting it out on our shores and to see such a young England squad upsetting the apple cart. For me there were two stand out players, Seiya Kishikawa of Japan, who performed amazingly in both the singles and doubles, defeating Chen Qi (China) and Timo Boll (Germany), becoming a crowd favourite against the looming Chinese onslaught. The other was the young Derbyshire player, Liam Pitchford, who made a complete mockery of his world ranking (he has just climbed 60 places) by beating Liu Song (Argentina) ranked a massive 471 places higher, sending out a message to all that there is another England star in the making.

James Cornford
Editor

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www.etta.co.uk



18 Golden Girl



15 Coaching

Contents

- 4** **Straight Talk**
The Chairman's thoughts
- 6** **Letters**
Your views and opinions aired
- 8** **Latest News**
What is going on in the world of TT
- 10** **The 65th English Open**
What happened when the TT world invaded Sheffield
- 15** **Coaching**
Everything you need to know about UKCC
- 18** **The Golden Girl**
The finest British player in the history of women's TT
- 22** **Tournament Review**
Play is now well underway in the 09/10 season
- 26** **British League**
A look at the incredibly close Division 2 South
- 28** **County Notes**
The latest news and gossip from your area
- 33** **Staff Profile**
Mark Willerton, mixing football and table tennis
- 35** **Rankings**
A look at the top national and international performers
- 36** **Dates for your Diary**
Forthcoming tournaments



The 65th English Open 10

Front cover picture courtesy tabletennisphotos.com



Alex Murdoch / ETTA Chairman

Straight Talk

By the time you read this article the English Open will have finished and I hope all those who attended will have seen some fantastic table tennis. Discussions are taking place to have the 66th English Open in early January 2011. In addition meetings are taking place with the ITTF and the London 2012 organising committee about the Olympic test event which will take place during November 2011 at ExCel, the Olympic venue for table tennis and a number of other sports. It will include both teams and singles, the actual format is being put together, with our input, by the ITTF as a "standard" for all trial events for the next Olympiad.

Table tennis players from Great Britain will take part in the singles and a team will participate. About 2,000 seats will be available for spectators at this trial event, which will be increased significantly for the actual event in 2012.

Some other information and updates for you:

Biannual Review with Sport England

The first review of the 2009-13 Whole Sport Plan (WSP) with Sport England will take place in early November. This will cover the approved Interventional Policies and the status of the outcomes under the areas of "Grow", "Sustain" and "Excel". Two of the main areas within these outcomes will be based upon the "Activity Survey" and "Satisfaction Survey", as conducted by Sport England via Mori. Other areas being reviewed are: volunteers, coaching, technical officials, 16-18 drop outs, club development, PESSYP, governance and talent pool.

Within our Intervention 7, we included that the ETTA is one of the six national governing bodies selected by Sport England and the Government to be involved in the Social Media Project with "Facebook". The scheme is being piloted through British Universities and Colleges Sports (BUCS) and hopes to reach 12,000 students in a four-month period.

The main purpose of this whole process and the WSP is to ensure that our members at all levels are supported and helped, our membership and participation increases, and improvements are made in the communication channels to the table tennis fraternity.

European Championships in Germany

Reports from the event will be included in TTN and the following is a resume of the ETTU Congress and other meetings which took place, including the Congress, Finance meeting, Women's Group and ITTF Board of Directors from Europe with the ETTU Executive.

An application was made to the ETTU for assistance with a Women's Conference in 2010/11 and the Performance Manager attended a meeting with regard to coaching and the 2016/2020 Olympic programme. Paul Drinkhall and Kelly Sibley are members of the 2016 project and Tin-Tin Ho has been selected to be part of the 2020 project.

During the ETTU Congress, discussions took place on a proposition from three Scandinavian countries to have the European Championships changed from 2013, to having one year a team event and the following year an individual event. The Congress agreed that a working group be set up which has representation from all team divisions and proposals will be made at the Congress in 2010. I expressed my concerns during the Congress debate on this original proposal and have since written to the working party with my reasons.

I raised questions about the European Veterans Championships in Croatia this year, in which I participated with over 200 others from England, from an organization and playing perspective. Following a report from the Chairman of the ETTU Veterans Committee, the following was approved by the Congress:

1. Using the official ETTU computer program
2. Computer drawing of lots, not manual.
3. During the selection of a future organising city, preference for cities which can ensure appropriate playing conditions under one roof or in one sport complex (walking distance between halls).
4. Changes in doubles should be approved only in the case of verified absence of one of the players. Players should be warned in the application form.

Martin Clark reported verbally to the Congress in regard to the audited financial report as the Financial Expert Officer of the ETTU, which followed the ETTU Treasurer's report

CRB and Vetting and Barring

A detailed presentation was given at the October National Council meeting and many questions discussed on the subject including timescales and its operation. Details will be circulated to Councilors' and others in the near future. This has been in the news many times recently and you can be assured that the ETTA, along with other sports NGB's are following this matter up with the Government to ensure that any possible impact on all the hard working volunteers and helpers in sports is factually published and meets the needs of sports, whilst protecting our children and vulnerable adults

Commonwealth Games 2010

Some of you may have read the reports in the press that the completion of the table tennis venue will miss the deadline of December 2009, namely the Yamuna Sports Complex, for the 2010 Commonwealth Games in New Delhi

The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) are putting together an Independent Technical Review Panel of International Games experts to fast-track Delhi's preparations to host the 2010 Commonwealth Games, which I consider will help in this regard.



2006 Commonwealth Games / Performance/Coaching Staff

Planning continues with the Commonwealth Council for England and we have received confirmation from them in regard to our team size, which will be: Men 5, Women 4, Coaches 2, Women's Wheelchair 2, Coach/Carer 1, Team Manager 1

This is on the understanding that all players will meet the selection criteria.

British Table Tennis Federation (BTTF)

The BTTF Performance Management Group meet every quarter and report to the BTTF Board on all matters relating to performance, finance and Mission 2012. A number of meetings have taken place with UK Sport, English Institute of Sport and the British Olympic Association to discuss aspects relating to the programme. Close links have been established with the BTTAD

at both management and performance levels which has resulted in cost savings for both the BTTF and BTTAD. I thank the Management of the BTTAD for their support in the "integration" of table tennis, which aligns to UK Sport and the ITTF

Team 2012 was launched recently at the London 2012 Olympic stadium, with leading payment system Visa announced as its partner. It represents a huge new ambition for British sport, and is the largest national team ever sponsored, comprising of approximately 1,200 athletes from 47 sports and disciplines, Olympic and Paralympic alike.

Team 2012 will help realise the dreams and ambitions of all of Britain's Olympic and Paralympic athletes and is a groundbreaking partnership between the British Olympic and Paralympic Associations (BOA and BPA), the London Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), and UK Sport. The four bodies came together earlier this year to create this initiative for Olympic and Paralympic sponsors to get behind the nation's top athletes aiming for London 2012 and beyond.

I hope your season is going well and look forward to seeing you on my travels. I am happy to meet with you, your members and committees to discuss table tennis, so please get in touch if you want to set up a meeting.

Regards

Alex Murdoch
ETTA Chairman



Tin-Tin Ho / Part of the 2020 Project



Crowd / 65th English Open 1st Nov 09

Letters

I was wondering what you think about some of my opinions re applause, bands etc? I think the big reason for difference is not culture in fan sense but in who watches TT events from England, I think we tend to have many coaches and players watching and very few pure fans, that is people who support TT (but don't play seriously, just watch) out of general support for names and or as a less knowledgeable fan type support. I wouldn't want to have a thousand clapping seals or a "lower level football crowd" mentality in the audience, but I think that is the difference. It's the same with speedway, similar to ice hockey support, even though the fans are quite knowledgeable, they still shout and have massive air horns and whistles and go nuts in support for their team and top individuals.

Thing is we may get it on tv more if it was more of a spectacle, instead of being so quiet. Most table tennis spectators seem more interested in the finer points so are concentrating too hard and taking it too seriously. Even so I can do both, so why don't more people? A few years back I all but got into trouble with people for going nuts with louder support, trying to liven it up after having been to the 1985 Worlds. Once when England was playing Russia

at Brentwood I clapped loudly and went "Yoh oooo" for a good point and the bloke behind taps me on the shoulder and says "If you don't mind we are trying to enjoy the match" Imagine somebody doing that to Gaten's dad with his trumpet or the Chinese fans when there are enough of them. They even have a cheerleader leading the chants! Another very amusing one was at a Grove School tournament (Ian Marshall run), a lad I was coaching was playing a much better lad in another event after being hammered by him earlier and he was holding his own and they had a good rally, with my lad winning a point with some good lobs against vicious smashes, so I leap in the air and go "Yoh, wicked rally!" and a bloke standing near says (completely seriously, no joke) sympathetically "We all forget ourselves at times." What's the forget ourselves bit, I enjoyed it! Why not give them the applause they deserved, especially my lad as underdog.

So, if all our fans were quiet like football fans, rugby, cricket, etc, I could figure it out more, but why the vast difference in TT spectators? Not only that, but actively objecting to people who want to applaud louder!

Neil Houghton

Back in the late 1970s, the England squad staged numerous table tennis exhibitions at venues around the country. Various players took part, including Mary Wright, Jill Parker (then Jill Hammersley), my wife Karenza Mathews, Denis Neale, Nicky Jarvis, Brian Wright, Desmond Douglas – and others I was M.C at these events.

I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who might have any film taken at any of those exhibition matches. Naturally I will pay any costs that might be involved.

On a more personal note, I would like to hear from anyone who has film of either Karenza playing, particularly in any international matches, or in tournaments. Neither of our daughters (and certainly not our grandchildren!) saw her play and some film would provide a memorable keepsake. Here again I would be pleased to pay costs involved.

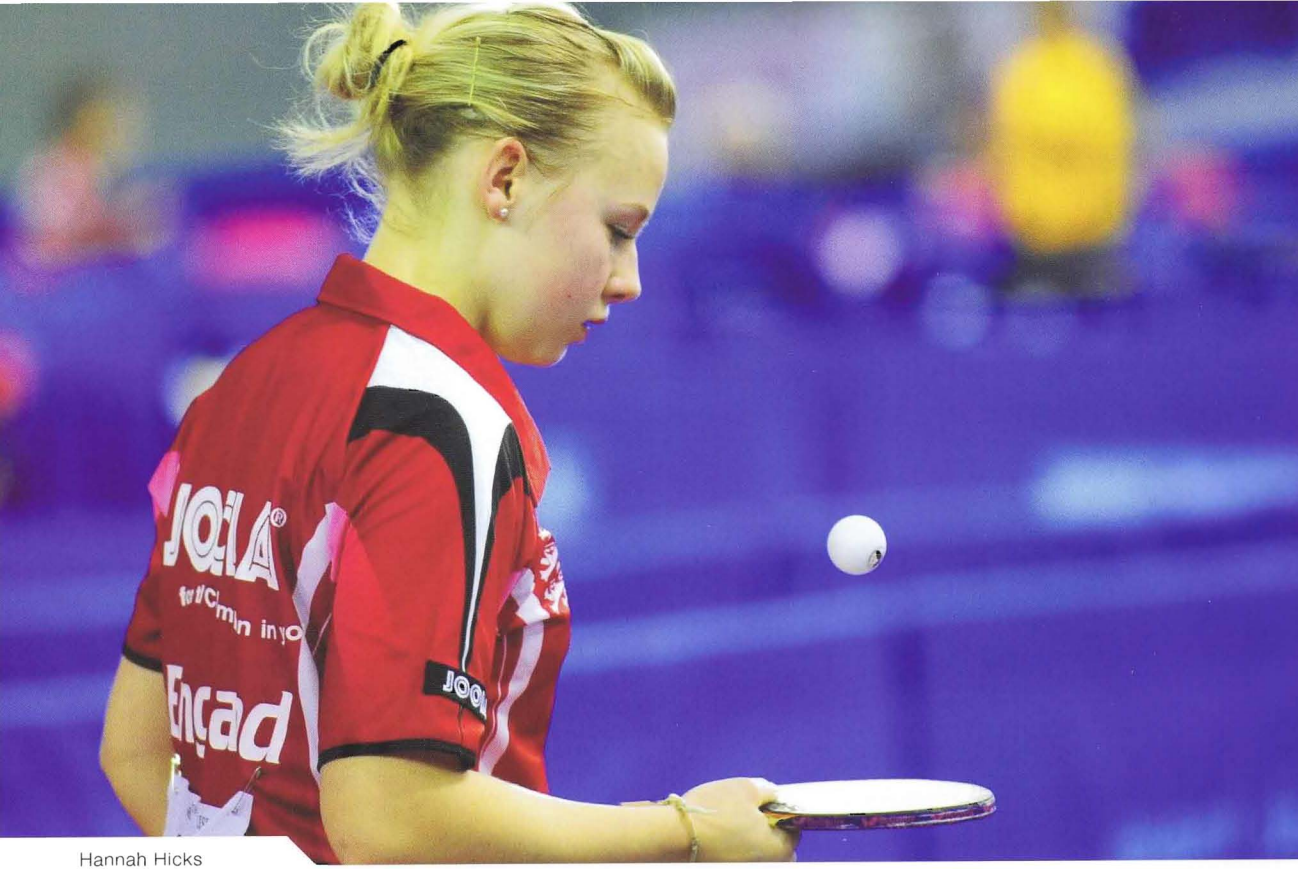
Ken Mathews

If you can help Ken out in any way then you can reach him at: The Grange at Osborne, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 4LA, reception@thegrange.co.uk, www.thegrangeatoborne.co.uk

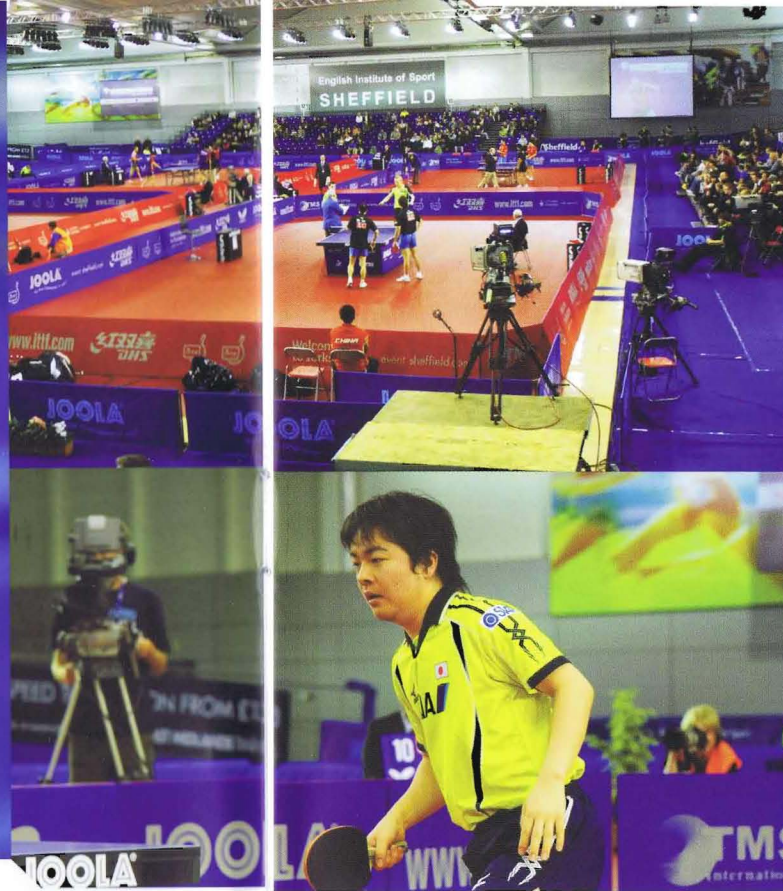
Coming from a non table tennis background I do find it rather odd myself how quiet a game can be, I enjoyed the fact that they played music at the English Open whilst some of the matches were taking place and that the players were being cheered, it added a bit more atmosphere, but the English were significantly quieter than the others.

I wonder what the reaction would be at a local or even national level if the music came out and the crowd were cheering? I personally thrive on the crowd participation, being cheered on, the cow bells, etc etc, the louder the crowd and the more encouragement I get the better I perform; obviously it is different for different sports and there are periods when silence is needed, but I think the English crowds at a tournament could do with a bit more life injected into them.

I know that Joanna Parker said she wished the crowd had got behind Paul more, "I felt like I was the only one cheering him on at times and I almost felt embarrassed", but it won't be embarrassing if we all make more noise and cheer together.



Hannah Hicks



The English Open on Sky

If you weren't lucky enough to be in Sheffield for the English Open you will be able to watch highlights on Sky Sports Xtra.

Date	Time	Programme
12/11/09	19-00	¼ Finals
13/11/09	03-00	¼ Finals Repeat
13/11/09	14-00	¼ Finals Repeat
19/11/09	19-00	Semi-Finals
20/11/09	02-00	Semi-Finals Repeat
20/11/09	08-30	Semi-Finals Repeat
20/11/09	17-00	Semi-Finals Repeat
26/11/09	18-30	Finals
27/11/09	10-00	Finals Repeat

* There was an error in last months Straight Talk, webstreaming was live, but the Sky tv coverage is as per above. sorry for any confusion caused.

ETTA Awards

Just prior to going to press the annual ETTA Volunteer and PremierClub awards took place. An in depth write up will be appearing in the next issue detailing the achievements of the winners. but hot off the press here are the winners:
 Volunteer Awards

I'm a Table Tennis Convert

Tom Degun, reporter for 'Inside the Games', came to the 65th English Open on the Sunday and despite not knowing much about the table tennis, claims 'I am now hooked on the sport and have already made room in the garage for what I hope will be a rectangular shaped Christmas present and I hope to soon play non-stop with anyone who fancies a game.'

Knight Leads England

The England No 2 will be aiming to improve his international ranking currently standing at 278, as will Cleveland's Daniel Reed who also goes along, when they go to Helsinki for the Finaldn Open 2-6 December

Surrey's Joanne Parker, still ahead in the English rankings, will also be taking the flight to the impressive Ruskeasuo Sports Hall, along with Warwickshire's Kelly Sibley, Cleveland's Karina Le Fevre and Hannah Hicks.

Latest News

Times Best Inventions 2008

Dimitrij Ovtcharov's serve was listed at number 36 of the best inventions of last year. I just had to share it with you According to Time magazine it is even better than smog eating cement?

Here is what they have to say about it "German Olympian Dimitrij Ovtcharov's serve isn't about power It's about weirdness Crouching to table-level, he peers over his paddle and executes a hand dance before launching the ball at his opponent, who is probably too dumbfounded to respond Which, of course, is the point "

TT Reduces Stress

In a recent report by the BBC it was revealed that in the London offices of Google have a games room for employees to help them relax and feel valued, and that a game of table tennis can help to reduce stress levels and even make employees more productive, making it very beneficial for businesses

The ETTA is Moving

Although we aren't going too far!

Many of those that have visited our offices on the third floor of Queensbury House in Hastings have felt they have "stepped back in time", with small offices and lots of physical barriers called walls!

Work environments that are more open, such as our new office suite on the fourth floor of Queensbury House (when it is completed), create more opportunities for observing and learning from those with more experience and different skills. They are also more appropriate for modern and flexible organisations such as the ETTA, where more and more projects are not owned by one department and team any more. Also, the amount of shared information will be increased However, privacy is still important from time to time, and with an ever increasing number of meetings being held "off-site" because of the lack of suitable facilities, there will be a purpose built meeting room for up to 12 delegates with PC/DVD and LCD screen facilities.

All in all, the move to this new environment over 11th-13th December this year will signal a fresh approach to the way we have

worked in the past - looking to expand the skills of our staff by giving them wider opportunities in a more flexible team working environment.

2010 World Championships

The 2010 World Team Championships will be taking place in Moscow, Russia, in the Olympiysky Sports Complex, which was built for the 1980 Olympic Games. The official website for the World Championships is now live www.wttc2010moscow.com and will feature information about obtaining a visa, transport and accommodation, as well as details of the venue and the event itself.

Equality in Sport

Following the great success at the English Open, which was the first major event for table tennis in England offering equal prize money for men as well as women, the ETTA has announced that the Cadet and Junior National Championships, being held at the English Institute of Sport in December, will also provide equal prize money for both junior boys and girls.

This is part of an ongoing process within the ETTA to support and attract more

Karen Tonge



More Recognition for Tonge

Karen Tonge, stalwart member of the table tennis community and chairman of Halton TTC, whom earlier in the year had been awarded an MBE for her services to table tennis, has just received the Weekly News sponsored lifetime achievement award for hard work and commitment to the sport.

women into table tennis, which includes plans for a women's conference and workshops next year A new working group has also just been set up and the process of reviewing prize money on other national events continues.

Children's Coach:

Allan Bruton

Participation Coach:

Ian Yarnall

Performance Development Coach:

Ken Macleod

Young Coach:

Chris Parker

Lifetime Achievement:

John Cunningham

Development Officer of the Year:

Bryan Edwards

Equality Award:

Chris Rayner and Bruce Lowther

PremierClub Volunteer of the Year:

John Fox

Young Volunteer of the Year:

Andy Bray

Press Officer of the Year:

Robert Loxley & Malcolm Floyd

PremierClub Awards

Excellence

Winner: Halton TTC

Runner-Up: Ellenborough TTC

Advanced

Winner: Preston TTC

Runner-Up: Draycott and Long Eaton TTC

Participation

Winner: Horsham TTC

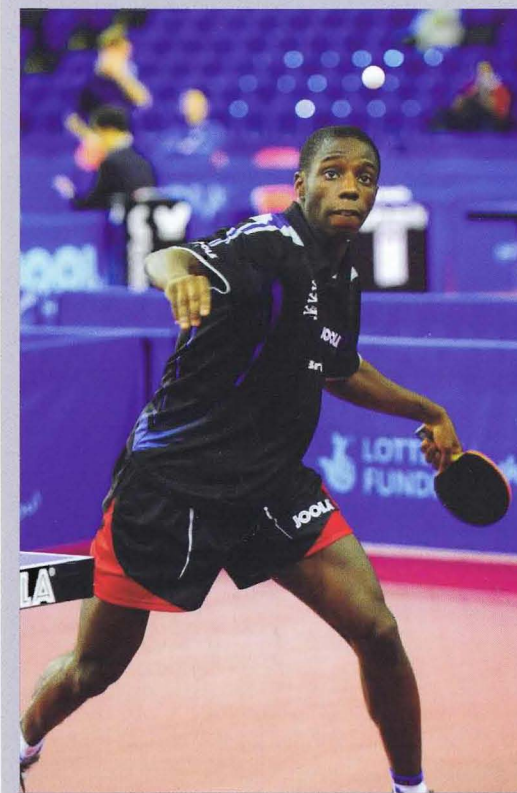
Runner-Up: Woolwell TTC

PC Mark

Winner: NFGT TTC

Runner-Up: Wadsley Bridge TTC

Darius Knight



Top Right / Sky Sports Xtra at the English Open
 Bottom Right / Mizutani Kishikawa/Japan



Ma Long (CHN)



65TH ENGLISH OPEN

ITTF PRO TOUR MAJOR

With \$172,000 on offer in prize money, along with the prestige of being the birth place of the ITTF Pro Tour, the best players in the world have descended on Sheffield for "The Wimbledon of the table tennis world".

Wednesday

The first day's play ran predominately to form, with the higher ranked players making good use of their international experience.

Not one to be put off by a challenge, England junior number 2, Liam Pitchford, put in an outstanding performance to buck the trend and shine through as the player of the day. Ranked internationally at 560th, Liam faced a tall order when he came up against the Argentine player Liu Song (ranked 89th), in the men's qualifying groups. The Derbyshire player dug deep and made the best use of the home support to play some truly inspiring table tennis, topping his significantly higher ranked opponent 4-3.

The other notable England performances, where the home court advantage flipped the ranking list on its head, was Tim Yarnall's excellent six game win over Eric Berner of Norway in the senior men's, and in the Under 21's Chris Doran scored a fine five game win, disposing of the considerably higher ranked Johan Sondell of Sweden.

English success wasn't all male dominated, as Emma Vickers was victorious with a four game win against Diya Deshpande (India) in the Under 21's. Emma almost stole the show a second time, displaying great resilience when she came up against the backspin of Alena Dubkova, holding the Belarusian all the way to the fifth end, unfortunately succumbing 4-3 in the end.

Thursday

Day two of the English Open saw more qualifying action, although with the majority of English matches being played yesterday, the pressure was on a select few.

Liam Pitchford again despatched a higher-rated opponent, this time it was in the Under 21 singles when he faced Patrick Franciska (Germany), ranked no. 383 in the world. The German was no match for the inform Chesterfield 16 year-old, who was a well deserved 3-1 winner, ensuring qualification for the main competition.



Liam Pitchford (ENG)

Andrew Baggaley, England's second highest ranked player at no. 194 in the world, successfully battled his way through the qualifying groups of the senior men and into the qualifying knockout stage. En route to topping his group he had comfortable wins over Raj Mondal

Emma Vickers (ENG)



(India) and Jakob Asmussen (Denmark), before a titanic battle against Johan Axelqvist of Sweden in the qualifying knockout stage. The higher ranked Swede (157) was pushed all the way to seven sets in an extremely even match, with no one player dominating, however it was Axelqvist who proved triumphant, ending Baggaley's hope of joining his compatriot Paul Drinkhall in round one.

Regularly competing on the English national scene, Gavin Rumgay (Scotland) from just north of the border is always a crowd favourite and was adopted by the home fans, as well as having a few Scots "shipped" down especially! He had to bridge a 145 place difference in the world rankings when he faced Emmanuel Lebesson of France. It looked promising after winning the first game, however he faltered in the second and couldn't quite push the Frenchman all the way, losing the third and fourth. A resilient fight back to take the fifth game wasn't quite enough, as Lebesson denied Rumgay any further progression in the tournament by winning the sixth and final game.

England no. five Hannah Hicks dismissed the 326 places between her and her higher ranked opponent to take a well earned victory over her Indian counterpart Neha Agg. This game was, however not without its drama: having fought all the way to 13-11 wins in the first and third games, it was looking as if all that effort had

It is certainly one of the best arena's on the circuit. It's a class A fixture and on the level of the Olympics. There are always things that can improve, but this is of very high class and compares well with other Pro Tours.

Ian Marshall, ITTF Publications Editor

been in vain, as in the fifth and final game she was 10-6 down. Digging deep, she clawed her way back to 10-9 before a time out was called by Agg. Thankfully it was the Bournemouth girl that came out of that break on top to clinch the game 12-10 and claim the overall victory, sealing her place in round 1 of the Under 21s.

Friday

19 year-old Paul Drinkhall carried England's hopes safely into the last 32 of the Men's Singles with an impressive 4-0 win over World no. 83 Lars Heitscher (Germany), never letting the German to even get a foothold. However, Drinkhall met his match in the next round and he was beaten by the consistent silky-smooth Chen Qi (China), the World no. nine. Paul's best chance of taking a game was in the third end and he fought back strongly to level at 10-10, but to no avail. A determined-looking Chen Qi triumphed 11-3, 11-5, 12-10, 11-6.

The biggest upset of the tournament so far took place in round one when Tiago Apolonia (Portugal) ousted the defending English Open Champion and three times World Singles Champion, Wang Liqin, 11-5, 5-11, 7-11, 11-8, 9-11, 11-8, 11-6. When Wang took a 3-2 lead, you perhaps expected the Chinese superstar to prevail. Surely he would have too much for his 78th ranked opponent? Not on this occasion, the Portuguese star played some absolutely flawless table tennis in the last game which he took 11-6.

Olympic Champion Ma Lin never hit the heights against Adrian Mattenet (France), ranked no. 77 globally, and unfortunately for him his opponent barely put a foot wrong. Attacking with great



Seiya Kishikawa (JPN)

flare, courage and prepared to run down every ball he could conceivably get his bat to. Mattenet matched the "great man" all the way to the seventh end. It was only at 11-6 in the decider that Ma Lin's regular cry of "Gottem" carried its usual conviction. Game to Ma Lin 7-11, 11-8, 11-9, 12-14, 11-8, 11-13, 11-6. The most compelling match of the tournament so far.

Paul Drinkhall and Darius Knight advanced to the quarter-finals of the Men's Doubles with a superb last-gasp win over Gionis Panagiosis (ranked no. 42) and Konstantinos Papageorgiou (160) (Greece), a pairing with vastly superior singles ratings to the English National Champions. The match fluctuated one way and then the other before Paul and Darius finally clinched victory 6-11, 11-8, 7-11, 11-2, 11-9, 6-11, 11-9. Their reward for this excellent success? They face the top seeds – the all-action pairing of Jun Mizutani and Seiya Kishikawa (Japan), current leaders of the Men's Doubles in the ITTF Pro-Tour. Mizutani, now ranked no. 11 globally, is arguably the most improved player in world table tennis.

Saturday

Top seeded Paul Drinkhall made his way safely into the last eight of the Under 21 Men's Singles. His opponent at the last 16 stage - Tomas

Tregler (Cze), a classy all-action top-spinner with some excellent flicks, especially on the forehand. Drinkhall despatched Tregler, the winner of the 2008 European Junior Top 10 Tournament at this same venue, in commanding style, 4-1. However, Drinkhall missed out against Seo Hyun Deok (Korea), 4-1 in the quarter-final. The fourth game proved to be the turning point. Paul fought back from 10-7 down to 10-10, but victory eluded him; after losing narrowly 12-14 there was no way back for Paul.



Wang Liqin & Ma Long (CHN)



The powerful Ding Ning threw everything she had at her opponent, the Korean defender Kim Kyung Ah, one of the most focused and determined players on the Pro Tour circuit. The Chinese girl's reverse serves, which had caused Ai Fukuhara (Japan) so many problems in the previous round, had little effect here, with Kim Kyung Ah taking the win 4-2. The cheers the players received during this game said it all – a magnificent spectacle.

18 year-old Liu Shiwen, the top seed, looked majestic as she beat no. five seed Jiang Huajun (Hong Kong), a player with a habit of beating Chinese opposition, but not today, as the 2007 Chinese national champion won 4-0.

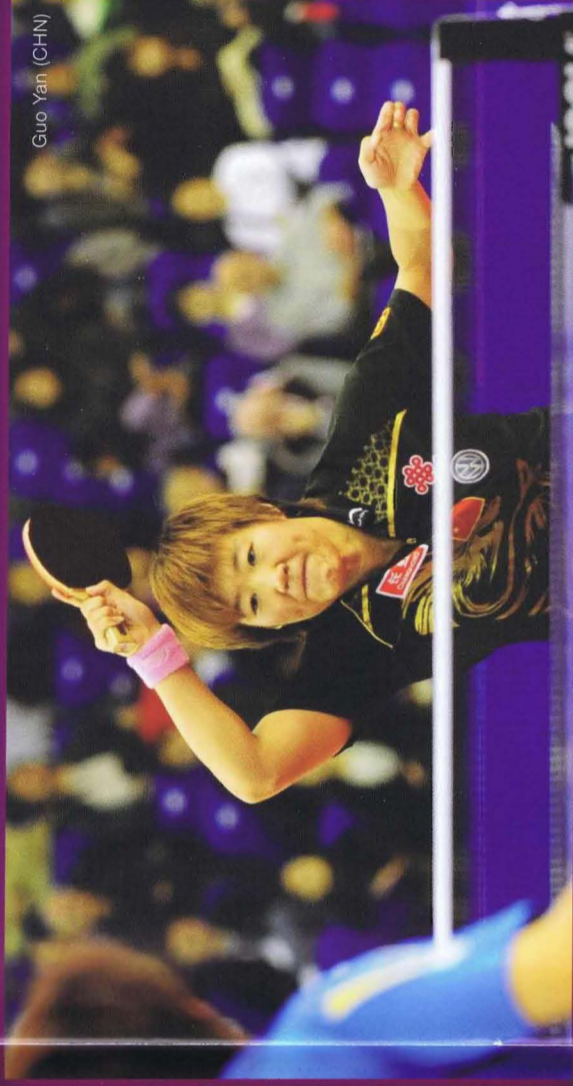
English hopes were dashed in the quarter-finals of the Men's Doubles, when top seeds Seiya Kishikawa and Jun Mizutani (Japan), the current leaders of the ITTF Pro Tour, proved too strong for Darius Knight and Paul Drinkhall, who were beaten 4-1.

Sunday

Top seed, 20 year-old Ma Long from Lioning, the current World no. two, won his sixteenth ITTF Pro Tour title with a surprisingly straight forward victory over countryman and 2008 Men's Singles Olympic Champion, Ma Lin. The most consistent performer throughout all three days of the Men's Singles, Ma Long had not been extended to a fifth game on a single occasion, and he ran out a very deserving 11-9, 11-6, 11-8, 11-8, 11-8 winner.

Top seed Ma Long always looked the more likely winner against his team-mate, Xu Xin, the new star of World table tennis in his semi-final as well. The previous meetings between these two players on the ITTF Pro Tour had gone the full seven sets with victories shared one apiece, but, on this occasion 20 year-old Ma Long had most of the answers. He raced into a 6-0 and 9-1 lead in the first game and was equally dominant in the second game. Xu Xin hit back strongly to take the third end but he needed to do better in the fourth end to have any chance. He won 11-3, 11-5, 9-11, 11-8, 11-3.

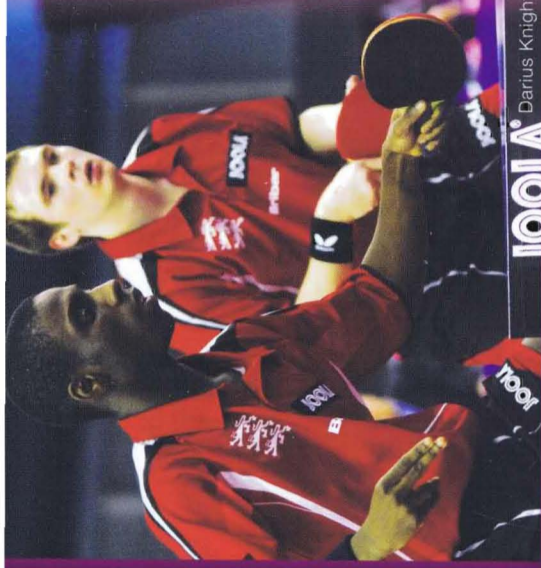
25 year Guo Yan, the World no. five, from Beijing, and a member of the Chinese National team since she was 14, is the 2009 English



Guo Yan (CHN)

Open Women's Singles Champion. She beat her opponent, the higher-rated World no. four – 18 year-old Liu Shiwen, after five games of the most furious counter-hitting top-spin women's table tennis that Sheffield has ever witnessed. Both players were evenly matched in the rallies and the final 4-1 score line does scant justice to the evenly matched nature of this game. Guo Yan duly captured her fifth Pro Tour Women's Singles title, and a tenth title overall winning 11-9, 11-13, 11-7, 16-14, 11-6.

Korea's defensive aces – 32 year-old Kim Kyung Ah and 27 year-old Park Mi Young won their sixth Women's Doubles Pro Tour title beating China's Guo Yan and Cheng Chenchen in a classic battle



Darius Knight & Paul Drinkhall (ENG)

of attack versus defence table tennis. There was never much to choose between two evenly matched pairs and in a match that lasted 75 minutes, it was the Korean girls' determination, concentration and commitment that will have inspired everyone present to win four consecutive points from 5-5 in the seventh end, to eventually win 8-11, 11-3, 11-13, 12-10, 9-11, 11-5, 11-6.

Wang Liqin, three times World Singles Champion and one of the sport's greatest ever players, claimed his second English Open title eight years after his Singles win in Chatham 2001. However, he and his partner World no. two – Ma Long (at 20 years of age, already a winner of an incredible 14 Pro Tour titles), had to pull out all the stops to get the better of Jun Mizutani, one of the rising stars, and Seiya Kishikawa, the surprise package of the tournament. The Japanese stars, the leaders of the doubles competition in the ITTF Pro Tour, started better, before the Chinese players hit back, hard. With Jun Mizutani urging his opponent on, the Japanese pair edged a "do-or-die" sixth end 11-9, but there was to be no fairy tale ending. Wang Liqin and Ma Long ran out 8-11, 5-11, 11-7, 11-6, 11-5, 9-11, 11-6 winners.



Liu Shiwen (CHN)

For the full results visit www.etta.co.uk/englishopen

Results



Men's Singles

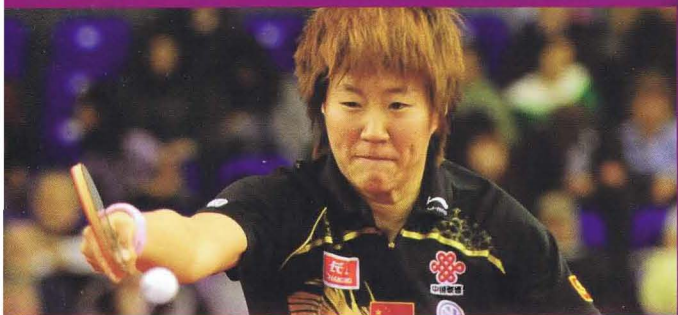
Final

Ma Long (CH) bt. Ma Lin (CH) 4-0

Semi-Finals

Ma Long (CH) bt. Xu Xin (CH) 4-1

Ma Lin (CH) bt. Seiya Kishikawa (JPN) 4-0



Women's Singles

Final

Guo Yan (CH) bt. Liu Shiwen (CH) 4-1

Semi-Finals

Guo Yan (CH) bt. Kim Kyung Ah (KOR) 4-2

Liu Shiwen (CH) 4-1 bt. Feng Tienwei (SIN) 4-2



Men's Doubles

Final

Ma Long/Wang Liqin (CH) bt. Seiya Kishikawa/Jun Mizutani (JPN) 4-3

Semi-Final

Ma Long/Wang Liqin (CH) bt. Emmanuel Lebesson/Adrien Mattenet 4-0

Seiya Kishikawa/Jun Mizutani (JPN) bt. Ma Lin/Xu Xin (CH) 4-2



Women's Doubles

Final

Kim Kyung Ah/Park Mi Young (KOR) bt. Chang Chenchen/Guo Yan (CH) 4-3

Semi-Finals

Kim Kyung Ah/Park Mi Young (KOR) bt. Jiang Huajun/Tie Yana (HKG) 4-0

Chang Chenchen/Guo Yan (CH) bt. Feng Tienwei/Wang Yue Guo 4-0



Men's U21

Final

Seo Hyun Deok (KOR) bt. Kim Min Seok (KOR) 4-2

Semi-Finals

Seo Hyun Deok (KOR) bt. Ruwen Filus (GER) 4-3

Kim Min Seok (KOR) bt. Steffen Mengel (GER) 4-2



Women's U21

Final

Daniela Dodean (ROU) bt. Kasumi Ishikawa (JPN) 4-0

Semi-Finals

Daniela Dodean (ROU) bt. Elizabeta Samara (ROU) 4-1

Kasumi Ishikawa (JPN) bt. Galia Dvorak (ESP) 4-0



Andrew Rushton & Jia Yi Liu

The UK Coaching Certificate

Developed with the aim of improving the level of coaching across sport in the UK and born out of the government Coaching Task Force report in 2002, the UKCC is now offered by over 20 sports against these criteria.

- Advance coach education programmes and practices with a view to helping coaches support the participants, performers and teams they are coaching
- Support the development of coaching as a profession
- Support the concept of continuous improvement and further develop good practice in existing programmes

By creating a recognised standard for coach education, the UKCC will make it easier to identify a quality coach in any sport at any level and contribute immeasurably to the professionalisation of coaching, whilst ensuring that all coaching takes place within a safe environment.

As a part of this process, coaches who qualified through the ETTA (or other home country) system will be required to transfer to the UKCC system by 2012. This involves attending a bridging course (see 'Overview of the Qualifications') and assessment to gain a UKCC qualification.

Overview of the Qualifications

This article will only cover Levels 1 to 3 of the qualification; Level 4 will be covered in a separate article.

For all of the qualifications, it is a pre-requisite for certification that candidates must have completed a sports coach UK 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children' workshop (3 hours) and a St John Ambulance Emergency Life Support (Adult or 'All Ages') course (3 or 4 hours), or appropriate equivalents.

1st4sport Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Table Tennis (L1CCTT)

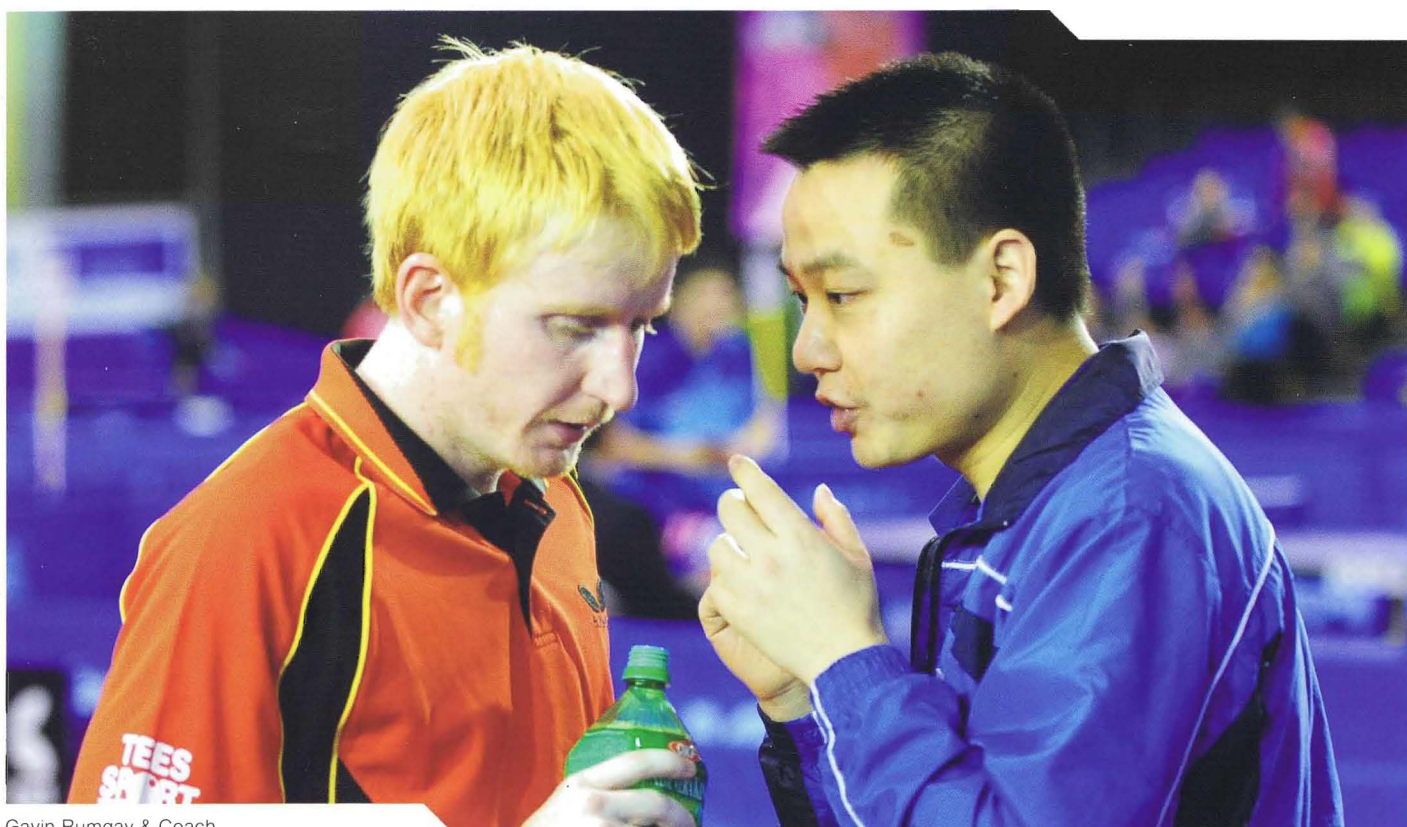
Successful candidates will be qualified to plan and deliver basic table tennis coaching activities, normally under the direct supervision of a more qualified coach. The course consists of two days, separated by a period of 3 to 6 weeks for home study and coaching practice. There is also approximately 3 hours of pre-course study.

An assessment is included in the second day of the course, which consists of a 40 minute written exam and delivery of a 15 minute coaching session to a group of up to 4 players. At Level 1 the coaching group will be made up of your peers on the course.

Candidates must be 16 years of age or over to achieve certification.

The course structure is as follows:

Pre-Course	Read resources and answer pre-course questions - approx 3 hours	
Day 1	Modules 1-3	Introduction to Coaching#1; Introduction to Coaching#2; Technical.
Coaching Practice + Home Study - 3-6 weeks		Completion of Learning and Assessment Tasks.
Day 2	Modules 4-6	Re-cap and Evaluation of day 1 and Coaching Practice; Development of Coaching Skills; Internal and Independent Assessment.



Gavin Rumgay & Coach

1st4sport Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Table Tennis (L2CCTT)

The Level 2 qualification builds on the planning and evaluation skills learnt at Level 1, and involves a more advanced level of technical knowledge. At this level, coaches would be expected to demonstrate more of an ability to analyse and improve the performance of their players.

Candidates must be 18 years of age or over to achieve certification.

The course is organised as two weekends, separated by a home study period of 6-8 weeks as follows:

Pre-Course	Home study tasks - approximately 10 hours	
Day 1	Modules 1-6	Introduction to Coaching; The Coaching Process; Technical Coaching #1; Preparing to Coach; Technical Coaching #2; Technical Coaching #3.
Day 2	Modules 7-10	Reflection; Introduction to Psychology; Technical Coaching #4; Introduction to Planning Coaching Sessions.
Coaching Practice + Home Study - 6-8 weeks		
Day 3	Modules 11-13	Reflection on Coaching Practice; Technical Coaching #5; Internal Assessment of Practical Coaching (delivered to an individual player).
Day 4	Modules 14-15	Physiology and Fitness; Independent Assessment of Coaching Practice (delivered to a group of players).

1st4sport Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Table Tennis (L2CCTT) - Bridging Course

As stated earlier, the L2CCTT bridging course is aimed at coaches who qualified through the ETTA system prior to the UKCC, and provides a route for them to gain either a L2CCTT qualification, or to gain entry to the L3CCTT course.

The course content includes those areas of the L2CCTT syllabus not already covered by the old ETTA courses, and is structured as two days separated by a period of 6-8 weeks for home study and coaching practice, structured as follows:

Pre-Course	Read Level 2 technical resources; Complete activities within the Applied Psychology workbook (ETTA L2 Coaches only); Complete activities 1, 5a and 5b within the Applied Physiology workbook; Read the ETTA Child Protection Policy and Guidelines	
Day 1	Modules 1-7	Introduction to Coaching; Preparing to Coach; Technical Coaching #1; Planning Coaching Sessions; Physiology and Fitness; Technical Coaching #2; Introduction to Psychology. (Last two modules not required for ETTA Level 3 & 4 coaches).
Coaching Practice - 6-8 weeks		Complete internally assessed tasks (profile and interview 2 players; plan, deliver, review 6 coaching sessions; plan 2 sessions for assessment).
Day 2	Modules 8-9	Internal Assessment of Practical Coaching (delivered to an individual player). Independent Assessment of Practical Coaching (delivered to a group of players).

1st4sport Level 3 Certificate in Coaching Table Tennis (L3CCTT)

At this level, candidates will gain the skills and knowledge to plan and implement effective annual coaching programmes, applying the principles of player profiling and goal setting.

Candidates are required to be at least 18 years of age to achieve certification, they are also required to hold a 1st4sport Level Certificate in Coaching Table Tennis or an ETТА Level 3 (or home country equivalent) and attend an L2CCTT bridging course.

In addition to the above requirements, candidates are recommended to have experience of coaching table tennis players on a regular basis and to have access to players of the appropriate level to coach (defined by the Level 3 Technical Syllabus). The ETТА will consider applications from candidates who are actively coaching at the appropriate level and have shown commitment to the sport.

The L3CCTT course is delivered in five phases:

1. 4 day residential course (option to attend non-res).
2. 6- 8 weeks home study.
3. 2 day residential course (option to attend non-res).
4. 12-16 weeks home study and coaching practice.
5. 2 day residential (option to attend non-res).

Because there are various specialists involved in the delivery of the Level 3 course, the order of the programme is likely to vary, however a typical programme would be as follows:

Pre-Course	Read technical and other resources, and complete self-profile questionnaire	
Day 1	Modules 1-3 & 7	Coaching Principles; Principles of Planning & Player profiling; Serve and Return, Motor Learning and Skill Acquisition.
Day 2	Modules 10, 6, 13 & 8	Biomechanics, Advanced Strokes, Mental Toughness, Lifestyle Management
Day 3	Modules 11, 9, 4 & 5	Advanced Strokes, Tactical and Video Analysis, Physical Training and Fitness, Fitness Testing
Day 4	Modules 14, 15, 12 & 16	Strength and Power; Speed and Agility; Periodisation, Preparing for Coaching Practice.
Home Study - 6-8 weeks		
Day 5	Modules 17-19	Match Captancy; Presentation of coaching programmes, Coach/ Athlete Relationship.
Day 6	Module 20	Internal Assessment – observed delivery of a 30 minute coaching session to an individual
Coaching Practice - 12-16 weeks		
Day 7	Module 21	Internal Assessment - observed delivery of 40 minute planned coaching session to a group of 4 to 8 players.
Day 8	Module 22	Independent Assessment - observed delivery of a 40-60 minute planned coaching session, coaching a group of 4 to 8 players, covering at least 4 topics from the Level 3 Technical Syllabus.

For information on coach education courses, visit the ETТА website and select the 'Coaching Courses' button on the home page, or contact:

Sophie Hare

National Coaching Administrator

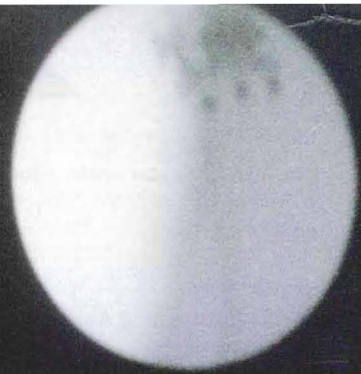
T: 01424 456205

E: sophie.hare@etta.co.uk

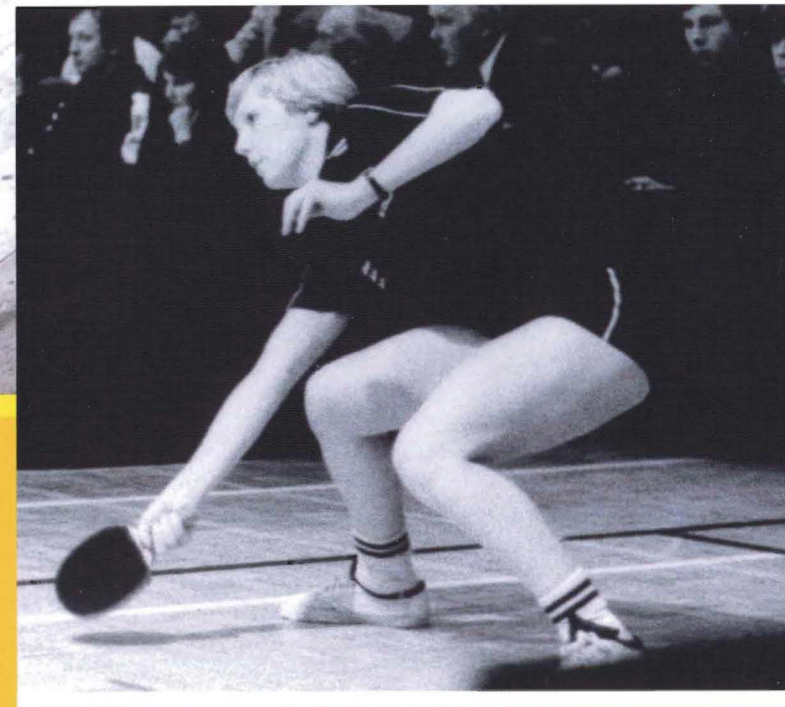
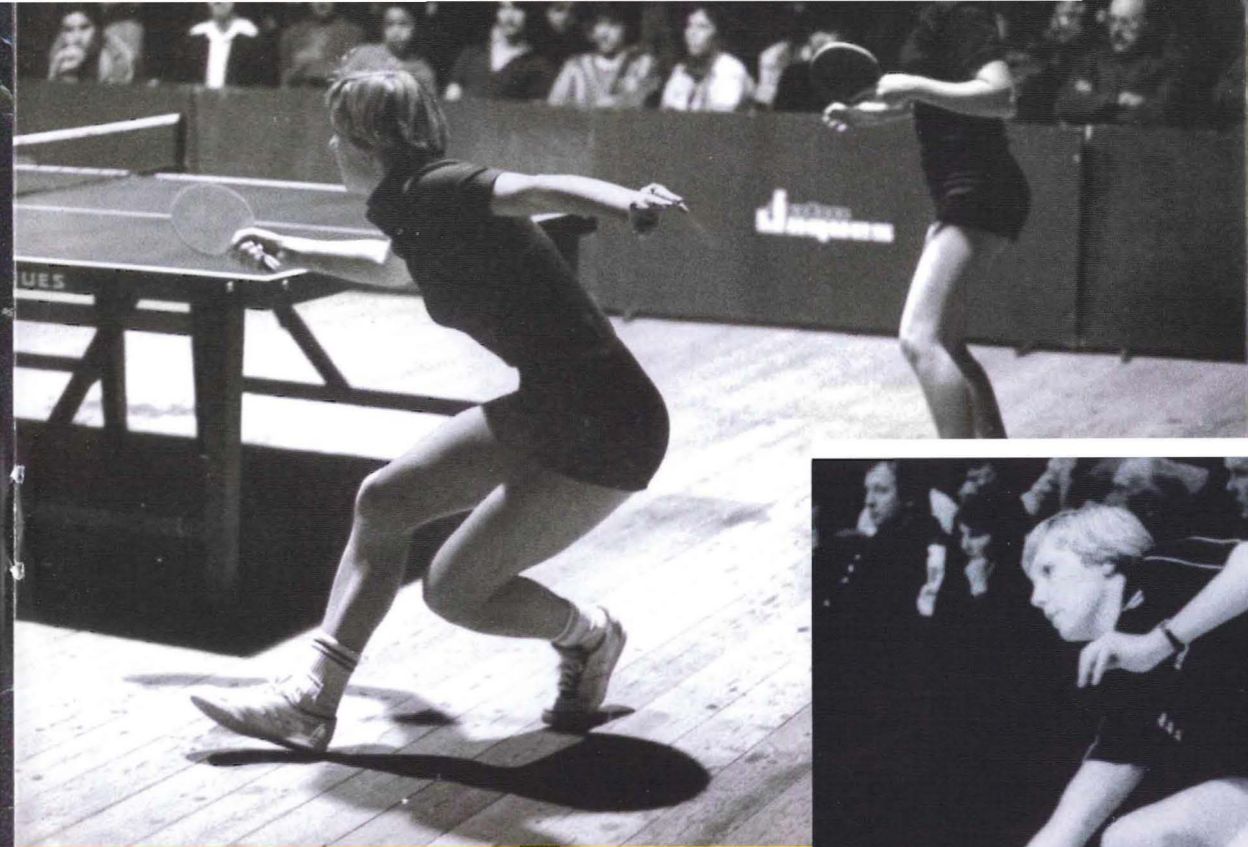
Additional information regarding the qualifications can be found on www.1st4sportqualifications.com

Daniella Dodean & Coach





The Golden Girl



Talk to anyone who followed British table tennis during the golden post-war era of the 1970s and they will instantly recall an assortment of wonderful memories.

From the crowd-pleasing antics of Chester Barnes to the domestic dominance of both Denis Neale and Desmond Douglas, it was a time when table tennis players from this country commanded a national profile and also caused ripples on the world stage. Yet speak to those who regularly packed out venues such as the Brighton Dome to watch their idols in action, and, even now, they will still sound slightly awe-struck when recalling Jill Parker (then Hammersley) in action.

Her masterful defensive style meant taking the ball exceptionally late and the sound of her bat actually striking the floor as she sent the ball back over the net became almost a trademark.

Before the days of long pimples and anti-loop rubber, Parker developed a mesmerising ability to disguise her 'chop and float' (returns with heavy backspin and no spin) simply by the skill of her timing and adjustment of her wrist.

It was a style that carried her all the way to the top table of the international game, and at a time when the sport in this country has been relishing the return this year of the English Open, it is worth remembering that Parker won the table tennis equivalent of Wimbledon on three occasions.

On top of that, she was a European Champion in both singles and doubles, a Commonwealth Champion, 17-times a national champion and a triple winner of both the European Top 12 and Hungarian Opens. At her peak, she was ranked number one in Europe and number six in the world.

Put simply, Parker is the finest British player in the history of women's table tennis, and alongside the likes of Douglas, Johnny Leach and Fred Perry, among the all-time greats from this country.

Reflecting on almost 50 years in table tennis as a player or a coach, Parker regards her performances in the 1976 European

Championships in Prague as the best achievement of her career, rather than winning the English Opens of 1975-6, 1978-9 and 1979-80.

"The English Open was a very prestigious event with great crowds – the Dome in Brighton would be packed out," she says, "but I can better remember the European Championships of 1976. We had a great team and a great spirit."

"The ladies team reached the final but we lost against the Russian team, even though we had beaten them in the groups. With Linda Jarvis [née Howard], we also won the doubles."

However, it was in the singles that Parker achieved her greatest result, beating the Romanian Maria Alexandru – the 1966 champion – in the final. She also reached two further European Championships finals, losing in 1978 and then 1982, before retiring from international competition in 1983.

Parker first began playing at the age of 10 when she attended the Slough British Legion and immediately developed her own unique style. "I was quite small when I started playing," she says, "and found it difficult to attack. I had a tendency to take the ball later and my game really just developed from there."

"You had to learn to attack to take advantage of the chop and float and the changes of spin, but I used normal rubbers with reverse on one side and short pimples on the other. It was in 1977 that the long pimples came out and I didn't think it was right – I didn't think it was table tennis."



"But the attacking rubbers were also being developed more and more, and after I lost in the 1978 European final, I did try long pimples and I played Judit Magos, who I had lost to in the final. I didn't lose again so maybe I was stupid to have had those principles."

For Parker to achieve such international success from within the limited table tennis structure of England was particularly impressive. Her defensive style owed much to a high level of physical fitness, and while based in Dorking, she would be required to travel extensively into London for high level practice and then around the world for tournaments.

"It was very different from now with the national centre," she says, "you would mostly organise your own practice, although the coaches would give you schedules for your physical training and there would be training camps. There was also the European League and I played club table tennis abroad."

Indeed, it is interesting to note that Parker has a considerable Wikipedia entry in German (rather than English) after several years entertaining crowds in the German Bundesliga for the club TSV Kronshagen, who were twice runners-up in the late 1970s and early 1980s. She also spent two spells training in Japan and gaining first-hand experience of the different approach to table tennis in Asia. "The culture is very different – very repetitive – and I'm not sure how easily the British players would stand it," she says. "My daughter Katy trained in Japan and I remember her telling me that they spent one entire day simply hitting forehand chops."

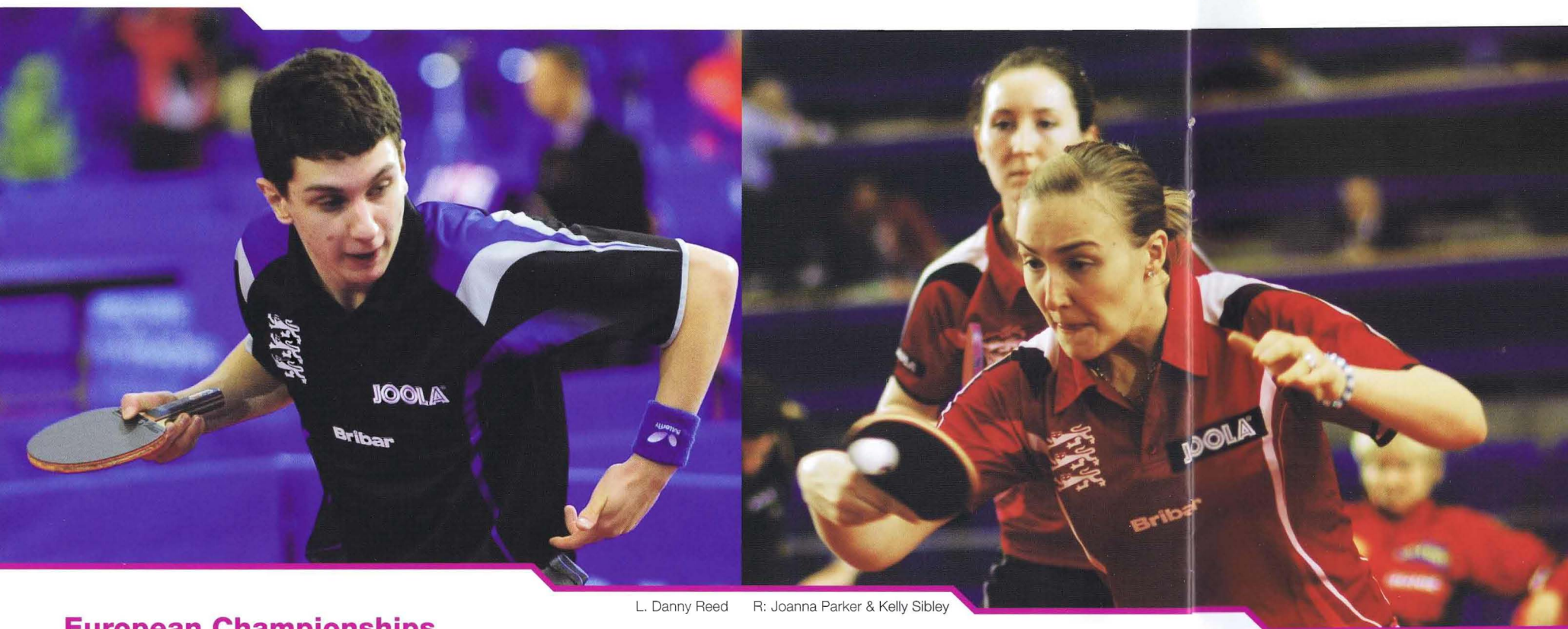
Following retirement, Parker has remained involved in table tennis, with daughter Katy also having represented England. Jill currently works as the ETTA's Talent and Coaching Manager, overseeing 10 regional coaches in the strive to develop a greater depth of emerging young players in this country.

So, what are Parker's words of advice to the young players of the current era? "It is not just about talent, it is about commitment," she says, "I listened to Alan Cooke and Alex Perry talking to coaches recently and they emphasised five things: commitment, concentration, communication, control and confidence."

"You have to be able to control your emotions and you do need a positive attitude and belief that you can deliver a performance. I was always striving to improve, but my attitude was simply that you can't give more than 100 per cent."



Tournament Review



L. Danny Reed R: Joanna Parker & Kelly Sibley

European Championships

Stuttgart, Germany / 13th-20th September 2009

The European Championships was Michael Maze's event: putting any injury worries behind him, he claimed the gold in the singles after knocking out Timo Boll in the semi-finals to stop his German counterpart claiming his third successive title and helping his country to secure silver in the men's team event. "This was the championships of my career I played best table tennis in my life in Stuttgart. This is the best MAZE ever" said the European champion. It was also a great tournament for the English, with the men's team claiming promotion to the highest level for the next championships in the team event and the women equalling their result from St Petersburg.

It was a three strong women's and three strong men's team consisting of Joanna Parker, Kelly Sibley and Hannah Hicks and Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight and Danny Reed who ventured to Stuttgart for the European Championships. Here's how they got on:

Singles

Everybody found higher ranked opponents too strong in the end.

European no 1 Liu Jia from Austria was too much for Kelly Sibley who lost in four straight games in the women's singles, as was the European no 6 Wu Jiaduo of Germany and for Hannah Hicks, who also lost in four straight games.

Joanna Parker was really close to winning an encounter with European no 15, Li Quingbing of Austria. The Austrian dominated the first set and edged the next two on deuce, Joanna came back to take games four and five, but the Austrian closed out the match in the sixth game.

The men had a less challenging draw but still faced higher ranked opponents. Darius Knight showed real fighting qualities: after losing the first three games to European no 51 Daniel Zwickl of Hungary he bounced back to take the next three games to level the score at 3-3. A poor start to the final game was just not recoverable and Zwickl took the game and match 11-4.

Danny Reed had no answer to the power of Dutchman Trinko Keen who proceeded to a comfortable four straight game win. At the same time as Danny was losing to one Dutchman, Paul Drinkhall had the advantage of ranking over Michael De Boer, also from the Netherlands, and it showed, Paul took a comfortable four straight game win to set up a confrontation with Fedor Kuzmin, the European no 24, from Russia.

What a superb display it was from both players, Kuzmin came out of the blocks quickest with faultless counter hitting that forced Paul into mistakes in game one. For the next three games, however, Paul played better and better to take a 3-1 lead in games. The fifth game was very tight, Paul had a match point on 10-9 but it slipped away. In the sixth game Paul edged ahead to 8-5 but Kuzmin countered again superbly and took that one too. So to the final game: Paul 3-0 down, they changed ends with Paul 5-1 down, Kuzmin moved on to 8-2 and then Paul exploded back to his best, 2-8 became 9-9, but Kuzmin to serve, a sublime shot onto Paul's backhand corner, off a strong drive from

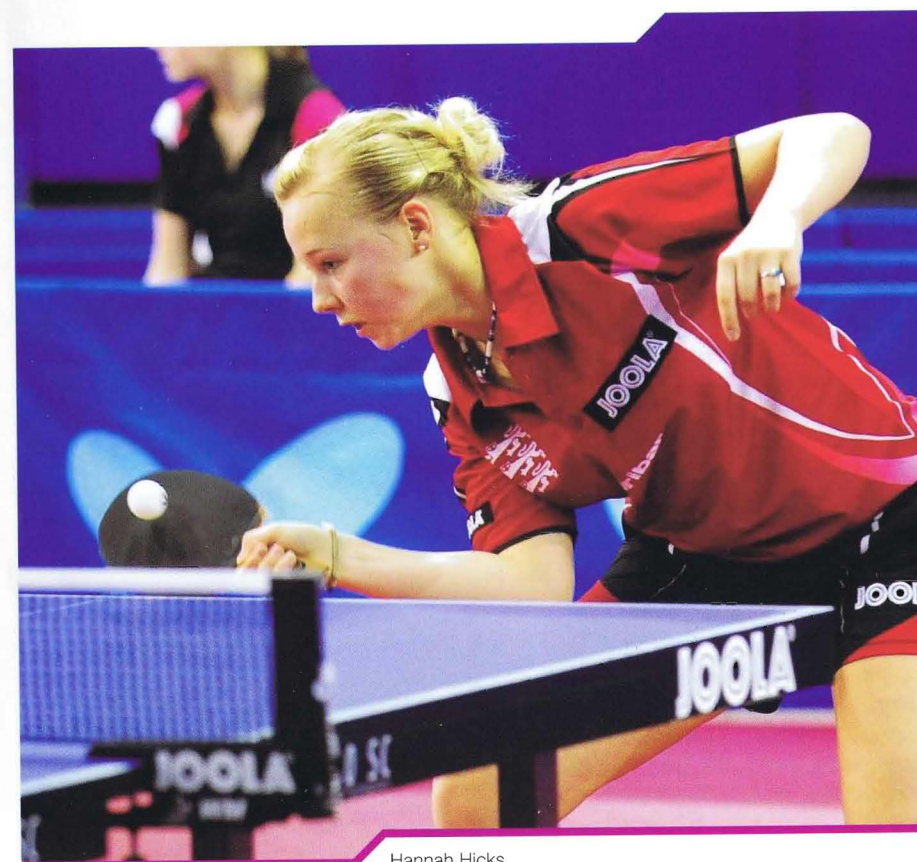
the Englishman took it to 10-9 for Kuzmin and he was not to be denied taking the next one as well.

The last match to finish in a 20 table hall on the first full day of individual matches saw the end of the English challenge as well.

Doubles

Earlier in the day, in the doubles both Men's Doubles lost in the final game Paul Drinkhall and Darius Knight were closest losing 11-9 in the fifth game to Erik Illas of Israel and Pavel Platonou of Belarus Danny Reed and his Israeli partner Ron Davidovich did really well to take a strong Czech pair, Peter Korbek and Antonin Gavlas, to a fifth set, but eventually lost.

Parker and Sibley faced a real challenge in the pairing of the European no 26 Petra Lovas of Hungary, with the European no 32 Cornelia Vaida of Croatia, the first two games were shared, but after that the Central European partnership dominated winning by three games to one



Hannah Hicks

Men's Team

Gold Germany (Timo BOLL, Dimitrij OVTCCHAROV, Christian SUSS, Patric BAUM, Bastian STEGER)

Silver Denmark (Michael MAZE, Finn TUGWEL, Kasper STERNBERG, Jonathan GROTH)

Bronze Romania (Adrian CRISAN, Constantin CIOTI, Andrei FILIMON, Adrian DODEAN)

Bronze Austria (Werner SCHLAGER, CHEN Weixing, Robert GARDOS, Daniel HABESOHN, Stefan FEGERL)

Women's Team

Gold Netherlands (LI Jiao, Li Jie, Elena TIMINA, Linda CREEMERS, Carla NOUWEN)

Silver Poland (LI Qian, Natalia PARTYKA, Katarzyna GRZYBOWSKA, Magdalena SZCZERKOWSKA, XU Jie)

Bronze Czech Republic (Renata STRBIKOVA, Iveta VACENOVSKA, Dana HADACOVA, Katerina PENKAKOVA, Lenka HARABASZOVA)

Bronze Croatia (Tamara BOROS, Cornelia VAIDA, Andrea BAKULA, Mirela DURAK)

Men's Singles

Gold Michael MAZE (Denmark)

Silver Werner SCHLAGER (Austria)

Bronze Fedor KUZMIN (Russia)

Bronze Timo BOLL (Germany)

Women's Singles

Gold WU Jiaduo (Germany)

Silver Margarita PESOTSKA (Ukraine)

Bronze Ruta PASKAUSKIENE (Lithuania)

Bronze Viktoriya PAVLOVICH (Belarus)

Men's Doubles

Gold Timo BOLL, Christian SUSS (Germany)

Silver WANG Zeng, Yi Lucjan BLASZCZYK (Poland)

Bronze Bojan TOKIC, Aleksandar KARAKASEVIC (Slovenia)

Bronze Damien ELOI, Emmanuel LEBESSON (France)

Women's Doubles

Gold Elizabeta SAMARA, Daniela DODEAN (Romania)

Silver Nikoleta STEFANOVA, TAN Wenling (Italy)

Bronze Ruta PASKAUSKIENE, Oksana FADEEVA (Lithuania/Russia)

Bronze BARTHEL Zhenqi, Kristin SILBEREISEN (Germany)



L. Niall Cameron & Mat Ware / Men's Singles winner & runner-up respectively

R: Scott Barton & Wilson Huat / Men's Band 2 runner-up & winner respectively

Newcastle Tees Sport Grand Prix

24th-25th October 2009

There were upsets galore in the Men's Open, where the atmosphere was electric with a whole packet of top seeds falling by the wayside. Firstly Stewart Crawford S2 took an early bath after succumbing to the French hotshot Wilson Huat (winner of the Men's Band 2) in the round of the last 16, followed by Darius Knight S1 making his way back to Sheffield after a dramatic and unexpected loss to Flying Scotsman Niall Cameron 9-11 in the fifth, after leading 6-2 in the deciding end. Wow what a dramatic match, then total silence followed! With Cameron S5 safely through to the last four, this left the remaining quarter-final match between Damien Nicholls S3,,(who had earlier been responsible for the departure of Scott Barton) and Craig Hardie (who had a famous win over Ben Barlow and was on cloud 9 from day 1) in the top half of the draw to be played

Damien Nicholls was simply superb in blasting away yesterday's hero Scotsman Craig Hardie in straight sets to set up a last four clash with Niall Cameron (on a high after displacing Darius Knight in the previous round) This meant that three out of the four semi-finalists hailed from the Grantham College Academy! The Scotsman Cameron was probably playing his best ever table tennis and was in the zone throughout his semi-final battle with Nicholls, taking the match 3-0 to await his final opponent. Two tables away Matt Ware was also finding top form to halt the Frenchman's dramatic progress, coming through in three close sets to set up an England v Scotland final

Ware took first blood in the opening set of the final, however it was once again the Flying Scotsman Cameron who soaked up

everything that Ware could throw at him, countering spectacularly with top class back from the table pinpoint topspin rallies that the audience were in awe of. Niall levelled at 1-1, and then followed probably the finest set of wall to wall class from both finalists. Cameron then took that all so important third set 15-13, which he then followed up 11-8 in the fourth leg to secure an unexpected but thoroughly well deserved victory to be crowned Newcastle Men's Open Champion, together with a nice cheque for £300.

The Women's Open attracted a poor entry of just eight competitors. Naomi Wilson finished winner of group 1 with Melissa Wright taking the runner up spot In the other group Lindsey Reynolds prevailed with Lisa Radford taking second place. Following a titanic marathon first semi-final Lisa Radford just got her head in front of Naomi Wilson in the fifth set to await her final contestant Meanwhile Lindsey Reynolds proved too strong for the defender Melissa Wright to take her concluding place with Lisa.

The final turned out to be a roller coaster ride with Reynolds quickly going 2-0 up only to see her lead vanish with Radford finding top gear to level at 2-2 Lindsey established an early advantage in the final leg, which she grasped to take the Women's Open title and a £175 cheque

Twenty four players contested the Under 21 Men's event, with the final being played out by top seeded Damien Nicholls S1 and Matt Ware S2 for possibly the tenth time in the last two seasons of Under 21 Grand Prix finals The Hampshire player was quick out of the blocks taking the first leg of the

final 13-11, and from there on Ware closed out the match in two further tight sets.

The Under 21 Women's event was played as a round robin competition with five competitors.

Melissa Wright won all her four matches making her the Champion with the gallant runner-up Rebecca George losing to Melissa in three straight sets, but proving too good for Emily Ross, Bethany Ross and Eszter Soos.

The Tees Sport Player of the tournament award and a £50 voucher went to Niall Cameron for his outstanding performances over the weekend's play.

Results

- Men's Singles** Niall Cameron (SCO) bt. Matt Ware (Ha) 10-12, 11-6, 15-13, 11-8
- Women's Singles** Lindsey Reynolds (La) bt. Lisa Radford (Dv) 11-3, 11-6, 7-11, 9-11, 11-5
- Men's Band 1** Craig Hardie (SCO) bt. Niall Cameron (SCO) 11-4, 11-6, 11-8
- Men's Band 2** Wilson Huat (FRA) bt. Scott Barton (SCO) 10-12, 13-11, 10-12, 11-6, 11-5
- Men's Band 3** Calum Main (SCO) bt. Edward Fambely (Y) 7-11, 11-6, 11-8, 11-6
- Men's Band 4** Lewis Williams (WAL) bt. Steven Fowler (SCO) 8-11, 11-6, 11-5, 11-2
- Men's Band 5** Hasitha Samarweera (SCO) bt. Kris Chok-Apinant (Nd) 11-5, 11-6, 11-7
- Men's Band 6** Peter Morgan (Ys) bt. Blair Fowler (SCO) 13-11, 11-9, 9-11, 11-9
- Under 21 Men** Matt Ware (Ha) bt. Damien Nicholls (Sp) 13-11, 11-9, 11-8
- Women's Band 1&2** Melissa Wright (YS) bt. Rebecca George (Y) 11-2, 11-8, 7-11, 14-12
- Women's Band 3** Rebecca George (Y) bt. Bethany Ross (SCO) 11-5, 11-3, 14-12
- Under 21 Women's Round Robin** Melissa Wright (Ys)
- Mixed Restricted** Stephen Munson (Bu) bt. Chris Main (SCO) 11-9, 11-8, 12-14, 11-6
- Mixed Veterans** Eddie Smith (Nd) bt. Gerry Campbell (SCO) 5-11, 13-11, 11-4, 11-6

County Championships City of Liverpool Tees Sport Junior Open

Over 60s Southern Section Underway

This season's County Championship got underway at Ashford TTC when Division 1B, which is the southern division of this section, played their first round of matches as each of the ten counties played two matches on 20th September under the watchful eye of Ashford supremo Jim Perry.

After the first day four counties were tied on four points, with two wins each as Berkshire I, Essex I, and Sussex I joined reigning champions Kent I at the top of the pile, although the closest results were 7-3 victories, as teams eased into the new campaign.

Although it is still early days, it is Berkshire who are sitting top of the pile by virtue of a superior sets difference, as they have only dropped one set in their two matches so far. After whitewashing their own second team, they thumped Surrey 9-1 with David Streak losing to Tony Needham 9-11, 7-11, 11-6, 12-14, as the only blemish on an otherwise perfect record, with Derek Wood, Tony Brown and Gill Knightley putting in a perfect record over the two matches.

Essex I started with a 7-3 victory against their own second strings, as Shirley Carroll eased to a three game win over Marjorie Dawson, and further victories by Peter Ballard over Stuart Gibbs and a mixed doubles win by Chris Jacob and Carroll over Peter Radford and Dawson were the second team's only successes.

Essex completed their day with a 10-0 victory over Kent I, with David Bowles being the only player from Essex with a perfect record.

Reigning champions Kent I also began with a 7-3 victory against their own second side, which saw a below par performance from Alan Rutherford as he lost both his singles, firstly to Ted Tydeman and then Mike Porter. A further victory by Barbara Rutherford against Brenda A'Hearne were the three sets won by Kent II.

Against Berkshire, no 2 Mike Porter replaced Alan Rutherford and Barbara Rutherford came in for A'Hearne, and on this occasion Peter Ballard beat Porter, which was the only victory in a 9-1 win for the reigning champions.

Sussex also won their first match 7-3 against Surrey which they followed up with a 9-1 victory over Bedfordshire.

3rd-4th October 2009

U13 Girls' Singles

Chrissie Slot entered three events at the Liverpool Junior 4* and travelled there having prepared well in the training hall. The first event of the day was the U13 Girls' event, where Chrissie and Beth Roberts (an exciting young prospect from Wales) met in the final match. Chrissie sealed the match with strong play in the last two points to take it 11-9 in the fifth.

Cadet Girls' Banded Singles

With the first event in the bag Chrissie moved onto the Cadet Girls Banded Singles, which on this occasion meant everyone but Annabelle Gibson. The final was contested by the two top seeded players Isobel Ashley and Chrissie; the last time they met, at the Regional Squad Championships, Isobel took the honours, but Chrissie approached this game with a hunger to win. The first four ends saw a pattern of play with Isobel attacking and Chrissie counter hitting and once again using her deceptive backspin and float variation to keep Isobel out. With the match level Chrissie changed tactics in the fifth end to try and pull away from her opponent. In this end she maintained the early pattern on Isobel's serve but on her own serve changed to strong spin serves and determined attacking from the third ball. Chrissie took control of the final end and added the Cadet Banded title to the U13 title she had secured earlier.

Cadet Girls' Singles

So now to the Cadet Singles and the prospect of winning every event she had entered. Tiredness was brushed aside as she commenced the group stage, Ify Okafor was her first opponent and although Ify played stronger than she had earlier in the day Chrissie was too strong for her. Emily Ross was next in the group and Chrissie continued her strong vein of form. At this point the news came through that Megan Knowles who had played very strongly against Chrissie had secured a fine win over number 1 seed Annabelle Gibson. There was a buzz of excitement in the Slot camp, one more game to play then into the latter stages of the event. Ellen Auty was the final group opponent and Chrissie started strongly - then disaster struck, a groin muscle injury which got steadily more restrictive as the game went on. Chrissie managed to see out the match for a 3-0 win, but the injury was preventing her from moving and the decision to pull out ended her chance of taking the hat-trick

in Liverpool. Despite the disappointment of having to pull out Chrissie was very pleased with her first competitive outing of the season.

Cadet Boys' Singles

Helshan Weerasinghe (Sx) was in fine form throughout his events, capturing a couple of titles over the weekend. In the final he faced Jared Patel who suffered a heavy beating in the opening game of the final, collecting just a single point. He managed to turn it around in the second, winning 11-9, and although he pushed Weerasinghe all the way in the next two, he lost 9 and 9 and the title to the England number 20 junior.

U13 Boys' Singles

The top two seeds Sam Mabey and Helshan Weerasinghe duly qualified to meet in the final Weerasinghe, having beaten Mabey in the Cadet semi-finals, was in no mood to let up in this final, crushing the less powerful but talented Northamptonshire 12 year old who will, I'm sure, come good, 11-5, 11-2, 11-3.

Cadet Boys' 1 Singles

Adam Harrison (La) overcame Jack Styring (Wa) and Rafi Conn-Kowlessar (Mi) in his opening two sets but the top seed didn't bargain on facing in-form Jarred Knowles. The Berkshire youngster dispatched him in straight games in the semi-final, although the first was a tightly fought 15-13 affair. Lewis Williams breezed through to the final beating Mabey 3-0 in the last eight and Ashley Facey-Thompson 3-1 in the next round. Knowles maintained his impressive run polishing off the man from Wales 6, 10 and 8 for the title.



Chrissie Slot
Girls' U13 & Cadet Banded Singles winner



Dorian Robinson / York Gardens

British League

Tell Me Why We Don't Like Sunday (Mornings)?

Division Two South of the Senior British Table Tennis League can hardly be closer, and after two rounds of matches Ashford II lead the way with 12 points with York Gardens I (11 points), DHS Greenhouse Progress III (10 points) and Fellows Cranleigh (nine points) all ready to pounce.

With three wins out of four, Ashford (with a settled side of Robert Lemon, Adam Brewer, Trung Tran and Anthony Johnson) retained their slender advantage, although Sunday morning again proved to be their undoing. In the first round of matches they had been well beaten, 6-2 by DHS Greenhouse Progress. This time they fared even worse, sinking 7-1 against a strong Fellows Cranleigh team of Umair Mauthoor, Zayd Mauthoor, Ray Lam and Anthony Kent. Trung Tran was their only winner as he edged out Anthony Kent 8-11, 11-4, 11-7, 3-11, 12-10. The ever-improving Ray Lam scored two excellent wins, getting the better of Anthony Johnson (11-5, 13-11, 6-11, 11-2), as well as Adam Brewer 11-9, 11-5, 11-9.

In their other three games Ashford were the model of consistency. They beat Horsham II 6-2 with Trung Tran and Anthony Johnson both staying undefeated, and they made no mistake against the luckless bottom side Bedford Modern I, winning 8-0. Bedford Modern will quite rightly feel hard done

by, losing four fifth enders. Hamish Yeung missed out 10-12, 12-10, 9-11, 11-9, 9-11 against Adam Brewer in the first game and his team's luck never really changed. Ashford made amends for their Sunday morning mishap by beating Pavillion Brighton II in their afternoon fixture. The redoubtable Mayur Majithia won both of the Sussex side's games, overcoming Adam Brewer 11-6, 11-8, 9-11, 9-11, 11-5 and the hard-hitting Robert Lemon 10-12, 11-4, 11-7, 11-2.

Hungarian Rita Kacsandi will be a new name to most British League followers, but York Gardens appear to have unearthed a gem of a player. Carrying on from the first weekend she displayed excellent form as she beat both Sullivan Morais (11-5, 13-11, 11-6) and Sherwin Remata (11-8, 11-8, 6-11, 11-8) in her team's 5-3 victory over DHS Greenhouse Progress. In her side's Rita 4-4 draw with Fellows Cranleigh she missed out 11-9, 11-6, 11-5 against Umair Mauthoor (who remained undefeated all weekend), although she made no mistake in her second singles, crushing Ray Lam 11-3, 11-6, 11-3. With Umair and Zayd Mauthoor both beating Wing-Yung Chan, Cranleigh had moved into a very impressive 4-1 lead in this match, but they couldn't capitalise. Another newcomer Tibor Pofor just saw off Zayd Mauthoor 7-11, 11-4, 9-11, 11-3, 13-11 and York Gardens

no. four (yes no. four!) Dorian Robinson secured the draw by getting the better of Anthony Kent 11-4, 11-8, 11-9. Rita Kacsandi made her mark against Pavillion Brighton as well. She missed out 11-5, 6-11, 5-11, 11-7, 11-13 against an inspired Phil Richardson, but she hit back hard in her second singles, getting the better of Mayur Majithia no less: 11-4, 7-11, 3-11, 11-7, 11-9. However, it was the impressive play of Pavillion's Gary Bonner which deservedly won the Player of the Match Award in this game. Gary beat both Dave Bangerter (13-11, 12-14, 11-4, 8-11, 11-4) and Tibor Poor (11-7, 11-8, 11-7) - two very good wins.

Fellows Cranleigh lost the chance to move into third place when they were held to a draw in their last match by a determined Westfield II. Umair Mauthoor duly won his two singles, but Westfield hit back very well in the remaining games.

John Fuller scored a fine 7-11, 11-5, 11-3, 11-6 win over Zayd Mauthoor, David Przybysz a five-set victory over Anthony Kent and Jack Coleman scored two excellent wins, beating Ray Lam (3-1) as well as Anthony Kent (3-2) to earn his side a share of the points. A very hard earned point for the Northamptonshire team.

Steve Kerns, British League Press Officer

Tables

PREMIER DIVISION

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Drumchapel Glasgow I	4	0	0	29	3	8
Westfield I	3	1	0	19	13	7
Batts Team Peniel I	2	0	2	18	14	4
DHS Greenhouse Progress I	1	2	1	17	15	4
Sycamore	1	2	1	14	18	4
Ormesby I	0	3	1	13	19	3
Ellenborough I	0	1	3	11	21	1
Derwent I	0	1	3	7	25	1

DIVISION 1 SOUTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Fusion I	4	0	0	22	10	8
Pavilion Brighton I	3	0	1	20	12	6
Woolwell I	3	0	1	20	12	6
DHS Greenhouse Progress II	2	0	2	15	17	4
Batts Team Peniel II	1	1	2	14	18	3
Cippenham I	0	2	2	14	18	2
Urban Progress I	0	2	2	12	20	2
Generation 2 I	0	1	3	11	21	1

DIVISION 1 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS

	W	D	L	F	A	P
TTK Greenhouse	4	0	0	26	6	8
Mossford I	2	2	0	19	13	6
Cippenham II	2	1	1	16	16	5
Fusion II	1	2	1	15	17	4
Sportingbet Guernsey I	1	1	2	15	17	3
Kingfisher	1	1	2	13	19	3
Olop Impact I	1	0	3	13	19	2
Brighton City I	0	1	3	11	21	1

DIVISION 1 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Drumchapel Glasgow II	4	0	0	27	5	8
Ormesby II	3	1	0	23	9	7
Elgre Nottingham I	2	0	2	16	16	4
Grantham	1	2	1	13	19	4
Northfield I	1	1	2	16	16	3
Halton I	1	1	2	15	17	3
Barrow Fastbats I	1	1	2	14	18	3
Sheffield	0	0	4	4	28	0

DIVISION 2 SOUTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ashford II	3	0	1	23	9	6
Pavilion Brighton II	3	0	1	19	13	6
York Gardens I	2	1	1	19	13	5
DHS Greenhouse Progress III	2	1	1	18	14	5
Horsham II	2	0	2	13	19	4
Fellows Cranleigh	1	1	2	13	19	3
Westfield II	0	2	2	11	21	2
Bedford Modern I	0	1	3	12	20	1

DIVISION 2 SOUTH AND WEST

	W	D	L	F	A	P
York Gardens II	3	1	0	23	9	7
Ashford I	3	0	1	23	9	6
Horsham I	3	0	1	19	13	6
B & S Group	2	1	1	17	15	5
Woolwell II	2	1	1	15	17	5
Cippenham III	1	1	2	14	18	3
Club Cornwall	0	0	4	9	23	0
Urban Progress II	0	0	4	8	24	0

DIVISION 2 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Chesterfield	3	1	0	24	8	7
Burton Uxbridge I	3	1	0	24	8	7
Halton II	2	1	1	16	16	5
Woodfield I	2	0	2	18	14	4
Drumchapel Glasgow III	2	0	2	16	16	4
Derwent II	1	2	1	16	16	4
Barrow Fastbats II	0	1	3	6	26	1
Elgre Nottingham II	0	0	4	8	24	0

DIVISION 3 SOUTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
DHS Greenhouse Progress IV	4	0	0	27	5	8
De Vere Netts	4	0	0	23	9	8
Fusion III	3	0	1	23	9	6
Mossford II	1	2	1	17	15	4
Woolwell III	1	1	2	12	20	3
Crusaders	1	0	3	12	20	2
Horsham III	0	1	3	7	25	1
Inspire Bognor Regis	0	0	4	7	25	0

DIVISION 3 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Godalming	4	0	0	26	6	8
Nwf	2	2	0	21	11	6
Olop Impact II	2	1	1	16	16	5
Howard	2	0	2	15	17	4
Keyworth	1	1	2	13	19	3
Brighton City II	0	2	2	14	18	2
Britannia Ipswich	1	0	3	13	19	2
Generation	2	1	1	0	3	2

DIVISION 3 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Ormesby III	4	0	0	24	8	8
Drumchapel Glasgow IV	3	1	0	20	12	7
Formby	1	2	1	16	16	4
Smiths Wood Briar	1	2	1	16	16	4
Northfield II	2	0	2	15	17	4
Rotherham Scorpions	1	1	2	14	18	3
Pudsey I	0	1	3	12	20	1
St Mary's Hull	0	1	3	11	21	1

DIVISION 4 SOUTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bournemouth Sports	4	0	0	30	2	8
Hastings	4	0	0	28	4	8
Pavilion Brighton III	3	0	1	16	16	6
Ellenborough II	2	1	1	15	17	5
Westbury White Horses	1	1	2	13	19	3
Batts Team Peniel III	0	1	3	11	21	1
Waterside	0	1	3	10	22	1
Metropolitan Police	0	0	4	5	27	0

DIVISION 4 SOUTH AND MIDLANDS

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Woodfield II	4	0	0	30	2	8
Bedford Modern II	2	0	2	17	15	4
Morpeth Greenhouse TTK	2	0	2	16	16	4
Sportingbet Guernsey II	2	0	2	15	17	4
DHS Greenhouse Progress V	2	0	2	15	17	4
Yaxley Royal British Legion	2	0	2	15	17	4
York Gardens III	1	0	3	11	21	2
Ashford III	1	0	3	9	23	2

DIVISION 4 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Briar Redlands Rookies	4	0	0	28	4	8
Ormesby IV	3	0	1	19	13	6
Team Matlock	2	1	1	15	17	5
Manchester	2	0	2	18	14	4
Stiga Hartlepool	1	1	2	14	18	3
Halton III	1	1	2	14	18	3
Pudsey II	0	2	2	10	22	2
Isle of Man	0	1	3	10	22	1

DIVISION 5 NORTH

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Woodfield III	4	0	0	32	0	8
Cliffdale Chandlers	4	0	0	22	10	8
Northfield III	3	0	1	21	11	6
Ormesby V	2	1	1	16	16	5
Rugby	1	1	2	12	20	3
Arbory	0	1	3	9	23	1
Team Tameside	0	1	3	9	23	1
Spartans	0	0	4	7	25	0



Michael Maze / Denmark

County Notes

Berkshire by Colin Dyke

The early action in the County Championships featured our two Over 60 teams. As is normal the first fixture was between the two teams. The selectors ranking was proved correct with the first team (Dave Streak, Tony Brown, Derek Wood and Jill Knightley) taking a comfortable 10-0 win from the second team (Clive Dawson, Allan Bruton, Peter Bennett and Sylvia Bruton). Allan Bruton took the only game in the singles for the second team when losing in four to Wood.

The first team then went on to an excellent 9-1 win over Surrey 1, who were missing top player Derek Holman. Wood got proceedings going with a deuce in the fifth win over Tony Needham. This seemed to set the pattern and when Knightley beat Margaret Thornton 11-6 11-8 11-4, this gave us a 6-0 lead and Berkshire had secured both points. After this, Streak lost the only set when going down to Needham 9-11 11-7 6-11 12-14.

The second team found Kent 1 too strong, although Peter Bennett picked up a great 8-11, 11-7, 4-11, 11-8, 11-7 win over Mike Porter to save the whitewash. The team

gave a good account of themselves with Allan Bruton taking games off both Tom Adams and Keith Clarke, and Sylvia Bruton losing in four to Barbara Rutherford.

This season's inter town tournament now has new dates with all events taking place at the Kingfisher Club in Reading. These are: Sunday 24th January (Seniors 1 and Veterans 1), Sunday 31st January (Seniors 2 and Veterans 2) and Sunday 7th February (Seniors 3 and Veterans 3). The event has a new organiser in Eric Van Looy. Newbury will no doubt be seeking to retain the Barbara Peisley Trophy, so expect them to field some strong teams.

Derbyshire by Neil Houghton

Nice to see some of Euro Champs on TV - I thought Michael Maze looked on good form, then Matt Syed mentioned he'd beaten Timo Boll in the team event, so it looked like he may do it and as it happened he did. A French Chinese has won the women's before and now a German named Wu. I actually thought the women's standard was a bit lower than usual, although there was an 18 year old who looked to have potential, I think she was Lithuanian.

Derbyshire juniors are getting out and about, rumour has it some to other countries. The first problem in having such a good side is getting them all together to win the National County Championships. Then having done that for the first time actually getting them together to defend it is probably even worse. Once being good enough to win it, they're obviously likely to be even busier the following season. Let's hope we can still manage a good run this season.

The County Committee elected at the AGM is: President L.A. Chatwin, Chairman Derrick Marples, Vice-Chairman Neil Marples, Hon. Secretary & Hon Treasurer Leslie Allwood, Coaching Officer Derrick Marples, Press Officer Neil Houghton, Women's Officer Melissa Slaney (recently returning from World Transplant Games in Australia with a gold medal!), Juniors (U18s) 1st and 2nds Neil Houghton, Senior Teams Les Allwood, Neil Marples and Warren Slaney, National Councillor L.A. Chatwin, Deputy National Councillor Sandra Deaton. Contact us if you want to know anything, best person at first is Les Allwood, or NTH for press/news info.

We understand that Wilf Rhodes has been quite ill recently and is said to be improving so we hope the recovery is speedy. Wilf has been very interested and supportive of county players and a stalwart of umpiring for Derbyshire for a large number of years, including being Umpire's Officer for Derbyshire recently.

It was a pity that the Clare Pengelly Memorial was cancelled this year, maybe the new Exeter tournament was too near (on calendar!), or is it just the recession affecting distance? Usually it's nice to see people who played when they were youngsters playing again say for county, but in this case, having seen Clare play so well, unfortunately it didn't happen, but it has been nice to pop down to Torbay to see her dad and her sisters with their families running such a popular tournament in her memory, including raising money for a local charity, so we hope it carries on.

Devon by John Smith

Sarah Snow and the team from the West Exe TTC are to be congratulated on setting up a very successful first ever Exeter Grand Prix. Local players certainly made their presence felt with Ilfracombe's 17 year old Dan Moore taking the Band 6 title from even younger Sam Rose from Woolwell. Paul Whiting took the veterans' title as expected and the Woolwell women certainly made their mark. Marketa Myskova narrowly missed out on the open title, losing 12-10 in the final game to Egle Adomelyte, but Sally Smith came back in determined fashion to take the Band 1 title, despite losing in her group. Younger sister Vicky beat three of the strong Welsh contingent on her way to the Band 2 final before succumbing to a fourth, Megan Phillips, but she did one better in Band 3, beating Tressa Armitage in straight games in the final.

Vicky was amongst the youngest competitors at this year's UK School Games in Wales. Playing at number 2 for the South West team, and conceding nearly four years to some of her opponents, her scalps included the Scottish and Northern Irish junior number ones.

The second season of Woolwell TTC's £1,000 Super Series, sponsored by Thornton's Sport & Leisure, got off to a spectacular start, particularly in the premier Band 1 event.

Sally Smith pulled off the only real shock at the group stage, defeating top seed Mike Short. This left Mike and second seed Toby Mattacott in the same half. After seeing off Sean Mills in the quarter-final Mike took a three game lead in their best of seven semi-final before unfortunately having to retire injured.

In the other semi-final, Sally continued her excellent form with an impressive 4-1

victory over Elaine Short, and upped her game further to take a scintillating 3-2 final lead. How she must have wished for a best of five match as Toby clawed his way back to take the final two games and £50 first prize.

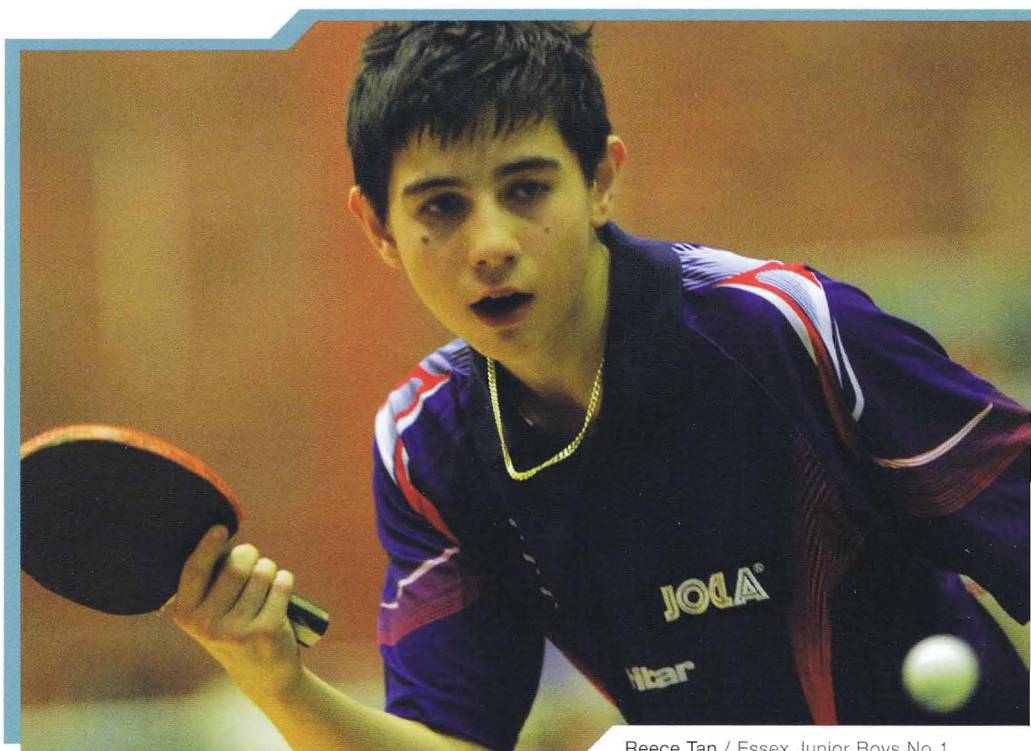
The Band 2 event saw Sean Mills narrowly defeat Sam Rose to reach the final, while Vicky Smith cruised through in the other half. Vicky remained undefeated in the three Band 2 events she contested last season but finally met her match this time, going down in four games.

Essex by Arthur Clark

County Junior Match Secretary Arthur Clark reports from the Essex Junior Assessment Trials held at BATTs, Harlow, over the weekend of 19th and 20th September, which attracted a record number of entries, so much so that the U18 Girls' event had to be switched to the Sunday. With ten tables in play the playing schedules showed no spare table spaces for the whole of both days.

did happen. Unfortunately the county's top ranked boy, Reece Tan, had only just had the plaster removed from a broken wrist and was unable to compete. However this did not detract from the intense competition, none more so than the match between the expected top two boys, Oscar Selfridge and Jared Patel (both Peniel Academy), which Jared won 13-11 in the fifth on five deuces.

Sunday saw the remaining boy's events, U13 and U15. With too many entries in both events, a decision was taken to restrict entry numbers to avoid an after 10pm scheduled finish. The top nationally ranked players were therefore exempted to enable the rest of the entries, some playing in the events for the first time, to demonstrate their skills. In both events the top seed failed to win the final winners group. In the U13 event, Bradley Osborne (Fellows Cranleigh) beat both of the players ranked nationally above him and in the U15 event James Denyer (Clacton) came from an unseeded position in his first round group to win the final winners group.



Reece Tan / Essex Junior Boys No.1

The Saturday was devoted almost wholly to the U18 Boys' event and the results would form the basis of selection for Essex's four junior teams. One morning table was used for the U11 Boys round robin event which was won by Benjamin Holland (Peniel Academy). With 54 entries the players were divided into two groups based roughly on national rankings, with possible promotion and relegation between the two groups after the first round of matches and this

All four girls' events were also played on the Sunday and only in the U15 event did the number one seed not win her event. In the U11 event almost half the entries were forced into a late withdrawal, with Amaka Okafor (Peniel Academy) winning the round robin and club mate Ella Patel winning the U13. In the U15 event the surprise winner was eighth seed Emily Godfrey (Southend), coming through as runner-up in her first round group on sets count back, after a

three way tie for first place and winning the final group. The U18 Girls' event went very much to form for the top players, only the number four seed Estelle Purkis losing fourth place to number five seed Grace Collier (both Peniel Academy).

The issued top Essex Junior Rankings are:

Boys: 1. Reece Tan, 2. Oscar Selfridge, 3. Jared Patel, 4. Matthew Mulley, 5. Luca Mariano, 6. Anthony Kent.

Girls: 1. Nicole Sydorenko, 2. Evangeline Collier, 3. Annabelle Gibson, 4. Grace Collier, 5. Ify Okafor, 6. Estelle Purkis.

Northants by Dennis Millman

With Jack Coleman, the current Junior Boys' champion unable to compete, three players (Sam Wildman, Nathan Thompson and Miles Chan) appeared to have excellent prospects in the Boys Top 10 event.

The first significant result came in round 3 when Chan beat Thompson in four ends, but in round 6 it was Chan's turn to taste defeat to Wildman 9-11, 11-2, 16-14, 11-6. Otherwise the three main contestants remained unbeaten.

When Chan beat James Wright in the ninth and final round, in which Wildman was in direct opposition to Thompson, all three players could still take the title. However Wildman needed just two games to emerge triumphant and though Thompson took the first 11-9, and won the encounter with an 11-5, 11-9 finish, the two ends that went Wildman's way made him the champion.

Placings:

1. Sam Wildman, 2. Miles Chan, 3. Nathan Thompson, 4. Chris Marshall, 5. James Wright, 6. Aaron Ark, 7. Joe Lindsay, 8. Leon Chan, 9. Joe Burrows, 10. Dominic Barker

The Girls' top 8 was more straightforward, with ladies and county champion Jordan Wood looking a certain winner. So it proved,

though she had a real battle on her hands before easing through 11-7 in the fifth end after trailing Nicole Bird by two games to one. Rachel Thompson also took an early lead with a 16-14 opener but Wood fought back to win.

Zuzana Bakusova made a fine debut, losing only to Wood, and should prove an invaluable acquisition.

Placings:

1. Jordan Wood, 2. Zuzana Bakusova, 3. Rachel Thompson, 4. Nicole Bird, 5. Rachel Brown, 6. Lauren Ainsworth, 7. Lucy Budworth, 8. Katie Tombs

The fourth pre-season event was a Veteran Top 12 for the Broadlands Trophy, donated by that great table tennis enthusiast Greg Dobrowolski. Previously played for in the early 1990s, this event featured the top 12 available veterans on the Thorntons Sport ranking list. Split into two groups, an interesting innovation had the higher ranked players in group A with the remainder in group B, with the group winners to meet in the final.

Chris Ross and Andy Trott made the best starts in group A with three wins each, but where as Trott went on to remain unbeaten, Ross lost heavily to Trott and then in straight games to Richard Elliott, who had started with two defeats but still finished second Elliott's clash with John Fuller was the only one to go the distance with Elliott winning 11-9, 10-12, 11-7, 16-18, 11-8

It was a different story in group B where seven of the fifteen sets went to five ends. One of these, as early as the third round featured a 23-21 opening scoreline with Paul Gatiss going on to beat Kevin Bird in a fifth end decider. At that stage neither player thought it would prove the deciding factor, but so it proved and with both players gaining four victories, the early win for Gatiss put him in the final

Gatiss faced a daunting task against Trott but produced some outstanding winners on both wings. Nevertheless Trott playing as well as he ever did, used his guile and touch to such good effect that he emerged a straight game winner 11-8, 11-9, 11-4

Placings:

Group A: 1. Andy Trott, 2. Richard Elliott, 3. Chris Ross, 4. John Fuller, 5. Gary Webb, 6. Ken Philipson

Group B: 1. Paul Gatiss, 2. Kevin Bird, 3. Terry Cardwell, 4. Richard Bashford, 5. Brian Wooding, 6. Mikes Hawes



Joanna Parker



Megan Phillips

Surrey by Chris Andrews

Joanna Parker led the England Women at the European Table Tennis Championships in Stuttgart, whilst Darius played in the Men's Team. In the team event Joanna finished on 8 wins out of 10.

In the Maccabiah Games Adam Laws was part of the bronze medal winning team and even won the decisive match in the 3rd/4th place play-off. This is the first medal won by the men's open team in almost 30 years, excluding the intifada games of 2001. In the singles, Adam lost in the last 32 to the World no.888.

At the China Open both Joanna Parker and Darius Knight got through to the main event, however both players were beaten by World top 10 players in the first round.

Tin-Tin Ho, who previously played for Surrey club Crusaders, did amazingly well to reach the final of the 5th Euro Mini Championships in Schiltigheim, France. She beat players ranked a lot higher than herself and came back from being behind in the quarter-final and semi-final in the under 12 European event when aged only 10 at the time.

Miles Collins was the Band 4 Butterfly Grand Prix Champion for the 2008/09 season, along with Abdul Wuraola who won the veterans' overall title and Zoltan Hosszu who took the restricted overall event.

England number two, Darius Knight, is to be used in a new up and coming pan-European advertising campaign for Nintendo's new Wii Sports Resort game. In the last Grand Prix of the season, held at Hereford, Emre Hussain won the Men's Band 2 and Emre Ibatoglu won the Men's Band 6 event.

The first Grand Prix of the 2009/10 season saw an all Surrey affair in the restricted event where Matt Pernet beat Adam Laws.

The eleventh annual Cippenham Summer Festival saw Lucy Lou win the under 14 girls' singles title. In the first Cippenham series of the new season Janice Lee won the Veteran Women's Singles event against a 3 times title holder, Sue Hayes.

George Heath won the Horsham 2 star under 13 event without losing a single set.

Abdul Wuraola won the July Horsham Super sixteen event.

Yorkshire by Barry Snowden

Foster Takes Yorkshire Title

The Yorkshire Closed Table Tennis Championships were held at Halifax TTC, with the junior events being held on the Saturday. The day proved successful for Hull in particular, but it was the victory by James Foster in the boys' cadet event which gave the home town something to smile about.

Hull's Reece Lo as expected won the junior boys' singles (U18) as Halifax and Hull players dominated the event with four players from Halifax and two from Hull qualifying from the group stages to the knockout event.

Top seed, Hull's Josh Thompson, just got the better of Yorkshire team mate and Halifax player, James Mason, although Mason will be kicking himself as he led two games to one and 9-5 in the fourth, but was unable to close the game out which allowed battler Thompson back into the game and it was the Hull player who booked himself a place in the final by virtue of a five game victory.

Second seed Lo eased into the final by virtue of a comfortable three game victory over Halifax rising star James Foster.

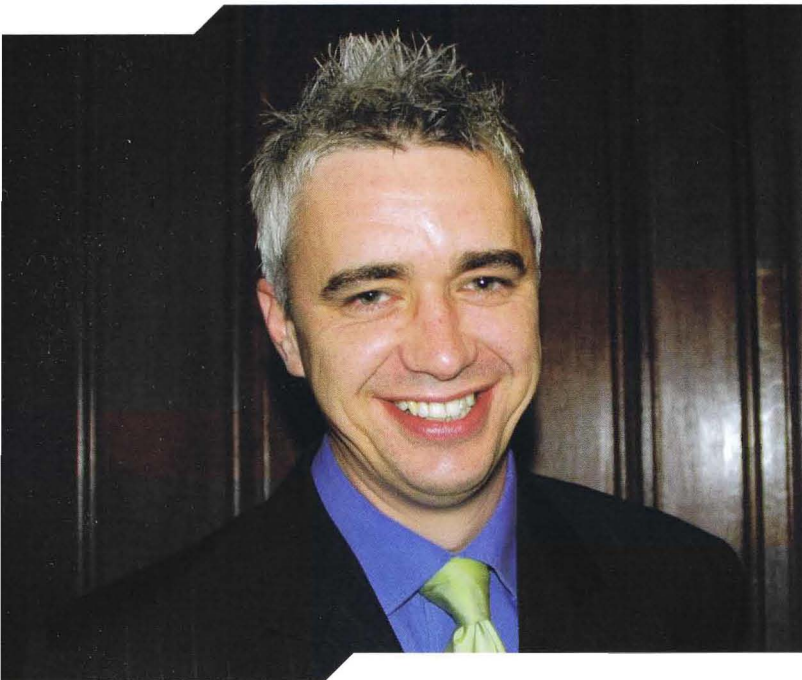
Although they showed Thompson as top seed, he was only one ranking point above Lo, but it was his final opponent who ended the season better and eased to a comfortable 11-5 13-11 11-6 victory to take his first junior county title.

The U13 boys' event saw another Hull player Daryl Gee take the title. Having won the Yorkshire trials at this age group, Gee was the clear favourite and won all his group and knockout matches in three straight games, including a final victory against Leeds player Edward Hollingsworth 11-4, 11-0, 11-5.

Gee was also favourite to take the cadet boys' singles (U15), but came unstuck in the final against Halifax player James Foster, as once more Hull and Halifax players dominated the event. On this occasion it was going to be one player from each town that contested the final, as Gee faced team mate Sam Tompkins in the first semi-final, whilst Foster played Matthew Stephens in his semi.

Both semi-finals followed a similar pattern with Gee comfortably accounting for Tompkins to book his place in the final where he was due to meet Foster, who accounted for club mate Stephens in the other last four match.

The final proved to be the most exciting final of the day, as Gee established a 2-1 lead, only to see the Halifax player draw level at two games each and in the final game, points were traded all throughout the game, but it was the Halifax player who held his nerve the best to take an 11-9 final game victory and with it his first Yorkshire title.



Mark Willerton

Profile

You are also the programme manager for PremierClubs, what does that involve?

A varied and exciting role to manage, support and drive club development through the PremierClub programme.

We have a target set in our Whole Sport Plan 2009-13 of increasing and retaining the number of Clubmark table tennis clubs in this country. Good club activity is the catalyst for long term development of the sport, and the Clubmark accreditation process is the sign of a quality club working towards a secure long term future, expanding its volunteer base, offering a safe and effective environment for young people and players of all ages and abilities. It also helps to increase the membership, in turn increasing the number of local league teams or players, and works to improve the standard of coaching, developing more talented players of the future.

However, we need to ensure our volunteers are supported and not stretched, with appropriate action planning and working with other sporting partners. There will be regular club visits by ETTA staff to include club health checks, action planning meetings and regional and sub-regional workshops, where clubs and key volunteers can learn about new funding streams, share ideas and practical advice on running a successful club. New resources and benefits to PremierClubs will also be implemented to ensure we have a vibrant and healthy club volunteer workforce based in clubs to take us beyond the 2013 Whole Sport Plan funding.

Before you started this role you were an RDO, how do you think that helps you in your new role?

I'd like to think my six years as the Yorkshire Regional Development Officer has stood me in good stead for being successful in my new national role. I've worked with many different partners within Yorkshire and on many different projects, from clubs, leagues, school sport partnerships, local authorities, county sports partnerships, Sport England and the Youth Sport Trust. Projects include facility development, funding projects, recruitment and line management of new coaching positions and club action

Planning This experience will certainly help when developing relationships and working with partners of different levels involved in the PL4 Sport project and my other role as the ETTA national lead officer for clubs and the ETTA development programme PremierClub.

Mark Willerton takes on the new task of bringing table tennis and football together

Information

Birth date:
9th May 1969

Place of birth:
Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire

Residence:
West Butterwick

Job title:
National Programme Manager –
Clubs & Premier League 4 Sport

aim is to get 25,000 young people aged between 11 and 16 to take part and join local sports clubs (6,250 table tennis) during the three year scheme.

Each Premier League football club will appoint a project co-ordinator who will manage the scheme locally, working with clubs (table tennis) and school sport partnerships to achieve 80 community sports clubs (20 for table tennis) and 320 new satellite school based sessions, four per community sports club (80 for table tennis)

There will be challenges along the way to bring together key partners, working towards new table tennis activity and to build upon our current club infrastructure of PremierClubs, including venue availability, engaging new volunteers and coaching delivery. Working closely with each of the Premier League football club community trusts, we can create a network of strong TT clubs, linked to school sessions, and appoint new ETTA club support and coaching officers created by the funding partners involved in each project. These club support and coaching officers will encourage, support and drive the new activity and in turn offer new young children to table tennis, the opportunities to play and have a great experience in our sport.

So what has football got to do with table tennis?

Good question The Premier League 4 Sport project is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the ETTA and table tennis locally to officially work with the "stardust" of the Premier League.

The Premier League 4 Sport project, which is being funded with £3.8m from the Government, is a major investment towards four Olympic sports, table tennis, judo, volleyball and badminton Working in partnership with Sport England, Youth Sport Trust and the top 20 Premier League football clubs of the 2008/9 season, the

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Player Rankings

TOP 25 SENIOR MEN

Rank	Player
1.	DRINKHALL, Paul (CV.)
2.	KNIGHT, Darius (SY.)
3.	REED, Daniel (CV.)
4.	RUSHTON, Andrew (LA.)
5.	PITCHFORD, Liam (DY.)
6.	HERBERT, Gareth (BK.)
7.	NICHOLLS, Damien (SP.)
8.	MEADS, David (DU.)
9.	WARE, Mathew (DO.)
10.	YOUNG, Terry (BK.)
11.	DORAN, Christopher (NP.)
12.	MARSDEN, Michael (DU.)
13.	TRUMPAUSKAS, Lawrence
14.	BRYANT, Craig (DV.)
15.	DOLDER, Kevin (LA.)
16.	KINLOCKE, Garth (HA.)
17.	MCBEATH, David (HA.)
18.	HOLLAND, John J (Dy) (E.)
19.	WURAOLA, Abdul (SY.)
20.	MARPLES, Shaun (DY.)
21.	NOAH, Hubert (E.)
22.	SIMPSON, Mark (DU.)
23.	SMITH, Mark Richard (Y.)
24.	MAYBANKS, William (HE.)
25.	DRINKHALL, Bryn (CV.)

TOP 25 SENIOR WOMEN

Rank	Player
1.	PARKER, Joanna (SY.)
2.	SIBLEY, Kelly (WA.)
3.	LE FEVRE, Karina (CV.)
4.	HICKS, Hannah (HA.)
5.	REYNOLDS, Lindsey (LA.)
6.	VICKERS, Emma (DY.)
7.	CLEMENTS, Sanya (DO.)
8.	EMBLING, Abigail (E.)
9.	SMITH, Karen (LE.)
10.	ROBERTS, Joanna (Y.)
11.	BATES, Emily (LI.)
12.	FULLER, Mary (Y.)
13.	SHEPHERD, Karen (CH.)
14.	SLATER, Natalie (ST.)
15.	VICKERS, Jane (DY.)
16.	KEAST, Lesley (LI.)
17.	HALLOWS, Caroline (CH.)
18.	PERKS, Sarah (NG.)
19.	UZAL, Shelley (E.)
20.	RAINTON, Rosemary (SX.)
21.	WHYTE, Chloe (CV.)
22.	WRIGHT, Melissa (YS.)
23.	HARPER, Sandra (BD.)
24.	STEDMAN, Sarah (SX.)
25.	ROSE, Emma (HE.)

TOP 5 JUNIOR BOYS

Rank	Player
1.	EVANS, Gavin (BU.)
2.	PITCHFORD, Liam (DY.)
3.	MCBEATH, David (HA.)
4.	GRAY, Lewis (K.)
5.	LOWE, Daniel (DY.)

TOP 5 CADET BOYS

Rank	Player
1.	ZILESINICK, Zak (MI.)
2.	WALKER, Sam (NG.)
3.	MORAIS, Igor (MI.)
4.	WEERASINGHE, Helshan
5.	WILSON, Ross (K.)

TOP 5 UNDER 13 BOYS

Rank	Player
1.	WEERASINGHE Helshan (SX)
2.	MABEY, Samuel (NP.)
3.	CHAN, Miles Dak Hay (NP.)
4.	WELLS, Tyrone (MI.)
5.	BOUSFIELD, John P (CV.)

TOP 5 VETERAN MEN

Rank	Player
1.	TRUMPAUSKAS, Lawrence
2.	WURAOLA, Abdul (SY.)
3.	SMITH, Eddie (ND.)
4.	VENNER, Ritchie (SX.)
5.	NEIL, Lee (NG.)

TOP 5 JUNIOR GIRLS

Rank	Player
1.	LE FEVRE, Karina (CV.)
2.	BATES, Emily (LI.)
3.	DAVIDSON, Lucy (DY.)
4.	WRIGHT, Melissa (YS.)
5.	KING, Yolanda (SX.)

TOP 5 CADET GIRLS

Rank	Player
1.	BATES, Emily (LI.)
2.	HO, Tin-Tin (MI.)
3.	DAWSON, Jessica (CV.)
4.	ARMITAGE, Tressa (HA.)
5.	SMITH, Victoria (DV.)

TOP 5 UNDER 13 GIRLS

Rank	Player
1.	HO, Tin-Tin (MI.)
2.	SLOT, Chrissie (HA.)
3.	TSAPTSINOS, Maria (BK.)
4.	PATEL, Ella (E.)
5.	PEAKE, Lois (SX.)

TOP 5 VETERAN WOMEN

Rank	Player
1.	COLLIER, Sue (CH.)
2.	CLEMENTS, Sanya (DO.)
3.	COHEN, Michele (WI.)
4.	SHIELDS, Helen (Y.)
5.	ADAMS, Janet (Y.)

World Rankings

Top 5 Men

1. WANG Hao (CHN)
2. MA Long (CHN)
3. MA Lin (CHN)
4. BOLL Timo (GER)
5. WANG Liqin (CHN)



Top 5 Women

1. ZHANG Yining (CHN)
2. GUO Yue (CHN)
3. LIU Shiwen (CHN)
4. LI Xiaoxia (CHN)
5. FENG Tianwei (SIN)



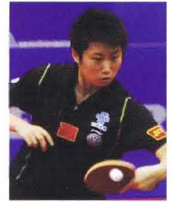
Top 5 U21 Men

1. MA Long (CHN)
2. MIZUTANI Jun (JPN)
3. OVTCHAROV Dimitrij (GER)
4. ZHANG Jike (CHN)
5. JIANG Tianyi (HKG)



Top 5 U21 Women

1. GUO Yue (CHN)
2. LIU Shiwen (CHN)
3. LI Xiaoxia (CHN)
4. DING Ning (CHN)
5. FUKUHARA Ai (JPN)



Top 5 U18 Boys

1. MATSUDAIRA Kenta (JPN)
2. JIN Yixiong (CHN)
3. MA Liang ^ (SIN)
4. YIN Hang (CHN)
5. SEO Hyun Deok (KOR)



Top 5 U18 Girls

1. LIU Shiwen (CHN)
2. WU Yang (CHN)
3. PESOTSKA Margaryta (UKR)
4. ISHIKAWA Kasumi (JPN)
5. CHENG I-Ching (TPE)



Top 5 U15 Boys

1. YIN Hang (CHN)
2. NIWA Koki (JPN)
3. ZHENG Peifeng (CHN)
4. CHENG Jingqi (CHN)
5. HUNG Tzu-Hsiang (TPE)



Top 5 U15 Girls

1. YANG Ha Eun (KOR)
2. CHEN Meng (CHN)
3. TANIOKA Ayuka (JPN)
4. SOLJA Petrissa (GER)
5. NOSKOVA Yana (RUS)



For full list of player rankings please visit our website
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Diary for you Dates



Melissa Wright

November 2009

Saturday 21st

- Cadet - County Championships
- Junior - County Championships
- Senior - County Championships
- Veteran - County Championships
County Championships Premier

Sunday 22nd

- Cadet - National Cadet League
- Junior - Stiga 2 Star
- Senior - Cippenham Team 2 Star
- Veteran - County Championships Premier

Saturday 28th

- Cadet - Stockton on Tees 4 Star
- Junior - Stockton on Tees 4 Star
National Junior League
- Senior - British League Premier

Sunday 29th

- Junior - National Junior League
- Senior - British League Premier

December 2009

Saturday 5th

- Cadet - Kemnal 1 Star
Westfield 1 Star
- Junior - Westfield 1 Star
- Senior - County Championships Premier
- Veteran - VETTS Eastern - Norwich

Sunday 6th

- Junior - Kemnal 1 Star
Blackpool 1 Star
Burton Uxbridge 1 Star
- Senior - County Championships Premier
- Veteran - VETTS Eastern - Norwich

Wednesday 9th-16th

- Other - World Junior Championships, Colombia

Saturday 12th

- Cadet - National Championships
- Junior - National Championships
- Senior - County Championships
- Veteran - County Championships

Sunday 13th

- Cadet - National Championships
- Junior - National Championships
- Other - VW Tournament of Champions