CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

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INSIDE...

8 PAGE SUPPLEMENT

60TH ENGLISH OPEN SPECIAL PREVIEW

ANDREW EDEN WISHES TABLE TENNIS NEWS READERS "MERRY CHRISTMAS"

ONE POUND FIFTY PENCE

ISSUE 227
DEC 94 JAN 95

ETTA
I would like to open this column by wishing all our readers a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Hopefully I will meet many of you at the 60th English Open at Cleveland in January. In this issue of Table Tennis News there is a special 8 page preview of the 60th English Open from pages 17 to 24.

On pages 8 and 9 there is a report and pictures of the opening weekend of the Woolwich Junior British league, which surprisingly saw the Irish Boys team at the top of the Premier Division on the Sunday night. This result which was an upset for the pretournament favourites Kingfisher, but the Reading based club were without the services of talented Gareth Herbert.

What really impressed me about the Irish teams was their willingness to help with the dismantling of the tables and surrounds after the tournament was over.

I really enjoyed myself at the Honeywell Veterans British league Weekend at Burton-on-Trent in November, even though I didn’t play. See Brian Lamerton’s report on pages 12 and 13.

The last time the English Open was held in Cleveland was in 1977, when Carol (Knight) Moore beat Jill (Hammersley) Parker, in the final and Desmond Douglas lost to Stanislav Gomozkov of the USSR in the Men’s Singles Final. 1977 was a truly memorable Open at Cleveland, let’s hope that we are equally successful at the 60th Open in January.

John FA Wood.
WHEELS OF SUCCESS

TWO YOUNG RISING STARS OF ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS NICOLA DEATON AND STEPHEN BAGGALEY, HAVE BEEN AWARDED SPONSORED CARS.

Nicola Deaton became the youngest player to receive a sponsored car when on the 1st August 1994, at the tender age of 17 years old she joined the elite contracted women's squad at BFL Grove, Tong Fei Ming, Lisa Lomas and Alison Gordon. BFL Grove's Ian Marshall said, "We see Nicola as an important part of our bid to win the European Cup over the next three to four years".

In November, Stephen Baggaley, Table Tennis Coach, who is 23 years old and has been coaching full time for the past 6 years took delivery of a brand new Rover Metro GTi thanks to the sponsorship of Soul Garages of Olney. This represents a first for a Table Tennis Coach and Stephen feels that it is an important step in upgrading both the image of coaching and the sport in general.

The vehicle will enable him to continue his coaching sessions in Schools, Leisure Centres and at the Greenleys Table Tennis Centre, where he coaches his 11 year old brother Andrew, who is England's No. 1 under 12 player.

Why pay more for your equipment than you need to?
- Club bulk purchases bigger discounts guaranteed.

081-870 3600

THE ETTA VISA CARD

You may already have heard about the English Table Tennis Association, low interest Visa credit card which was launched at European Championships in March. The card offers many benefits, in particular we are pleased to announce that the ETTA Visa card now offers no annual fee.

However, the real clincher is the special introductory offer. Simply transfer the balances from existing credit cards to your ETTA Visa card and you will be charged an APR of just 13.9% for the first six months. This rate also applies to cash advances as well during the same period.

The ETTA Visa card is issued by MBNA International Bank Limited - part of one of the world's largest bank card issuers with more than 13 million customers. MBNA's FREEPHONE Customer Satisfaction hotline is open 24 hours, seven days a week. You can request a replacement card, request an increase to your credit limit, or query a statement at any time. Credit lines are assigned individually; MBNA does not rely solely on computer credit scoring systems when assessing limits.

Other great benefits include free insurance cover for most purchases of more than £50, as well as travel accident and inconvenience insurance. You can also register all of your other credit cards with MBNA and you won't be liable for misuse of your card following theft as long as you notify MBNA immediately.

ETTA receives a royalty for each account opened and also an ongoing income each time you make purchases using your card. Therefore by taking and using this card you will be supporting the work of the English Table Tennis Association.

If you would like to know more, please see the advertisement in this edition of Table Tennis News on page 13 and apply immediately using the Freephone number.
ON THE DEVELOPMENT FRONT, THE SPORTS COUNCIL HAVE LAUNCHED A NEW INITIATIVE, THE NATIONAL JUNIOR SPORTS PROGRAMME TABLE TENNIS IS ONE OF THE 7 SPORTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS PROGRAMME IN 1995 WRITES ALAN RANSOME.

The basic principle is that sport will be promoted to children age from 4 right through to 18. A number of programmes are being introduced to encourage sport in schools and the vital link between school sport and clubs.

One of the main benefits to table tennis will be the wider introduction of our sport in schools and the formal links which can be established between the schools and our club network. This project is a partnership between the Sports Council, the newly formed Youth Sports Trust, The National Coaching Foundation, local authorities and governing bodies of sport (i.e. the ETTA), represented locally by selected clubs with junior sections. This programme will fit perfectly with our Woolwich Junior League programme. The co-operation between the ETTA and the English Schools TTA is first class and this co-operation will enable the whole programme to knit together to introduce table tennis to thousands of youngsters throughout the country into our sport each year. As an incentive to our clubs special project grants of up to £400 per club will be available to assist with junior based development and coaching programmes.

Our Regional Development Officers over the next six months will be identifying clubs that they feel are able to participate in the programme and the projected start date will be the beginning of next season.

The Sports Council have recently redefined their priorities which are now Youth Sport, Excellence and the National Lottery. We are already heavily involved in excellence programmes but wait with interest new Sports Council initiatives. We are also well ahead in terms of facility programmes of which the National Lottery will clearly play an important part. Our Regional Development Officers and Regional Chairman attended a one day seminar at the end of November covering this whole subject. Our ten RDO's are trained to provide our member leagues and clubs with information and guidance in relation for applications for funding, including the Lottery. Our general policy is to encourage every local association to review its facility needs and to work with the RDO to investigate how those needs can be best achieved.

The ETTA, with considerable support from Manchester City Council and the Sports Council have confirmed the bid to stage the 1997 World Championships. They were originally due to be played in Belgrade, Yugoslavia but because of the political difficulties in the former Yugoslavia, The ITTF Council at its meeting in Tianjin last May withdrew the option and gave notification that authorised the Executive Committee of the ITTF to consider alternative bids and to make a decision before the end of 1994.

It has been known for someone that the ITTF were likely to remove the option from Belgrade, as long ago as May 1993, in fact. The late President of the International Table Tennis Federation, Ichiro Ogimura, approached me seeking a bid from England, possibly Manchester discussing the possibility of a bid to stage the 1997 Worlds. Manchester did not feel that they wished to make a commitment firstly until after the IOC had made a decision with regard to the 2000 Olympics and then until after the Manchester Officials has been able to gauge the reception to a bid to stage the 1997 Worlds, Manchester did not feel that they wished to make a commitment firstly until after the IOC had made a decision with regard to the 2000 Olympics and then until after the Manchester Officials has been able to gauge the reception to a bid to stage the 1997 Worlds. Manchester did not feel that they wished to make a commitment firstly until after the IOC had made a decision with regard to the 2000 Olympics and then until after the Manchester Officials has been able to gauge the reception to a bid to stage the 2000 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada, this year.

Since that time detailed discussions have taken place with Manchester and the Sport Council and what I regard as a first class bid had been made by the ETTA with an underwrite from Manchester City Council. The bid includes the use of the new Manchester Arena which is due to be opened in the summer of next year. This is a similar building to the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham where the European Championships were successfully staged last Easter. There will be 4 show courts with over 5,000 seats, plus in the other half of the Arena another 10 courts and with 15 practice courts elsewhere in the complex. As the 1997 World Championships are likely to attract entries from close on 100 national teams, a second major facility is required and the bid includes the use of the G Mex Centre, which is sufficiently large to accommodate, with seating, 35 match courts and 30 practice courts. In terms of facilities and number of teams, this will be by far the biggest World Championships ever with a total of 49 match courts and 45 practice tables. The two venues are just one mile apart and in between will be the 6 championship hotels that will be able to accommodate between 1,500 and 2,000 participants, coaches, officials and press.

The ITTF were pleased to receive our bid and expeditiously accepted our invitation for members of the.

SCHOOLS OPENING for TABLE TENNIS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS for MANCHESTER

By Alan Ransome
Executive Committee to visit Manchester to view the venues and facilities and to receive the bid from the ETTA and Manchester. The ITTF were represented by Deputy President Lollo Hammalund, Treasurer Hans Geiseke and Secretary General Albert Shipley. Manchester’s case was presented by the Leader of the Council, Cllr. Graham Skinner, Sir Bob Scott, the chairman of the Manchester Olympic and Commonwealth Games Bid Committee and Peter Knowles, their Sporting Events Consultant. The table tennis aspects of the bid were presented by our President, Johnny Leach, MBE and myself. Our bid is undoubtedly a very strong one and was well received by the representatives of the ITTF. They have two other bids - Belgrade re-entered the frame after the UN suspended sanctions against Yugoslavia, and there is a bid from India. The ITTF will make the decision which bid to accept at their Executive Meeting at the World Cup in Taiwan in the second half of December.

MR OGIMURA DIES

It is with great sadness that I have to report the death of the President of the International Table Tennis Federation, Ichiro Ogimura of Japan on Sunday, 4th December.

Mr Ogimura was one of the great achievers in table tennis. He won the World Championships in 1954 and 1956, was a highly respected coach, a successful businessman and latterly a very good President of the ITTF. He was a man of considerable ability. His enthusiasm for table tennis was second to none and his willingness to help associations with their plans to develop the sport was limitless.

He travelled the world promoting table tennis. He had significant influence in the Olympic movement and was a close friend of the IOC President, Juan Antonio Samaranch. He always wanted the best for table tennis. He came to Manchester to talk to the 2000 Bid officials and was asked what table tennis wanted from the Bid. His answer was a permanent large table tennis centre that would be a legacy from the Games. If Manchester had been awarded the Games, this would have happened directly as a result of Mr Ogimura’s visit.

I am sure that Ichiro Ogimura would have continued for many years as our International President and table tennis would have continued to grow in stature as a result of his efforts. He did a great job for our sport and will be very hard to replace.

14 GREAT DAYS of TABLE TENNIS

Table Tennis is about to embark upon its busiest period of the year in England. On 28th December the England vs China tour opens in Woking. This is a 6 match tour covering the country with matches in St. Austell (29th), Stourbridge (30th), Grantham (1st January), Nottingham (2nd) and Chester (3rd). The 60th English Open in Cleveland will be played from 4th-8th January 1995, with the final three days being promoted in line with the ITTF Grand Prix proposals with only 4 show courts and all matches staged for the benefit of the spectators and the television. January’s Open has all the makings of being the strongest for some years with a total of 30 national teams now entered. China are challenging Sweden’s World supremacy and including in their latest super-star the Asian and US Champion Kong Linghui. In the next World Championships in May, Sweden will obviously be keen to retain their World Title. They are sending most of their top players to the Open, including former World Champion Jorgen Persson, 3 x Euro Champion Mikael Appelgren and probably their strongest current player, Peter Karlsson.

Also included in the Swedish squad, is the current European World Champion Marie Svensson. I know that our own English squad are all preparing for the Open. Both TV audiences and the spectators are in for a great feast of table tennis.

BBC are covering the England vs China match from Stourbridge and this will be shown on 31 December. Grand Slam TV Productions will broadcast the English Open worldwide. It will be seen on Euro Sport ..., the new cable network, Wire Sport throughout the UK and will be shown locally on Tyne Tees TV. After the English Open a 2 match tour by the English Women and the European Champions, Russia, will take place in Hull and Crewe. The day after on 11th January our Men’s team travel to Germany to play the second leg of the Joola European League Super Division semi-final. In the first leg in Doncaster, England were well beaten 4-1 by a determined German team led by the former European Champion, Jörg Rosskopf.

1994 A GOOD YEAR for TABLE TENNIS

1994 has been one of the busiest and most productive years that I can remember for Table Tennis. The high point was the staging of the European Championships in Birmingham. The sport has benefited enormously from the Focus Sport programme and the input from the Sports Council and the Foundation for Sports and the Arts. The coaching scheme has experienced considerable expansion, and our National Teams have had another good year at international Level.

As the year comes to an end, I would like to thank all association members for their contribution and assistance and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a successful New Year.

*Alan Ransome, Chairman
Irish Eyes are Smiling

Irish Boys were the surprise Premier Division Leaders at the conclusion of the first weekend played at Bletchley Leisure Centre. Writes Brian Lamerton.

Fielding the same squad as had won promotion from Division One last season, Ger. Boyle, Paul Fitzpatrick, Brian Fitzgerald and Damien Lynch their 4 wins included the 4-2 defeat of the more fancied Kingfisher (last season's champions) and an even more decisive 5-1 win over BFL Grove; albeit both of these teams were below normal strength. Boyle's 8 from 10 (losing to Derwent's Michael James and Grove's No. 1 Welshman Ryan Jenkins) equalled the record of Jenkins himself who also lost to James and to Terry Young. All eyes had been on Kingfisher's Young from the off as he came into this event with a record of 95 successive wins but he was destined not to reach his century as going down decisively in match 98, 21-15, 21-14 to David Purdy (Linda Farrow) he later lost also to Boyle and Jason Sugrue (Stiga Fellowes Cranleigh). Sugrue's team mate Stephen Lampkin with 7 from 8 returned the Premier's best average but playing at No. 3 throughout avoided the opposing No. 1's.

It was largely as expected in the Girls Premier with BFL Grove leading Stiga Fellowes Cranleigh by nature of their obtaining the better of the drawn game between them (Grove's Lindsey Thornton taking Glenda Ashison to 3 in the final set the difference). This was only Lindsey's second defeat, a feat equalled only by Fellowes Shelly Ruocco of those ever present. Newcomers Peniel lead both 1st divisions with a combined maximum 10 out of 10 with Vince Avery, Ben Linncar and Tracey Davies recording individual perfect 10's; Avery without losing a game but Linncar was taken to the 3rd on 6 occasions. Peniel girls were each presented with Woolwich pennants having been selected for the "Woolwich Special team Award" which, its worth repeating from the handbook, is awarded to the team who, in the opinion of the selection panel, has maintained a high standard of sportsmanship, dress, team spirit, and co-operation up to and during the weekend. Shelley Ruocco was awarded the girls "Woolwich Player Award" from a similar criteria.

Lennox House with Harry McCarney (7 from 8), Kevin Doyle (7 from 8) and Martin Sims (5 from 6) occupying the top 3 places in the averages and with...
Robert Abbots at No. 7 gave strong indication of their intention of winning the division 2A promotion place. Only Reject's Scott Friday was able to take two sets off Lennox. Of many close and exciting matches there was none more so than the final match in divisions 2B when Milton Keynes, who received the "Woolwich Player of the Weekend Award", both came to the table having played 4, won 4. Whilst from the opening game in which Bristol's Tom Orrick defeated Gareth Thomas 21-17 in the third Bristol were always ahead the result was not decided until in the last set Long beat Mark Cole 21-14 in the third to give Bristol a 4-2 victory and the divisional leadership. This match was watched with considerable interest by the Deputy Mayor of Milton Keynes, Councillor Bruce Hardwick who sat throughout with the competitions mastermind and now Deputy Organiser Mike Lewis who does of course hail from Bristol! For the record, despite changes in personnel since last season competition was keen, well fought and closely contested; few love results, 3 matches going to the 3rd game on 5 occasions, 7 matches on 4 occasions; closest individual matches, Jason Sugrue's 21-23, 21-18, 22-20 defeat of Terry Young and Mark Wortley (D. Vere Britannia) defeating Gregg Burns (Amity Generation) 18-21, 23-21, 23-21.

We were pleased to have Chris Byron and Jane Adams, Marketing Manager and Marketing Services Controller respectively of sponsors Woolwich Building Society with us throughout the weekend and as has become expected, but not taken for granted, outstanding support from Milton Keynes Borough Council in general and Bletchley Leisure Centre in particular. Referee Tim Harris, his assistant Dave Nipper and their hard working team of Umpires, most of whom officiated at the full complement of 30 sets, kept things running smoothly with a far below average amount of "hassle".

Umpires Derek Shemett announced his marriage to Pamela Nangan on the 10th December 1994 in Stafford.

COACHING

As the Season progresses, the role of the coach changes. The pre-season physical and technical work has been completed and although technical practice is ongoing, the emphasis changes wrote Gail McCullagh. Competition becomes fierce as trials and tournaments take a prominent place in the diary of the young player. Practice should now have a strong tactical slant, whilst not neglecting the basics, Technical awareness is not achieved overnight and unfortunately very often the player has to lose before they fully appreciate the importance of good tactics.

It is at this time that the coach must be supportive in ensuring that the player understands why they must continue to have a positive approach to the game regardless of the result if they are ultimately to be a good player. This is not easy as long term goals are often seen as secondary in the life of a young player.

The coach also has to educate the parents of these principles, as they are often so emotionally involved in the success or failure of their offspring, that they too, do not see future goals as being important. The following 'Some Thoughts for Parents' offers excellent advice. Coaches are reminded that in addition to the navy blue sweatshirts, red polo shirts with the coach logo are now also available from Doreen Nightingale at Hastings.

Date of course: 17, 24, 31 January
Venue: Newbury
Level of Course: Level 2
Coaches Course Contacts:
Derek Longley 0635 48641
Stephen Joel 0734 483311

Date of course: 19, 26 March
Venue: Cheltenham
Level of Course: Level 2
Coaches Course Contacts:
Derek Longley 0635 48641
Stephen Joel 0734 483311

Date of course: 5 February
Venue: Slough
Level of Course: 6 hour
Coaching Award
Contacts:
Derek Longley 0635 48641
Stephen Joel 0734 483311

SOME THOUGHTS FOR PARENTS

Improvement and development consists of learning from wins AND losses, success AND failure, pleasure AND disappointment.

If a child lives with constant criticism and ridicule he learns to become apprehensive and scared of playing in case he fails and creates even more criticism. If a child gets encouragement and approval he learns to experiment and improve and aim at goals.

Patient approval of effort rather than results brings about self-belief, tenacity of purpose and self awareness.

If a child feels secure of tolerance, approval and recognition he will enjoy life, work and play and will gain self respect.

A child needs constant support, encouragement, friendship and a smile on your face - WIN OR LOSE.

It is too easy to remember the mistakes and criticise, rather than remember the good points and congratulate. It is also worth remembering that your child is at the table on his own. He sees and reads the game his way, you, sitting at the side of the table, may well see the game in a totally different way.
**STOP PRESS**

Late News Items

**ROSSKOPF the DESTROYER**

ENGLAND'S HOPES OF REACHING THE FINAL OF THE JOOLA EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN'S SUPER DIVISION, WERE COMPLETELY CRUSHED BY A DOMINANT GERMAN TEAM 4-1 IN THE FIRST LEG OF THE SEMI-FINAL AT THE DOME, DONCASTER ON TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 1994 WRITES JOHN WOOD.

Chen Xinhua gave the local partisan crowd something to cheer about when he won the opening game 13, -15, 13 against Richard Prause to put England one up. But after that the dominant power of Germany, especially that of their No. 1 player Jorg Rosskopf, destroyed C. Xinhua b R. Prouse 13, -15, 13; the hopes of England.

M. Syed I J. Rosskopf -12, -18; C. Cooke I Franz/T. Wasik -20, -13; C. Xinhua I J. Rosskopf -19, 16, -17.

This leaves an almost impossible task for England when the travel to Germany in January for the second leg, they must now win 4-0, to reach the final.

**RESULTS**


**OBITUARY**

ROBERT EDWARD RANSOME

It is with a deep sense of personal loss that the Middlesborough & District Table Tennis League, has to record the death of R E Ransome, the father of our Chairman, on Wednesday 19th of October 1994 at the age of 83.

"Bob" as he was affectionately known to both young and old of the table tennis fraternity, had always been a tower of strength to the League, his expertise and administrative skills stretching to nearly 40 years of dedicated service.

Bob had always been steeped in sport. As a young man he played football in the Northern League as a semi-professional. Later he gave service as secretary to both the Cricket and Football Leagues.

It is however, for his emerging love and enthusiasm for table tennis that Bob will be best remembered. His son, Alan, showed an early talent for the game and father was immediately on hand to provide a table tennis table in the "Chicken Hut". It was here that Alan and Denis Neale were destined to spend hour after hour practising. From these early roots and the careful overseeing of Bob Ransome, developed the Ormesby Club, who were to become 10 times English Champions and European Cup Winners in 1972.

Much more can be said about Robert Edward Ransome and the whole-hearted support and encouragement he gave to players of all ages and degrees of skill. If you played table tennis you were "all right" with Bob.

President of both the Middlesborough League and Cleveland County until ill-health forced him not to seek re-election, Bob until the very end always required an update on current table tennis affairs - and still expressed opinions for and against with the logic that had always been his forte.

It is not just Middlesborough who have suffered a loss, but table tennis.

Maurice Lister, Secretary, Middlesborough & District Table Tennis League

**ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION and ENGLISH SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

NATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

An 'all hours worked' post

To formulate and manage the implementation of a NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN TABLE TENNIS

Salary: £15,500-£16,000

Office Base: Hastings

The successful candidate is likely to possess the following:

- Proven organisational and administrative ability (preferably in sport).
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- High level of self-motivation and initiative.
- Experience of sports development.
- Understanding of Table Tennis.
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Closing Date: January 4th 1995

Job description, person specification and background information available from:

Doreen Nightingale, English Table Tennis Association, Queensbury House, Havelock Road, Hastings East Sussex TN34 1HF

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Striving for equal opportunities, this post is funded by the Sports Council and the English Table Tennis Association, in conjunction with the English Schools' Table Tennis Association

**TRAINING COURSE FOR COACHES**

6TH - 8TH JANUARY 1994

Being held in conjunction with the ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

THORNABY PAVILION, THORNABY, CLEVELAND

Plenty of opportunity to watch some of the world's best players, their techniques analysed and discussed by top coaches.

Residential - £150.00 to include 2 nights accommodation, 3 days food, admission and course fee.

Non-residential - £75.00 to include food, course and admission.

If you require extra accommodation, this will be £22.50 per person per night.

Please send cheques payable to the ETIA to: Jill Parker, Highfield House, 64 Regent Drive, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 3JD

TEL: 0772-7125216 FAX: 0772-712678

*£25 reduction for ETIA coaches

10 TABLE TENNIS NEWS December 94/January 95
Last year's champions Sedgefield started the weekend without the normal services of Benny Robertson and Malcolm Swayne and of course, led by man-of-the-weekend and former European champion John Hilton. As expected Hilton won his two singles, but was taken to three by both Brian Allison and Corking, but were ably replaced by Phil Bowen and David Swayne and of course, led by man-of-the-weekend and former European champion John Hilton. Shortly after the Mayor of the Borough of East Staffordshire played his first game of table tennis in 30 years, against John Hilton, he sadly suffered a mild heart attack. Table Tennis News is pleased to announce that Councillor Peter Edginton has now fully recovered.

The Mayor’s main claim to fame, table tennis wise, was that he once played against, and lost to, Ann Hayden-Jones in the Birmingham 1st Division.

British Gas were elected Men’s Team of the Weekend and Robert Claire were the Women’s. Once again super star John Hilton won the ‘Man of the Weekend’ trophy and Joyce Coop won the ‘Woman of the Weekend’ trophy.

**VETERANS BRITISH LEAGUE 1994-1995**

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**Sedgefield & Caldervale Top Vets at Burton**

Brian Hill as Bribar Humberside took a vital 3-2 lead in the Saturday morning session.

But debutant Bowen saved the day for Sedgefield, when he came out on top of a close two game battle Bribar Humberside’s Paolo Beck.

Bowen saved his best win of the weekend though for the last match when he defeated second placed British Gas’s Nigel Hewitt 22-20 in the third after a tremendous struggle.

Undefeated Caldervale were the weekend’s stars of the Women’s Premier Division with Sandra Rider unbeaten and Doreen Schofield, Carol Judson and Ruth Bentley dropping just one game each. The Mayor's main claim to fame, table tennis wise, was that he once played against, and lost to, Ann Hayden-Jones in the Birmingham 1st Division.

British Gas were elected Men's Team of the Weekend and Robert Claire were the Women's. Once again super star John Hilton won the 'Man of the Weekend' trophy and Joyce Coop won the 'Woman
League Update

Ron Jackson (left) of Honeywell Controls Building Services presents his company’s cheque for £500 to East Staffordshire Borough Council Deputy Mayor Councillor Peter Howies (Centre) and the ETTA Deputy Chairman Tony Chatwin

Season Update

Ron Jackson (left) of
VI1ERANS BRmISH LEAGUE 1994-1995
Honeywell

P W D L F A PTS
Caldervale
5 5 0 0 27 3 10
Oxton & West Warwickshire
5 4 0 1 22 8 8
Dagenham
5 3 0 2 12 18 6
Robert Cleare
5 3 0 2 18 12 6
Worcester Ladies
5 2 1 2 14 16 5
Castlefields Pecokmakers
5 1 1 3 13 17 3
Bombers
5 0 2 3 11 19 2
Leitchworth Ladies
5 0 0 5 3 27 0

PREMIER DIVISION· WOMEN

Honeywell P W D F A PTS
Controls Building Services presents

Caldervale
5 5 0 0 27 3 10
Olton & West Warwickshire
5 4 0 1 22 8 8
Dagenham
5 3 0 2 12 18 6
Robert Cleare
5 3 0 2 18 12 6
Worcester Ladies
5 2 1 2 14 16 5
Castlefields Pecokmakers
5 1 1 3 13 17 3
Bombers
5 0 2 3 11 19 2
Leitchworth Ladies
5 0 0 5 3 27 0

of the Weekend’ title
This weekend brought untold happiness to two long lost brothers John and Syd Montgomery.
When John met Syd for the first time in 31 years, at the opening ceremony on Saturday morning, tears flooded as the two long lost brothers embraced each other.
They last met in Paddington at the family home when John visited the house in 1963.
After that emotional meeting Umpire John made uncharacteristic mistakes whilst

Announcing a new Visa card for table tennis players.
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The card brings you significant financial advantages. But it also helps us raise money to promote the sport - at no extra cost to you! We receive a royalty from MBNA for every new cardholder, plus ongoing income every time you make purchases on your ETTA Visa card.

Please send me full details about the new low-interest ETTA Visa Card
Name: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _
Address: _
Postcode: _
Tel: (code) _

Table Tennis Association at no extra cost to you.

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ST NEOT’S BRIGHT START COMES TO END

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BFL Grove overcame their nearest challengers, Team Peniel 11-3

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on top of division three East although their unbeaten run came to an end at the hands of Crusaders Lincoln. Nevertheless a great start by their squad of Anthony Corbin, Jason Sugrue, Kevin Pickles and Errol Skeete. Brent Juniors are also doing well with five wins from their first six matches.

Leckie TTC of Walsall seem determined to make a quick return to the second division, having won all five out of six matches to date in division three.

Midland; Jill Harris; Adrian Thorpe; Matthew Harvey and Tony Isaac form the backbone of their team and I will be surprised if they don’t win the division.

In the North, Abbeydale of Sheffield, in their very first season in the League are unbeaten to date and are top of the table, two points ahead of BFL Grove IV, Aalco Leeds and Drumchapel II.

The Abbeydale club are certainly making an impressive start and are keen to do well in all aspects of promoting British League tennis for the first time. A quick round up of the second divisions where BFL Grove Colts and City of Leeds are both unbeaten in the North, Barclays Bank lead the way from Pillinger Air Croquet in the South East. And Birrar Colley Hyundai of Pontypool have a 100% record in the South West.

### Friendly Hotels British League

**PLACINGS AT 20 NOVEMBER 1994**

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**BRITISH LEAGUE REPORT**

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**December 94/January 95 TABLE TENNIS NEWS 15**
IT WAS A LACK LUSTRE PERFORMANCE BY ENGLAND WHEN THEY DEFEATED DENMARK 4-2 IN THE JOOLIA EUROPEAN LEAGUE MEN'S SUPER DIVISION, BUT A TRIUMPH FOR ON FORM SPARKLING MATTHEW SYED WRITES JOHN WOOD.

England's No.1 ranked player Chen Xinhua was first on the table against Denmark, at the Hermitage Leisure Centre in Whitwick, and although he won the first leg 21-14 he appeared to be playing without ambition or purpose and duly lost the second 19-21 to the Danish No.2, Kim Hogsberg. Chen played better in the third with his deceptive serves confusing the Dane as he took England into a one nil lead, by winning 21-15.

England's star of the night Matthew Syed played brilliantly as he outplayed Denmark's No.1 player Allan Bentsen, with a combination of superb defence and scintillating attack, winning 21-13, 21-14.

Syed's triumph was against a player who is ranked 97 in the world and who last season recorded victories over Austria's Ding Yi and Sweden's Jan Ove Waldner.

Next into the arena was England's Carl Prean, who looked totally out of sorts as he went down 13-21,14-21 to Denmark's Lars Haut.

This defeat was followed by a double loss by Prean and Alan Cooke when they lost narrowly in the first leg 21-23, and had a 16-14 lead in the second before unforced errors saw them lose 18-21, as Denmark levelled the match score at 2-2.

In the fifth game Chen started slowly against Allan Bentsen and trailed 16-19 to the Danish No.1, before he got his service working to take the first 21-19.

There was only one player in the second and that was Chen Xinhua whose service became unplayable as he put England back in the lead, winning comfortably 21-11.

Former England No.1 Carl Prean was given his moment of glory when he won the match for his country by beating Denmark's Kim Hogsberg 21-16, 21-18, to take England into the semi-finals where they will face the mighty Germany.

Although Prean won in style he didn't wake up until he was trailing 11-14 to the Dane in the first, when he clicked into action and played more like the player we know and love to watch, with punching backhands and side spin looping forehands.

The Referee for the match was Scotland's Lawrie Cook and the two umpires were England's Doug Young and Mike Payne.

ENGLAND WOMEN MISS OUT

England narrowly missed out in their bid to reach the semi-final of the European women's League Super Division when they lost to Holland 4-2 away in Middelburg last night.

This was despite a brilliant effort by Alison Gordon (Reading), who recovered from 19-16 down in the 3rd game to beat the European No.5 Bettine Vrieskoop in the opening encounter.

English champion Lisa Lomas (Luton) unexpectedly fell to Dutch newcomer Diane Bakker, who was preferred to the English Open champion Mirjam Hooman to play singles, Lomas battled well but was just piped 21-19 in the 3rd.

Andrea Holt then put up an excellent performance to defeat the current European silver medallist Gerdie Keen, 21-15, 21-15 and place England in a 2-1 lead.

Lomas and Holt could not further the lead when they came up against Holland's established 'big guns' in the doubles, Bettine Vrieskoop and English Open champion Mirjam Hooman.

England's campaign to qualify for the semi-final then took a nose dive with losses for Lomas against Vrieskoop and Alison Gordon against Gerdie Keen.

England will therefore have to play Belgium in the super division relegation play-off over two legs on December 13th (away) and at Ipswich on January 17th.

Tickets for Ipswich can be obtained by telephoning 01424 722525 or 01473 215544.
60TH ENGLISH OPEN

PETER KARLSSON

THE ENGLISH OPEN

SWEDEN
ENGLISH aspirations

LAST SEASON ENGLAND WOMEN HAD THEIR MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR A VERY LONG TIME, SECOND IN THE WOMEN’S EUROPEAN SUPER DIVISION AND A TEAM BRONZE IN THE RECENT EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS. EVERYONE IS HOPEFUL THAT THIS SEASON THEY CAN CARRY ON WHERE THEY LEFT OFF AND THE ENGLISH OPEN WILL BE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD ON THEIR RECENT SUCCESSES WRITES DON PARKER.

Lisa Lomas is undoubtedly one of Europe’s most talented players who, on her day, is capable of beating anyone. She reached the semi-finals of the European Championships in Prague in 1986 and the final in 1992 in Stuttgart.

Andrea Holt has made a good start to the season and again is a very talented player who can do a lot of damage against the best players. Once she achieves a little more consistency in her defence, I can see her being one of Europe’s top players.

Alison Gordon is our most experienced player who already this season has beaten former European Champion Bettine Vriesekoop. She has had some great wins in her career and if she can string together a few in Cleveland, is capable of going a long way.

We have some very talented young players who so far this season have not had the opportunity to really prove their ability. The English Open provides this opportunity in a very big way. Particularly interesting will be to see the progress of our recent European Junior Bronze Medallist, Sally Marling, and indeed her teammate Nicola Deaton.

Kate Goodall, Maria Thornley, Gemma Schwartz and several other players have trained very hard for this tournament and will be looking to cause a few upsets.

TRADITIONALLY THE ENGLISH OPEN IS AS DIFFICULT TO WIN AFTER THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, WITH ALAN RANSONE AND HIS COMMITTEE WORKING FLAT OUT TO GET THE BEST PLAYERS IN THE WORLD TO CLEVELAND THIS ONE WILL BE NO DIFFERENT WRITES DENIS NEALE.

My prediction of the Men’s chances are as follows:

CHEN XIN HUA ENGLAND NO.1
On his day Chen is a match for anyone. Brilliant tactics who can turn defence into attack in an instant. One of the best service and follow ups in the world. A great crowd pleaser but must be consistent for 4 days to win. An outside chance of winning.

MATTHEW SYED ENGLAND NO.2
Matthew has improved out of all recognition this year and is setting up the world ranking list. A great retriever, perhaps the best in the world, which the crowd love to see. Could go a long way but the way he is improving, who knows?

CARL PREAN ENGLAND NO.3
Carl is one of the most difficult players in the world to play against, mixing the spins nearly every shot. In my opinion the best player in the world against defensive players. I think if Carl had more self-belief in his game he is capable of winning any tournament.

ALAN COOKE ENGLAND NO.4
Mr. 100% who loves playing for England, that’s all a captain can ask from a player. Capable of causing a shock or two against the top players.

ANDREW EDEN ENGLAND NO.5
The crowd love to see him play and he is a breath of fresh air to the game of Table Tennis. In the year to come, could be the best character to come out of the game since Chester Barnes.

Best of luck to all other English Players playing in the English Open, I wish you every success.
60TH ENGLISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

GERDIE KEEN
HOLLAND

XIAOMING WANG DRECHOY
FRANCE

ALAN COOKE

ELENA TIMINA

CLEVELAND
4-8 JANUARY 1995

CHEN XINHUA
ENGLAND

ALISON GORDON
ENGLAND

ENGLAND

KONG LINGHUI
CHINA

ENGLAND
"DESMOND DOUGLAS LIFTS THE GLOOM" WAS THE TABLE TENNIS NEWS HEADLINE IN MARCH 1984 WHEN FOR THE SECOND TIME IN HIS ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER OUR MAN FROM WALSALL LIFTED THE PRESTIGIOUS ENGLAND OPEN TITLE FOR THE SECOND TIME.

DESMOND WON THE OLDOYD CUP AFTER A BRAVE FIGHTBACK TRAILING 0-2 IN FAVOUR OF UNSEEDED VLADISLAV BRODA FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA WRITES JOHN WOODFORD.

Earlier, Des had knocked out two of his old rivals Henk van Spanje and Georg Bohm, whilst the shock of the tournament at the Brighton Centre was the defeat of Jacques Secretin (France) by qualifier Phil Bradbury! Anita Zakharian of the Soviet Union was the winner of the women's singles reported George Yates and it was another tale of woe for our ladies with Lisa Bellinger out to Mirjam Hooman (at that time Miss Kloppenurg) and Joy Grundy falling to Valentina Popova.

Incidentally, some people have photographic memories and can easily recall details of "magic" finals twenty years ago. I am not one of those blessed with such a memory-bank, although I can just recall one of the best ever English Open finals at the Brighton Dome - what a magnificent setting that was - between Berczik and Fahazi there was one of the best finals ever seen at Brighton with returns coming from many, many yards back from the table.

In the first week of 1990, the Leeds English Open found itself in an unusual venue - Trafford Park, Manchester in the Bowlers Leisure Centre. The eventual winner of the men's singles trophy was Yu Shentong, the world No. 9 from China.

Yu won the final on a walk-over, after Chen Xinhua pulled out with a back injury. In a semi-final of great drama, Chen knocked out Jorg Rosskopf 23-21 in the fifth game, wearing a surgical belt! Chen suffered from intense pain at the base of his spine and had ice-packs applied between games.

The women's singles winner at Bowlers was Mika Hoshino of Japan who defeated Marie Hrachova 12, 15, 19.

Readers will recall that the last English Open, sponsored by Cadbury's Chocolate Break, took place at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham, the first major sporting event to be held in the new arena. Stunned by the magnificence of the NIA, the ITTF observers Borje Karlsson and Colin Clemett reported that it was "the best-run international championships they have ever attended anywhere in the world."

Three thousand, five hundred people watched the finals as Jean-Philippe Gatien swept to victory over Norway's Chinese player Wang Yansheng in a magnificent tight back. Gatien lost the first two games -16, -19, but won the remaining games 12, 13, 4, as the Chinese ace threw in the towel.

A mega-rumpus broke out at the NIA on the Saturday, when two Russian girls due to play in the women's doubles finals got "lost in the Birmingham shopping centres" failing to arrive when they were due to play, thinking their final was later in the programme.

That story occupied most of the front page of the Birmingham Evening Mail - who said it wasn't a set up!

And so we return to Thornaby and the welcome sponsorship of the Cleveland County Council. We were last at Thornaby for the English Open in 1977. But this time, the format is upgraded to accommodate in the later stages, the elite of Europe and Chinese tourists. Kong Linghui is the man who should win it, but you never know with China who might be chosen for the honours.

Holland's Mirjam Hooman the defending Women's Singles champion.
**Eckersley & Clayton Unbeaten**

Both teams suffered a loss - Cheshire being beaten 6-3 by Dorset and Yorkshire losing 6-3 to Lancashire. This leaves Cheshire and Yorkshire sharing 3rd place in the Table and Lancashire and Dorset occupying the top two positions with Lancashire ahead by three events writes Doug Moss.

The contributions made by Nigel Eckersley (La) and Tony Clayton (Do) were a big factor in the success of their teams. Both players were unbeaten in singles and Nigel Eckersley, partnered by Phil Bowen, won all the men's doubles matches. They did have a hard fight before beating Henry Buist/Clive Morris (K) - 18, 19, 21.

Kent and Essex each won one match. They last narrowly to Dorset and Yorkshire respectively. However, neither Kent or Essex could make much impression against Lancashire and Yorkshire. Veterans must hold any record for the number of matches which conclude after “deuce” in 3rd games. Two such matches from this Round of Premier Division matches were:

- Dave Newton (Bo) beat Don McGivney (E) 20, 20, 26.
- Phil Biggs (Ch) beat Brian Burn (Do) - 13, 29, 31.

There will be some vital matches in the final series to be played at Ashford Table Tennis Club on 14/15 January - in particular:

- Lancashire v Cheshire
- Dorset v Yorkshire
- Lancashire v Dorset

**RESULTS**

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- Natasha Williams made her debut for Gloucestershire in their 8-2 win over Worcestershire. Her addition to the team, to add to the talents of Darren Griffin and Dave Harvey, should make them very good candidates for promotion! Somerset had a 6-4 win over Devon 3nds. This was influenced by Phil Payne’s 20-19, 24 win over Tony Sweet.

- Dorset lost 8-2 to Wiltshire 1st team but got some compensation with a 10-nil win over Wiltshire 2nds. Kevin Rowe did his best to avoid Cornwall getting the “whitewash” against their 1st team but lost to Kevin Worth at 21 in 3rd game.

- Emma Churchley won their 6 matches - although, against their 2nd team Ryan struggled to beat Stuart Kirtle - 19, 20! Against Bedfordshire Daniel Belcher (W1) lost to Graham Babcock at 26 in the 3rd game.

- JUNIOR DIVISION 2B:
  - HU - 6, HE - 4, EK - 3, WI - 6, WI - 2, 6.
  - N - 4, EK - 2.

- Essex 2nds, demoted last season, are certainly getting on top in this Division. In their recent 9-1 win over their 3rd team Matthew Spero (E3) beat Michael Earle (E2) - 16, 13, 18. Hertfordshire 1st team lost their first match against Huntingdonshire for whom Kevin Holton and Kirsty Pryke won their 4 events.

- JUNIOR DIVISION 2C:
  - GN 2 - 7, WR 3 - 0, DO 5, SO 3, GS 6.
  - WI 4, CO 6, DV 3 - 4, HR 4, WI 6.

- Glam. 2nds have started the season with 2 good wins - their latest being the 7-3 defeat or Worcestershire Stephen Jenkins (Gn. No. 1) and their girls - Sarah Simmons and Ceri Thomas - won their 6 events. Newcomers - Herefords - put up a good fight before losing 4-6 to Wiltshire.
JUNIOR DIVISION 2D: MI.2 - 4, HA.2 - 6, BU.2 - 5, SX.3 - 5, K.3 - 7, BK.2 - 3, SY.2 - 9, SY.3 - 1

Northamptonshire match the nearest the visitors came to avoiding a "whitewash" was in the mixed doubles when Derek Wilmot/Mabel Neary beat Brian D’Hooghe/Joyce Porter 20,18,18. In the Nottinghamshire 6-4 win over Clwyd Terry Bull and John Ellis were involved in 5 of the wins, and Berkshire 2nds at Kingfisher TT Club.

Hampshire 3rd team registered their 2nd win with the 7-2 defeat of Berkshire’s 4th team. Ray Lush and George Cole were involved in 5 of the wins, and Hampshire’s 4th team did well, on their visit to Swindon, to beat Wiltshire’s 2nds 5-4. Richard Mole (Ha) got the vital 5th event when beating Mike Osley 18,16,21. Hertfordshire’s 3rd team got a 5-4 win over Dorset 3rds. In the final event Derek Holden (He) secured the vital points with a 16-22,15 win over Danny Allen. Sussex 4th team got a maximum win on their visit to Wiltshire’s 4th team.

Buckinghamshire 2nds/Sussex 3rds was a close contest and, with 6 events going to a deciding, a draw was a fair result. Surrey 2nds look strong contenders in this Division. In their 7-1 win over their 3rd team it was Kirstie Jall (Sy.3) who had a 20 and 17 win.

VETERANS DIVISION 1B: SK.1 - 8, E.2 - 1, SY.1 - 7, SY.2 - 2, SY.4 - 4,
K.2 - 5, BK.1 - 3, BU.1 - 6, E.3 - 6, SO.1 - 3.

Three matches were played at Graham Spicer TTC, New Malden. Kent 2nds came back from 3-4 down to get a 5-4 win over Surrey 2nds. They look like a team who will retain the championship of this Division. Surrey 1st team played very well to beat Essex 2nds 8-1 and then followed up with a 7-2 win over their 2nd team. In the Essex match Connie Warren (Sy) beat Terry Guymer 16,21,21.

Buckinghamshire 1st team did very well to beat Berkshire on their visit to Kingfisher Club. Geoff Giles and Michael Atkinson won their 4 events.

VETERANS DIVISION 2A: LA.2 - 9, NP.2 - 0, NG - 6, CW - 3, WA.2 - 7, WA.3 - 2.

In the Lancashire/ of the wins. In the Warwicks 2nd and 3rd team clash it was Neil Whataley and Ann Lloyd who got the 2 wins for the 3rd team.

VETERANS DIVISION 2B: U.2 - 6, E.2 - 4, CA.2 - 7, BU.2.1 - 2, BK.1 - 6, BO.1 - 4, BO.2 - 4.

Cambridgeshire have made a good start with a second win this time at the expense of Hunts. Essex 4th team beat Buckinghamshire 2nds 7-4 at the Milton Keynes TTC. The Bedfordfordshire 1st/Berkshire 2nd match was a really hard tussle. The match score was level until, at 4-4, Paul Birch beat Bill Ashbury to give the 1st team their win.

VETERANS DIVISION 3C: BO.3 - 0, BO.2 - 6, SK.1 - 6, NK.3 - 2, NK.2 - 5, BK.3 - 4, SK.7 - 4, HE.4 - 2.

Yorkshire 2nds have made a great start having dropped only 1 event from their first 2 matches. Gloucestershire 2nds went to Bournmouth and met the same fate as the 1st team when Dorset 2nds got a 5-4 win. Jean Smith (Do) won her singles match and the doubles with Trevor Smith.

VETERANS DIVISION 3A: BO.3 - 0, BO.2 - 6, SK.1 - 6, NK.3 - 2, NK.2 - 5, BK.3 - 4, SK.7 - 4, HE.4 - 2.

Northamptonshire need a realistic outlook with the 6-4 scoreline alternated to bring the 1st team to 4-4. At this stage George McGlone beat Tony Taylor 12,16,14 to give Kent the win. Middlesex 2nds got revenge when they beat Kent 4th team 6-3. Maurice Isaacs and John Ellis won 5 events for Middlesex.

Surrey 3rd team got their second win with a 5-4 win over Wiltshire. Wiltshire’s only success came from the mixed doubles pair - Terry Parkin/Sylvia Morse. In their first match Avon had a tough fight but came back from 3-4 to get a win over Gloucestershire. Gloucestershire’s 2nds went to Bournmouth and met the same fate as the 1st team when Dorset 2nds got a 5-4 win. Jean Smith (Do) won her singles match and the doubles with Trevor Smith.

VETERANS DIVISION 3B: HA.2 - 9, SY.3 - 2, SY.2 - 7, WA.2 - 8.

In the Lancashire/ during their first 2 matches. Successful Somerset 2nds player with 2 events going against them.

Staffordshire’s 1st team fought their 2nd win with the 7-2 defeat of Berkshire’s 4th team. Ray Lush and George Cole were involved in 5 of the wins, and Hampshire’s 4th team did well, on their visit to Swindon, to beat Wiltshire’s 2nds 5-4. Richard Mole (Ha) got the vital 5th event when beating Mike Osley 18,16,21. Hertfordshire’s 3rd team got a 5-4 win over Dorset 3rds. In the final event Derek Holden (He) secured the vital points with a 16-22,15 win over Danny Allen. Sussex 4th team got a maximum win on their visit to Wiltshire’s 4th team.

VETERANS DIVISION 3C: BK.3 - 6, BV.3 - 3, BV.4 - 5, HE.5 - 6, SO.2 - 2, WI.3 - 7, HR - 1, DK.2 - 8.

The match score stood at 3-3 in the Berkshire 3rd/Dorset 3rd match. The Berkshire players then stepped up the pace and won the next 3 events in straight games. Devon’s 4th team also lost 3-6 to visitors Hertfordshire’s 5th team. Madeline Pittman was involved in 2 of the Devon wins. George Philipott was the only successful Somerset 2nds player in the 7-2 defeat by Berkshire’s 3rds. Carol Milnes was the only Hereford players to get any success in the match against Oxfordshire 2nds. She beat S. Gogor 15,14,22.

LATE RESULTS

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS
ENGLISH TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS TABLES

Tables include all results received by 4th November 1994, compiled by Leslie Smith.

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THE ESSEX JUNIOR SELECT HELD AT COLCHESTER’S LEISURE WORLD OVER THE WEEKEND OF 5/6TH NOV 1994 PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL FOR A PARTY OF NORWEGIAN JUNIOR

BOYS WRITES STEPHEN KERNS.

Their top player Lasa Holm took the junior boys band one title with a 19, 13 victory over Peniel’s Vince Avery. Earlier Vince had looked unstoppable with a QF victory over Devon’s Peter Thomas (17, 15) and a SF win over Wales’ top boy Ryan Jenkins 8, 19. Peter dominated the U14 doubles with a 16, 14 final success against the Buckinghamshire lads Baggeley/Lawrence. The Cadet Girls Band One event threw up a major surprise with Heidy Sims (Sussex) ousting top seeded Lucy Perry (Devon). She ultimately lost out to Anna McNamara (Surrey) -16, 14, 8 in the final. Susan Johnson (Berkshire) and Lucy Perry took the U14 Girl’s doubles with a narrow 18, 19 final success over the Surrey pairing of Miss McNamara and Vicky Lampkin. The results of the other banded events were as follows:

**Junior Boys Band 2**
- Mark Forder (Sussex) bt Stuart Kule (Warw) 9, 19
- Junior Boys Band 2 Plate
  - Alex Yardy bt Mark Freyd (Herts) 7, 19

**Junior Boys Band 3**
- Stephen Jenkins (Wales) bt L. Dredge (Dorset) 17, 16
- Junior Boys Band 3 Plate
  - George Kao (Essex) bt Gary Biggledale (Essex) -18, 16, 14
- Junior Girls Band 2
  - Tina Young (Dorset) bt Sara Cohn (Sussex) 13, 15
- Junior Girls Band 2 Plate
  - Amanda Bateman (Kent) bt Cath Woodcock (Essex) 15, 19, 14

**Cadet Boys Band 2**
- Johnathan Atkinson (Sussex) bt Oliver Stevens (Kent) -13, 15
- Cadet Boys Band 2 Plate
  - Andrew Whitaker (Essex) bt M. Grillot (Herts) 14, 9
- Cadet Boys Band 3
  - M. Rule (Bucks) bt D. Symcox 18, 18
- Cadet Boys Band 3 Plate
  - J. Hoagwood (Berkshire) bt Paul Woodcock (Essex) 15, 17

**Cadet Girls Band 2**
- Joanne Lincoln (Essex) bt D. Fox (Sussex) 16, 16
- Cadet Girls Band 2 Plate
  - K. Jal (Surrey) bt Helen Cleminson (Essex) 15, 15

Terry Young of Berkshire continued his impressive run of unbeaten matches by winning the Junior Boys Singles in the Cleveland Junior Select Table Tennis Championships at Eton Leisure Centre on the 12th and 13th November. Young’s success in the Cleveland County Council supported event was not without being severely tested writes David Hutchinson.

In the semi-finals, Young defeated Kevin Dolder of Lancashire 21-19 in the third game. Dolder led by 19-16 in the third game before Young recovered to take his place in the final. Young’s victim at that stage was Michael James whom he defeated 21-12 in the decider.

There were some surprise results in earlier rounds.
- Top seed Stephen Meddings of Warwickehire was defeated in the first round by Ryan Jenkins of Wales. Jenkins in turn lost in the 2nd round to Steven Joslin of Essex. Joslin won on to reach the semi-finals, only to be beaten comfortably by James. In the bottom half of the draw, seed Christian Thompson was comfortably defeated by Adrian Cadman from Shropshire.
- Cadet Boys Singles was won by the top seed Glenda Ashison won the championship without being troubled. In the final, Glenda beat the unseeded cadet Lindsey Thornton of Lancashire in straight games.
- Cadet Girls Singles was won by the Linda Farrow Club of Cheshire 3-0. Linda Farrow’s team of Glenda Ashison and Debbie Peska won the title with the same score in the semi-final. In the semi-final they defeated Kingfisher 2, Christian Thompson & Gareth Herbert 3-0.
- The Junior Girls’ event was won by the Linda Farrow Club of Cheshire 3-0. Yuki Gresswell from Cheshire defeated 2 seeds, Claire Newman and Sarah Edmondson 21-18.

Two new events were introduced this year, a Band One Singles for boys and girls. In the boys event, Scott Ferris of Staffordshire defeated Stephen Uppal from the local Ormesby Club in straight games. In the girls event, Yuki Gresswell from Middlesex defeated Delyth Davies of Wales 18, 18 in the final to take the title. The U11 events were won by Adam Robertson and Stacey Collins respectively.

The prizes were presented by the Chairman of the Cleveland County Council Councillor Ted Wood.
**ENGLISH JUNIOR OPEN**

I write to complain bitterly following the statement made on the inside cover of the September issue regarding the cancellation of English Junior Open.

I wonder who authorised this statement and whether the writer of it really believes that the English Junior Open would clash with the World Championships in China. China?

Why not do a spot of truth about us; The English Junior Open is cancelled because England are out of step with the rest of Europe and the Chairman of our Association along with our National Council are preventing English players from using approved glues at tournaments (although they may be used 48 hours before a tournament because in this time frame they are safe).

As a result of our Chairman Mr Ransom's action, no European player will consider playing in the English Junior Open so Mr Ransom has cancelled the event.

Our Chairman, Mr Ransom tells me that he will not cancel the premier junior tournament in fact is not a cancellation, but a delay; try telling that to last year's Cadet or Junior!

**REG THOMPSON**
Chairman
K.C.T.T.A.

**EXCLUSIVE**

I had one or two letters re: my “exclusive” that our player Carl Prean had again beaten the English No. 1 (Chen Xinhua) in the German Bundesliga, claimed to be “the best league in the world.” If so my correspondents who he has beaten the former Chinese Champion 10 times in 12 meetings, how come Carl is No. 3 in the English rankings and Xinhua at No. 17? Do not profess to be an expert in such matters. I find our ranking lists very confusing, our former cadets and juniors in their last year. I will pursue this idea with the relevant Committee and and the selection with fellow Associates at this season’s senior English Open.

**RICHARD HABGOOD**
Vice Chairman,
Public Relations

Firstly, the September issue of Chatterbox did not say that the English Junior Open is cancelled, but that the date is changing. It is fact that if the EJO had run then it would have indeed clashed with (the start of the) World’s. The statement was not authorised, Chatterbox is a 16-bit news information service compiled by the Editor to inform people.

It is fundamentally wrong to say that the actions of an ETTA Chairman are fair. It is our National Council that confirms policy, all actions of the ETTA are done in the name of the National Council or are a Rule change effected at Annual or Special General Meetings. I agree that it is always regrettable when an important tournament has to be rescheduled. But it is more important that the Association sees to act responsibly to junior players, and cadets alike in respect of the National Council decision to ban liquid friction glues, taken initially in January 1993, and not recently reconfirmed to date.

Perhaps one conclusion to the rescheduling of the EJO could be the introduction of an Open and Under 17 event for those cadets and juniors in their last year. I will pursue this idea with the relevant Committee and the selection with fellow Associates at this season’s senior English Open.

**JULIAN PREAN**
Isle of Wight

**BONUS POINTS**

I agree entirely with the comments of R. Murphy about bonus points in the Ranking System. It seems incomprehensible to see two Cadets ranked one way in the Cadet List and reversely in the Junior List. Surely, if Cadet A is better than Cadet B, he should appear in that order in the Junior List. I also disagree that points are deducted from the lower ranked player when he/she loses to a higher ranking player. It would make more sense if points could only be won when beating a higher ranking player and lost when losing to a lower ranking player. The ranking points system would then depend on the positions of the players in the Ranking List at the time. This system would be fair for home competitions, but against foreign opposition an extra dimension would be brought in.

**E LUCAS**
Chesterford

Curly Special

I was extremely interested to read your important Announcement regarding Curly Special glue, in the October issue.

The main point of interest to me was whether Curly Special would have been approved, had it been in its present form when submitted for approval.

I have reason to believe it would, as the effects of this rubber were not known, or probably not known at that time.

Older readers may remember a couple of articles I wrote many years ago, on the effect a true anti-spin, or frictionless rubber would have on the game.

Curly Special is approaching this ideal and is a vast improvement on other anti-spin rubbers currently available. The question now arises as to whether Curl will be approved if re-submitted.

Many players have bought this rubber in good faith, and at the price could be well out of pocket, apart from having lost a product which could very well suit their game.

No rubber does not spin on the ball, the stroke of the player adds to it, the spin, the rubber is purely the medium which applies it, or doesn’t apply it, as the case may be, and with the extremely high friction rubbers on the market today, I would suggest they are unlikely to be bettered.

I have reason to believe it would, if re-submitted, climb to the other end of the scale.

Curly is a huge improvement to the low friction rubbers available and having examined it, I believe can be further improved.

The question now arises as to whether the authorities will find a reason to ban such a rubber, (if re-submitted) can a rubber be disapproved solely because it doesn’t put spin on the ball?

I have been no previous rulings on what is excessive spin. I would suggest that this ruling is going to cause more confusion than exists at present.

Can visualise companies using friction meters? or rigorously rubbing a ball across the surface of a rubber to determine whether it is legal or not.

What a state of affairs.

**GEOFF WADSORTH**
Huddledfield
KEVIN HAFFENDEN'S
WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUE

HASTINGS PROFESSIONAL COACH KEVIN HAFFENDEN IS LEADING THE WAY WHEN IT COMES TO ORGANISING A WOOLWICH JUNIOR LEAGUE. KEVIN APPROACHED THE HASTINGS WOOLWICH BUILDING SOCIETY DISTRICT MANAGER ALAN ROGERS WITH A VIEW TO MAKING CONTACT TO ARRANGE THE END OF SEASON PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES WRITES GRAHAM CARTER.

He came out of the meeting having found a former table tennis player who was not previously aware of the scheme, and was dead keen to support the Woolwich Junior League in every way. Alan Rogers not only agreed to present trophies, but volunteered to play himself! The initial contact led to a number of shared ideas emerging between Alan and Kevin such as organising an individual event on the back of the Woolwich Junior League. This was due to be held on 27th November, with Alan organising a visit from the cartoon character Henry's Cat!

Over a hundred children are playing in the Hastings Woolwich Junior League, which is one of the biggest in the country. Further to this, Haffenden was amazed to receive a letter through the post from local MP Jacqui Lait, expressing an interest in Kevin's table tennis schemes. This may well result in a future visit. Parliamentary approval for a Woolwich Junior League!

MILTON KEYNES ENTHUSIASM

David Seymour reports that the Milton Keynes Woolwich Junior League is proving a real hit. There are over 30 new juniors playing, some of whom are showing real talent.

“They’re so keen and enthusiastic that they arrive at Kingston Table Tennis Centre 30 minutes before the start time, and continue practising afterwards”. They have also gained local newspaper coverage for each of the six weeks the League has run. “We’ve also enjoyed good support from our local Woolwich branch who have supplied banners and T-shirts”.

16 TABLE CENTRE OPENS IN HARLOW

Sandra Collins, the ETFA Regional Development Officer for the East, has been working with Harrow League Development Officer Neil Brierley and League Chairman Eric Todd plus Committee member David Wright.

Between them, and the cooperation of school staff, they have successfully converted a little-used school hall into a thriving 16 table tennis centre. In April 1994 the Harrow League identified Burnt Mill School as having a hall suitable to be used for junior table tennis, having outgrown their existing 5 table premises.

Working quickly, the League gained security to tenure with a 5 year rolling lease. Two problems needed to be overcome to upgrade the hall:- money and confusion about the various lighting schemes on offer from different companies.

Valuable assistance from facilities officer

ETFA Facilities Officer Paul Baker gave valuable assistance in evaluating the lighting schemes, and 36 double high-frequency fluorescent fittings were purchased.

Where did the money come from at short notice? The Club borrowed the money from Harrow League. In June 1994 the new BATTS Club opened. This stands for the Burnt Mill Academy of Table Tennis Skills. Six new tables were bought to add to the seven already owned.

RDO Sandra Collins helped out here, guiding things through wins an ETFA endorsed grant from the Foundation for Sports and the Arts. Sandra introduced the club to Essex County Sports Development Officer Kevin Day, who authorised another grant of £1,125 to enable three more tables to be bought.

In September 1994 the weekly 16 table club night was extended to a second night to allow 16 teams to play Harrow League matches. A new Woolwich Junior League has started on Saturday mornings. In the future it is hoped to extend the premises further for a club room, more storage space and an office. BATTS would one day like to stage British League matches.
AVON
Bob Murray
County Scene
The last month has seen all of our county sides in action.
The Seniors traveled to New Maldon to take on Surrey Ist and 2nds and come back with two hard fought points. With Michele Cohen sidelined by injury, Helen Perrott and Sian Evans continued the ladies excellent contribution with two wins each against the Surrey team. Andy Creed also won both of his games to secure a 6-4 victory. The match against Surrey’s first team was always going to be extremely difficult and so it proved. Despite an excellent win by Andy over Surrey number one we went down 9-1.

Weston-Super-Mare League
Maurice Phillips, Assistant Secretary to Avon County, was honoured by the Weston association on 5th November with the presentation by the President, John Burtenshaw, of the ETTA Maurice Goldstein Merit Award for devoted services to table tennis over the past 40 years. Maurice’s table tennis ‘career’ began in Leicestershire but he is now playing a very active part in Avon County and Weston League affairs. He was a major force in forming the Walton-in-Gordians club which plays table tennis in the village hall, arguably the best venue in the county.

The presentation took place at a private dinner held at the Arosfa Manor Hotel in Wokingham. Without this support it would not be possible to provide the range of table tennis and level and number of teams that Artel SSV an OLOP provide in Berkshire.

Bucks
Jake Yeates
Mixed Fortunes
October was a month of mixed fortunes for the Buckinghamshire county teams. A busy series of matches took place on Saturday October 15th, with many teams in action.

The senior 2nd team, in division 2, played three matches at Hazlemere, High Wycombe and finished the day unbeaten. Their first match saw them draw 5-5 with Oxfordshire for whom Croatian Ana Valcetic won two as did Maggie Braham, their other female member. For Bucks, Stephen Baggaley and Danny Baxter both achieved 100% success whilst Tom Yeates was victorious over Tom Gorman 15-14, 14-16. The Bucks cause against Essex was aided somewhat by the fact that the Essex team contained only one female. Even so, two out of two for Baggaley and Baxter was essential as Yeates lost both and the two women, Anna Watton and Ragi Shah, were unsuccessful in their matches, Bucks taking the match 6-4. The third and final fixture of the day pitted Bucks against Henfordshire. The first five games saw Bucks take a 3-2 lead; Baxter getting the better of Glen Wilkes -15,11,10 Yeates beating Chris Markow 15, 19,14 and Watton victorious over 19,14 over Caroline Seeholme. The second half was a reverse with Baxter and Watton the Bucks successes, final score 5-5. Danny Baxter finished the day with a very impressive record of played six won six. Let’s hope he produces that sort of form for the next county matches in February.

The junior second team played Sutton 2nds at the Milton Keynes Table Tennis Centre, coming away with a credible 5-5 draw. Andrew Baggaley and Lawrence Fo won one match each, with Gary Jones, playing at number three, winning both his matches. Elizabeth Stewart won the other game, with Gemma Kibby unsuccessful. An impressive maximum was recorded by Sutton’s number one and four.

The veterans teams were also in action. The first team of Geoff Giles, Mike Rodes, Mike Atkinson and I hope to have a full list of results for the next issue.

Berkshire
John Cunningham
Berkshire Table Tennis players were well represented at the Wokingham District Sports Personality Awards presentations this year. The event, held at the prestigious St Anne’s Manor Hotel in Wokingham was attended by close to 200 local sports men and women, their families, friends and guests.

COUNTY NOTES IS FOR THE PUBLICITY OF COUNTY ACTIVITIES. THE ACCURACY OF WHAT IS PUBLISHED IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS, AS THE EDITOR CANNOT POSSIBLY KNOW THE ‘FACTS’ MAY BE INCORRECT. COPY CONTAINING LIBELLIOUS OR PERSONALLY ABUSIVE MATTER OR ‘POLITICAL’ COMMENT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED.

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Rugby, Marathon Running, Orienteering and Cross Country Running.

Berkshire: Prizes are already being made for £250 each to the winners. Sponsorship Awards, a full day’s exhibition involving all clubs in the area will take place. The main aim of this event will be to raise £20,000 to support the areas young sportsmen and women.

It is hoped that table tennis will play a leading role with all the local clubs and players taking part.

Sponsorship News
Good news for SSV who play in the Southern Region and Bracknell Leagues. Once again they have been sponsored by ‘Artel’ the areas major environmental company. Last year, with the help of Peace TTC in addition their main sponsor Scottish Provident have received major support from ‘Fairy Powder’, ‘Target Sweet’, Cutting, Thatcham and St Anne’s Manor Hotel, Wokingham.

Without this support it would not be possible to provide the range of table tennis and level and number of teams that Artel SSV an OLOP provide in Berkshire.
Crowe won both of his matches, but Graham Trimming, Dave Wackrill and of sorts, and lost both. Giles and of his rubber, Curl, was somewhat out Thomas. They then travelled to Ilford going to be hard and Bucks slipped to victory. 

Giles and Yeates (one) winning the games. Man has picked up at last. At the Milton Development Officer. Ken has been generous giving up his time to help the area to take up a young and inexperienced side. It would have been reasonable to expect our number one player is Chris Dunn who is a first year Cadet. All in all it was not a surprise to come away from the weekend with maximum points, although our youngsters did not give up easily. Congratulations to Sophie Smith and Krsy Calderwood who have been called up for the England Under 12 Girls Squad.

LOCAL NEWS Cheshire Champions Cup This new competition introduced at the end of last season is now under way, being received enthusiastically in an already busy calendar. Result Mid Cheshire T/L 3-1 Wirral T/L MID CHESHIRE T/L In the first division Police 1 have again settled into top spot. The formidable combination of Brian Johns, Ian John and Ian Eaton playing far too many games by the opposition. In the second division MCTTC Ist s are at present in top spot but harking back to the good days in his home town of Wintrington Park, with the team of Alf Beckwith, Don Whitehead and Dennis Carnie, having already beaten MCTTC Ist s earlier in this season.

NORTH CHESHIRE T/L Stockport Leisure Services choose Table Tennis as their Development Sport and over the past eighteen months it has developed and grown. All levels are catered for in two main centres, Brinnington Recreation Centre and Stockport School. The results for the season again reflecting the effort being put in. National Under 13 Girls Champions Kathryn Woodward National Under 12 Girls Champions Karen Lockwood National Under 12 School Team Champions Stockport School Best Performance (any age group) - Kirky Caldwell Third Place Under 11 Boys School Final - Neil Scullion School.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS We have taken part in three games since last report, the last being against Northumberland where we won 6-2. The team started well with half the team being late because of a breakdown. The game was very tight all the way through with Cheshire coming a close second at 6-4. The highlight of the day was Cheshire’s Under 16 Team. I am pleased to announce a game off the Scottish No. 4 Ranking player Keith Rogers. Cheshire’s next encounter was against Leicester 2nds and Lincolnshire 2nds. Both games on a rather hectic day as you can imagine. Cheshire have almost two full weeks of the exception being Berks Westway who played in both teams. In contrast to our last game everything went well with both teams winning with Ch v Le 2-0, Ch v Lin 7-3.

A good days table tennis was enjoyed by all thanks to hard core opposition teams for three cooperation on a rather full day.

CUMBRIA

Cumbria’s season has been overshadowed by the death of Bev Glendinning, county committee member and Carlisle League chairman.

Many young players in the county are finding it hard to come to terms with the fact that Bev is no longer around to drive them to matches and tournaments it would otherwise have been impossible for them to reach.

The retired merchant seaman, who was in his late 50’s, devoted the last 10 years of his leisure time to table tennis.

A keen player, he could list as his achievements reaching the semi-finals of the County veteran’s singles and being runner-up with county star Steve Temple in the men’s doubles over the past two seasons.

A fellow with one daughter, his club was Welton Royal Oak.

The county team, in the county championship division 2A, have drawn and lost two at the time of writing. In the latest defeat, 3-7 at home to Nottinghamshire, stars were Steve Temple and Jake Kendall, who won two sets, and Katherine Swan, who won the other one.

"But the selectors were considering dropping’ them for the next game, in Cleveland, not because of form but for geographical reason. As Carlisle is nearer to Cleveland than Darlington, it was thought an ideal chance to blood promising Border pair Clair and Nicola Bentley.

This season’s Cumbria Closed Championships will be at Milton Keynes Sports Centre on Sunday March 5th.

DERBYSHIRE

COLIN DEATON GOODWILL

It has been revealed that former Derbyshire table tennis enthusiast Mr Fred Clay has left a sum of money to the Derbyshire Table Tennis Association in his will.

Fred, who originates from the Ashbourne area married a table tennis player and then lived for a period of time in the South of England. He returned to Derbyshire and died in May of this year.

The county committee has decided to put this money into a fund with a view to helping its future. The committee is currently preparing to celebrate their Diamond Jubilee year. A feast of Table Tennis in store.

Chesterfield continues to be the leading light throughout the County and whilst they have lost a number of first team players in the top six of the ETFA National Ranking List. They are still most anxious to produce more internationals. The most pleasing aspect is to see “Cookie” and Bradley Billington and Nicola Dowland playing in recent weeks. They have also taken part in the Senior tournaments few and far NT.
between training together as a trio is of paramount importance.

Dennis's performance in the first Senior Open tournament of the season in the Yorkshire Open, witnessed that she is still fit as a fiddle with reaching the semi-final before losing to Groves Thong Fei Ming the eventual winner.

In junior circles, Michael Ikerwood looks potentially to be the pick of the young, juniors and coach Derrick Marples has high hopes of this highly regarded England Juniors as one of the young lads main ambitions and that is to be England's Number One Junior.

Finally, Derbyshire's big event of the year in the form of the Derbyshire Closed is to take place at the Derby Tertiary College, Mackworth Drive, Derby on 27 November 1994. Organisers will be Les Allwood and a good entry is anticipated.

**DURHAM**

KEITH WILSON  
DEFINITELY THE LAST ONE

In the December meeting of the County Management Committee, it could well be the beginning of a new era. Proposals for the complete restructuring of the way that cricket is played as part of a development strategy put forward by the Durham County Cricket Club. A reversal of county fortunes is going to be very dependent on the support of all member leagues. Progress on any moves towards radical reforms will be outlined in the next issue of Table Tennis News.

On the competitive front, the new season began with the loss of the City of Sunderland in the Yorkshire Open. Both of the teams were withdrawn but Sedgfield added a fourth side. One leading table tennis journalist expressed the view that Sedgfield would struggle were it not for their key players Barry Billington, Evan Walker, and Ian Stokes. The knowledgeable scribe, a supporter of Premier Division Horsham Angels who will remain nameless, must have been surprised to see Sedgfield beat the Saurus side 10-4, although it was something of a struggle! The Sedgfield sides have begun brightly and their new third North side is providing opportunities for young players. First season senior John Bousfield being the eldest of their team in the recent away match at AALS Leeds.

It's nice to see a growing number of juniors appearing on the national ranking lists. Dan Walsh (11) is now in the top 20 of the Under 12 Boys list. He is in the Cadet list by James Eden, Michael Marsden, and Chris Foskett. Richard Eden, Stuart Rose, and Paul Cook are moving up the Junior Boys list too. Recent tournament victories will move all these youngsters further up the rankings. After winning the national 7-1 win over Ashford (Kent), highlights included Paul Ryder (making his first national league appearance for many years) beating John Burton (CMK), and a spell-binding game between Ian Munk (CMK) and Steve Rand won by Munk 21-19 in the third set. For the second team all four Brentwood players (Dawson Holland, Ian Attridge, Steve Jodine and Steve Edwards) impressed but Steve Jodine's wins over Christian and Spencer Thompson were judged worthy of the man-of-the-match award.

The Brentwood second team were not so successful against Penhill II in their next match when inspired Clive Carlyth beat both Ian Attridge and Dawson Holland and an equally-in-form Vince Avery took the scalps of Holland and Stuart Gibbs. Match score 5-3 to Penhill.

**ESSEX**

STEPHEN KERNS  
BEHIND THE SCENES

Brentwood Table Tennis Club's Graham Moon, 82 years young was the winner of the prestigious BBC Essex/Mobilt "Behind-the-Scenes" Sports Award for his services to table tennis at a prize-giving dinner at Corringham. These awards are unquestionably the foremost awards in Essex sports. Graham is the President of the Brentwood league, and the founder-member of the Brentwood TT Club some forty years ago. He is a former winner of the ETTA Merit Award, the 1985 winner of the Cott-Woodcock award as well as the 1982 recipient of the Brentwood County Council's Sports Personality Award. Under his guidance and leadership the Brentwood club has grown into one of the most successful in southern England. Graham still plays in English Veterans tournaments and has a national ranking of No. 4 in his age group. The players who over much of their development in this club include Lisa, Kim, Peter and Ian Hayden, Chris Knight, Richard Darnell, Martin and Susan Cole, Ryan Savill, Steve Rand, Steve Jodine, Paul Stephens, Rick James, Jon Stokes, Nikki Kennard, Kate and Alison Corver - the list is endless. The whole of ECTTA is indebted to Graham for his massive efforts that continue to thrive at the Headley Water High School, Brentwood.
Graham Toole and Sarah Turner

In those distant days Keith Wilshere and Shetler the men's singles, who has now won this title a second time after winning the doubles with Bawra in 1980. County senior titles which he has won are another story.

More recently sporting acquirements, but early running in the men's division, are being made by Mike Hughes. Mike is a recent sporting convert, having only taken up the game a year ago.

The veteran squad of Chris Wilshere, Chris Shetler, Mauri Shave, Bob Cox and Gill Larking made the long trek to Hyde for their long awaited Premier week end (details will no doubt be published elsewhere), managed to take something from everybody thoroughly enjoyed the experience and can't wait for the second weekend end at Ashton.

Both junior teams have made promising starts with two wins and a draw. Semi finalists were Graham Pointer and Wilshere, whilst ousted at the semi-finals were Graham Pointer and Wilshere, whilst ousted at Moreton Hanger's Richard Mutton and Dave Wiltshire. The net result was a 2-0 defeat. The semi-final was played at Ashton.

The veteran squad of Chris Wilshere, Chris Shetler and Gill and the Isle of Wight Division 2 (Roger Hooley, Mike Hughes and Nick Hutchings). Finally, GOOD NEWS - a major event for Hampshire; the Woolwich British Junior League second division final weekend is to be held in Andover, April 29-30th.

**HERTFORDSHIRE**

Geoff Mutton

**Spirited Performance**

Success at last for a county representative side. This was the reward for a spirited team performance by our Junior side against Devon in Division 1. Chris Jones and Jon Williams each won two points, whilst Kieran Valley and Leanne Neale both won one each. This victory followed a close 4-6 defeat at the hands of Wiltshire where the visitors won 1-0. Liz and Boy proved too strong for the Hampshire County Juniors.

The veteran squad are still looking for their first win, following a 1-8 defeat against Oxford 2nds. The solitary win was achieved by Carol Milnen, winning 24-22 in the third game. Neville Meredith and Carol Milnen just lost out in a tight mixed doubles, as did Graham Pointer and Richard Owen just lost their men's doubles.

With the league season well under way, Division 1 champion Moreton Matters again look to be the team to beat. The gap in class between Division 1 and 2 is 11 years, and the gap in quality between Division 1 and 2 is 11 years as well. But when the girl from Hoddesdon took another 6-0 lead she didn't let it slip and the pressure became too much for Budden who was unable to change her strategy to enable her to get back into the game, and Gillett ran out a comfortable 21-6 winner.

Sharon Gillett also won the Girls Under 14 Singles, the Girls Doubles in partnership with Michelle Budden and the Mixed Doubles with Anah Dhar from North Herts. The Boy's Under 14 winner was Paul Higgins from Hemel Hempstead, who beat Hoddesdon's Daniel Gillett 11 and 15 in the final. Whilst Gillett himself won the Boys Under 12 title.

The Girls Under 12 title went to Christine Binney from Hoddesdon, who pushed her sister Karen into second place after a round robin.

RESULTS:

**BOYS**

U12 D. Gillett b W. O'Leary 12:19

11 and 20 in the final, after being 18-20 down in the second.

This year's Girls Under 17 Singles winner Sharon Gillett, who comes from the Hoddesdon Table Tennis Club which is this year's most successful Junior Club, winning seven winners, and five runners-up trophies between them at these championships, won her fourth winners trophy when she captured the Girl's Under 17 title, beating Barnes' Michelle Budden 22-20, 21-6, in the final.

This Girls final was close in the first leg with Budden pulling back from a 0-6 deficit to level the opening game at 10-10 and after that it went point for point before Gillett just edged it 22-20.

But when the girl from Hoddesdon took another 6-0 lead she didn’t let it slip and the pressure became too much for Budden who was unable to change her strategy to enable her to get back into the game, and Gillett ran out a comfortable 21-6 winner.

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**BOYS U14:** P. Higgins b D. Gillett 11,15.
**BOYS U17:** J. O'Leary b D. Gillett 21,19, 21-12.
**GIRLS U13:** L. Houghton b T. Hames 7-5, 9-7.
**GIRLS U15:** S. Gillett b M. Budden 20,6.
**GIRLS U17:** C. Binney b J. O'Leary 11,9.
**BOYS U12:** T. Seahalme b L. Houghton 21,14, 21-11.
**GIRLS U12:** C. Binney b J. O'Leary 11,9.
**BOYS DOUBLES:** W. & A. Emery b J. O'Leary 21,10.
**GIRLS DOUBLES:** M. Budden / S. Gillett b G. Homes / M. Kent 6-1.
**MIKED DOUBLES:** A. Dilor / S. Gillett b M. Frayd / M. Budden 20,11,16.
**BOYS U18:** A. Emery b T. Hames 11,9.
**GIRLS U18:** C. Hunter b J. O'Leary 6,10.

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**ISLE OF WIGHT**

**ONE HORSE RACE**

The First Division which I described as a two horse race in my last notes, has turned into a one horse race, as Sandown defeated Newport Vics 9-1. More than the score suggests is the only consolation one can offer the losers as the championship loses its main interest. I expect a stern battle for places 2 to 4.

Our Team in the Southern Regional League, after an initial 8-4 success, has lost the next two matches 5-4 and then 8-1, the latter against Kingfisher, who have stamina and talent to reach the top, section next time round. Work will be needing to be done alone winner. That the Regional Chairman has turned into a one horse race, as there have been so few matches played, it was a delight to see the two teams competing for places 2 to 4.

The next four games are at Ashford, Kent, 21-14, 21-19 and Stephen Lampkin 19-21, 21-19. Adams. The inter-town competitions are very bright future for Island Table Tennis, but the main factor remains what we ourselves put into the sport.

**KENT**

**RISING STAR**

**BOYS JUNIOR 2 STAR SELECT**

The inter-town competitions are underway with the eight teams in the Butter Cup setting a fine example with all matches up to date and all scorescards in. Spalding (Rodd Goss, John Beaumont, Darrel Davis) head the table, followed by 1994-1. Lots of new faces appearing this season with Scunthorpe entering a second team which is good news.

The top six remain very close indeed with the most players with ten teams, but a big shock was Grantham not entering this season.

Support for the Haig Cup has lacked support for a number of years now but as this is the main competition for the juniors it is hard to understand why there are only five teams.

The junior county team made an excellent start to the season with two wins and a draw, and in recent seasons the team has consisted usually of all Grantham players (sometimes over merit) so it was nice to see Richard Royce (Boston) and Andrew Smith (Grantham) in the team, reflecting the improved coaching going on in the two areas and also their recent performances in the pre-season matches.

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The county by beating Sussex's Scollard, 11-8, 11-7, 11-6, and Grantham. Butcher Cup setting a fine example for senior players it is now but as this is the main competition for the juniors it is hard to understand why there are only five teams.

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West Middlesbrough also won the first round of the West Region Preliminary Tournament with Anthony Corbin, Norman Swiflard and Errol Skeete.

**NORTHANTS**

Dennis Millman

**DOUBLE LOSS**

Northants table tennis suffered a double loss recently with the deaths of Dick Ingle and Joe Collinson. As a player, Dick won the Northants County Closed Men’s Singles in 1962, the Men’s Doubles in partnership with Steve Lyon in 1973 and 1974, and the Veteran Singles on ten occasions between 1962 and 1973.

He was one of the dominant forces involved in the formation of the Kettering League, but eventually turned his attention to the teaching profession, becoming Deputy Headteacher at Montsarey School. Sympathy is extended to both their families.

Wellingborough’s Westfield became the first winners of the county-wide Ram Sports Challenge Trophy, beating Kettering Town 6-3 in a final postponed from last season.

When Terry Luxton took over the captaincy, one game against Dabb’s, it looked as if an early shock was possible, but Dabb’s recovered, and with current County No. 1, Ryan Keates winning a titanic struggle against Gordon Shaw, after the Kettering player had taken the second 27-25, Westfield went two up.

Shaw, Allun Thomas and Dennis Millman all won for Town, with Keates and Phil Slade replying in kind, but when the mutual game was over, the supporters were delighted that Westfield had established a match-round game which gave him the trophy, her the edge over fourth placed James Shaw, Allun Thomas and Dennis Millman.

It is pleasing to report that County Development Officer Mike Pitman has presided over the first County Assessment for many years, putting ten boys and four girls through their paces. The outcome of this exercise is the selection of a strong squad to take part in the first of a series of training sessions by top coach John Burston.

In the County Championships the Veterans have had their ups and downs, beginning with a disastrous defeat against Lancashire, and the debacle of an abortive journey to a Cheshire side, who were unable to provide a table, and ending with three home wins on the same day.

Keith Jones, Ray Kingston and Margaret Lilly were all unbeaten as the Firsts beat Warwickshire Thirds 8-1, Gordon Shaw and Joyce Porter proved must too strong for the opposition as Clwyd went down to the Seconds 7-2, and David Hoddle, making one of his infrequent appearances, was the hero of the hour for the Thirds, as coming to the table for the crucial ninth rubber, he completed his personal Double with the expense of Suffolk’s Ray Stone.

The beat performance in the St. Neots Invitation League has come from Kettering Seniors as they accounted for Peterborough, Kings Lynn and Cambridge all on the same day, with debutante Steve Brown winning eight singles out of nine and skipper Steve West notching seven.

The step press news comes with the publication of the re-vamped Queensbuit School Computer Ranking List in which Team Electric’s Ian Heaves has taken over at the top from Ryan Keates. Heaves has been unbeaten since he lost the final of the County Closed Men’s Singles to Keates but in the immediate future he could well encounter Keates, Graeme McKim and Andy Trot, who are respectively second, fourth and fifth respectively.

The complete list features more than seven hundred players from Daventry, Kettering, Northampton, Towcester and Wellingborough and other leading players are as follows:


VETERAN WOMEN


So, congratulations to Cadets Claire Gibb, Helen Round, Lizzie Frazer and Ed Brown and the Juniors, Andrew Rumary, Michael Ong and David Corkett. However, to bring a little more realism into the subject, does the future therefore look rosy in Somerset?

As a matter of fact, to date, to some extent it could be said that the success of the Junior Boys, the three above plus Chris Sayers, both in the Trials and particularly in the County Championships, hides the true picture.

The result of the Junior match versus Dorset is a case in point. Five wins out of six for the boys yet a 5-5 draw overall. Having said that, let’s praise the girls for their efforts against the far more experienced (and ranked) Dorset junior girls, they are after all both under - 12s. Time will tell, but the potential is there. But where are the ‘true’ junior girls, not 11 year olds, but 16 year olds, maybe 17?

The last season for both and by accounts had an ‘interesting’ start to the season. The usual close match against Berkshire winning 5-4 and you could say that playing against stronger opposition is generally good for the players.

The mark which has been set for the future includes interesting Championship matches. The first two matches against Oxford and Cambridge are as this is now becoming the norm, can be agreed that any further matches between you will start with expedite against the West Region Preliminary round. The Masfield League provided two teams in the East Midlands Cadet League and their first two games attracted wins over Dranfield 10-4 and Lincoln 7-3. Their only defeat came at the hands of Grantham, Craig Wilton won six out of nine, Darren McGahan and Alan Ford each won five out of nine with one can’t get closer than that in all the doubles games. Mansfield’s second team comprising of James Brock, John Buxton, Chris Grimley and Nathan Overall gained successive wins over Newark (6-4) and Workshop (7-5) before losing 10-0 to a strong Nottingham side.

Paul Linfield, Mansfields Publicity Officer, informs me that he is greatly concerned about young players and the current atmosphere of the sport. He is currently discussing way of attracting more people to the sport, which is generally diminishing.

**NOTTINGHAM**

Mike Tunningley

**WORKSOP INCREASES ITS SIZE**

As the season gets underway, I am pleased to report that the Workshop & District Table Tennis League has increased its size by a further six teams. The two main factors being the efforts of Steve Walker of Redlands School and Paul Clarke of Hartfield who have combined their considerable enthusiasm for the sport to the up and coming youngsters.

The benefits are already beginning to show with players like Craig Gascogne and the all girl team of Rachel Eyre, Zoe Elkington and Nicola Farrall all gaining from the experience and coaching techniques currently being admired at the table. At Hartfield Paul Clarke is ably assisted by Mick Vesey, Dale Ajeto, Dave Gascogne and Mick Bartrop and now a total of five teams operate from this venue. This is surely progress and the sport of table tennis is the main beneficiary.

However, there are a number of drawbacks for the smaller leagues like Workshop with many of their cadets and veterans leaving for higher class of competition in the major leagues and therefore prefer playing against stronger opposition.

With this in mind Workshop are currently discussing way of attracting the stronger players to their league to increase competition. It is generally found that top class players congregate in one club or team instead of splitting up and playing against each other to promote competitive matches. When the details are released in full publicisation will be issued to the interested parties.

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Mixed...yes, Mixed Doubles. That’s like winning the lottery; disappoiting loss at Sussex, snatching defeat from the jaws of victory, but they’ll bounce (7)? back.

- 3 matches to 1 - All about the Vets 2nd team - played 5, lost 3. They have used seven players already and are just about used up. Even if everyone had got more points.

And finally, a simple question. What is the correct spelling of the Somerset town of Paignton, Devon. The first was her father Brian, the second ETTA vice-chair Mike Lewis and the third Uckfield-based Malcolm Francis.

**WARWICKSHIRE**

**PETE WALDEN**

**THE MACKIE CUP**

November sees the first round of the Warwickshire team handicap cup, 'The Mackie Cup', which gives teams from all over the County the chance to play opposition they would not normally encounter - yet only 16 teams have seen fit to give it a go, and four of those are from the same club!

It is a sad sign of the times that even free entry cannot entice more teams to enter and have an enjoyable night out "somewhere different". The draw for the first round is:

- Kings Heath (Birm) v Standard C (Cov)
- Axoj Wolfey (Nuneaton) v BSD (Birm)
- Standard B (Cov) v Old Wheelers (Birm)
- Land Rover E (Birm) v Land Rover B (Birm)
- Standard A (Cov) v NAIGIO (Nuneaton) v Beechcroft (Birm)
- Freewheels (Birm) v Standard F (Cov)
- Walsdey (Birm) v Kenilworth

The Coventry Association’s magazine 'The Racket’ now has a new editor in the guise of Terry O’Neill from the GPT Club. Terry welcomes any letters or reports for inclusion in the magazine; he can be contacted on Coventry 415454. The Nuneaton League has Paul Perkins at the editor’s helm of its monthly newsletter ‘Topspin’. A lot of hard graft goes into getting these publications together, a fact not often appreciated by the reader. I wish both these gentlemen well in their endeavours throughout the season.

**SUSSEX**

**JOHN WOODFORD**

**THE RIGHT GUY FOR CLAIRE**

Best news of the month is that the Sussex champion Adrian Moore married the South East Region Development Officer Claire Hunter on firworks day, November 5 and Adrian only slipped five places down the England ranking list to No. 26 during the run-up to the altai Claire actually went up five places to No. 36. There are so many interesting free draws in the happy couple’s rankings are affected during the rest of the season.

In the Friendly Hotels British League premier division, the Brandon Angels aided by Adrian Moore in place of Paul Eiphack, (who is doing well in the lower division), are maintaining their position in the top half of the table and seem capable of staying amongst the leaders, rather than the struggling. Sussex senior teams are meeting with mixed fortunes. The top side are hovering around the top of the table, but they suffered a set-back recently when they were held 5:5 by Kent for whom Joe Kennedy beat Scott Greenbrook and Tatham Moore lost a vital singles match.

The retirement of Janet Smith from the Sussex scene means that the former all-powerful Brighton Rose Bowl team will be led by Teresa Moore but will bring in the top two Sussex juniors Joanna Bush-Harris and Sarah Smedman - still a more than useful trio. Miss Smith has surprised many by retiring from all table tennis, Scotland squad included, but she is carrying out some very useful coaching roles in the Oxsted area.

The first-month in Sussex is Harry McCarnery from the former county town of Lewes. Harry, 15, has jumped to the No. 3 on the county junior list after beating the No. 2 Robert Abbotts at Bridlington in the East Yorkshire Select Class two final 21-19, 21-16.

The next leg of the tournament is now in the Sussex junior leading side along with Abbotts and Arundel’s Kevin Doyle.

The coaches were involved in the rise to fame by the late Claire Pengelly of Paignton, Devon. The first was her father Brian, the second ETTA vice-chair Mike Lewis and the third

**WILTSHIRE**

**LAURIE SELBY**

**SURPRISE SURPRISE**

More than 40 players took part in the Wiltshire Table Tennis Association’s first veterans’ assessment tournament of the season.

Terry Parkins (Salisbury) was the surprise winner, beating Swindon’s Brian Powell in a thrilling three game final.

Powell beat Parkins in the group matches before the tournament moved into the knock-out stage.

But Powell stayed at number two in the rankings, behind Salisbury’s Terry Bruce who never played in the tournament.

Parkins victory takes him up three places to number three in the rankings.

Former Swindon champion Tony Wolff, making his debut in the veterans’ ranking tournaments, played well before he was eliminated by Salisbury schoolmaster Ian Bell who moved up the rankings from 13th to 9th.

The women’s event was won by Swindon’s Margaret Wilson with Liz Whittaker (Newbury) the runner-up.

The Bryan Hussey trophy for the player who rose the highest number of positions in last year’s ranking list went to Nigel Smith of Chisledon.

The tournament was held at Churchfields School, Swindon, and was co-ordinated by Alison Smith.

Swindon and District Table Tennis League has stretched its boundaries in a bid to attract more teams.

The league changed its rules to allow teams from up to 20 miles from Swindon Town Hall to play in the leagues.

This means that teams from Cirencester and Calne as well as other surrounding areas can enter the league. Previously the limit was 12 miles.

Lee Kelly has been appointed chairman of the league, taking over from Alan Duke who held the post for the past six seasons.

This year Mr Duke’s hard work were paid at the annual meeting of the league.

Many clubs have been staging their annual tournaments and the results are:

**YORKSHIRE**

**REA BALMORD**

**FUTURE PERFECT**

The future of our sport looks to be in good hands with Richard Hudson, organiser of the County’s Junior/Cadet trials in the happy - for Yorkshire, not for the players - position of having to limit the entries. Some sixty Cadet boys were nominated and, with it not being possible to accommodate more than 48, some were disappointed, but they trust perseverers with their practice and coaching, and their turn will surely come.

One hundred and nineteen players from from the length and breadth of the world’s top ten, who returned to the Far East after the tournament to prepare for the Asian games.

There is still plenty of mileage in the competition.

Down to brass tacks and the event itself, where star quality was there in Champions Feng Ming, ranked in the world’s top ten, who returned to the Far East after the tournament to prepare for the Asian games.

To many clubs there is a tournament to run for you, the players, not for the self satisfaction of the officials on the table, and certainly not to make money.

In the Yorkshire League promoted Barnsley have made a cracking start to the new campaign, racking up four wins from their opening four matches and including reigning champions and near neighbours Sheffield among their defeats.

So the race at the moment looks to be between the Colliers and powerful Bradford Grims 5 who have already beaten ‘derby’ rivals Huddersfield 7-3 but, with seven matches still to play, there is still plenty of mileage in the competition.

In Men’s Division 1 and the three Veteran Divisions only three of the ten teams have completed all of their fixtures can still point to a 100% record - Hull Division (1), Huddersfield (Veteran Division 1) and Scarborough (Veteran Division 2).
Opinions of the spectator

I was touring around in America last month and didn't have my portable typewriter with me. This accounts for the lack of an article in the last issue of the magazine writes Jack Randall.

Or those still trying to crack the code in the October issue (229), a line of typing was left out in printing column 2 line 13; after "umpires" insert "at all events, an over-expensive option and where are all these umpires...". You may not agree, but at least it reads better.

Alan Shepherd reports an incident when an umpiring decision was politely queried by a player against whom a point had been awarded. Did the ball clip the edge or not? The player appealed to the audience, who as you might expect had diverse opinions. In the end the umpire reversed his decision, which probably affected the outcome of the match. Should the umpire be able to seek opinions from spectators? Interestingly, in snooker there is a provision you can get the irrelevant remark specifically made which says "if he/she has failed to notice any incident, he/she may take evidence from the spectators best placed for observation to assist his/her decision". No such provision exists in table tennis.

Laws or Regulations although that I am not captivated by the instant when the umpire might be prepared to accept. As in cricket and snooker, the umpire's final decision must be accepted. After all, that is what he is there for, but being human the rare mistake may creep in and the umpire only calls it as he sees it. But should it be accepted that the umpire can consult with a spectator, better placed than he, to get an opinion? I can see a drawback in that opinions will be shouted out without being asked for... but maybe that happens already. What do you think?

In some cases, for example when a wandering ball comes into court, whether a let should be given can be a matter of judgement. In this example it should be noted that it is not the moment when the umpire manages to get the call out that counts, but the instant when the ball appeared that matters. Thus you can get the irrelevant remark "but he already missed the ball when you called".

The topic of dress was raised last February, since when a fashion for baseball caps worn with the peak down has been noted. While I must admit that I am not captivated with caps, or piqued with peaks, there is not an specific bar to this mode of dress, and I am waiting for it to go away. At the end of the day, the referee is the one to arbitrate on matters of dress, and if he decides that some particular mode of attire is bringing the game into disrepute, he can rule that it is not allowed for his tournament. Do you feel that reversed baseball caps are unacceptable?

Most mechanical scoring machines run out of numbers after 30-all. The question arose at a recent tournament as to what the operator should do then. Flip back to "1" for the player who scores the next point, or immediately the score gets to 30-all flip back to 0-0? Or even back to 20-20 so that the spectators know that we are in a first to lead by 2 points situation? In the European Champions in Birmingham last March, the referee decided that the thing to do would be to turn back to 0-0, and that is what is generally advised in England, but as far as I know there is no universally accepted routine. What do you do?

OBITUARY

CLARE PENGELLY

The tragic death of the South Devon star player Clare Pengelly aged only 18 on October 22 on the island of Gran Canaria, Canary Islands, stunned not just her family in Paignton but the whole of England's table tennis. The loss of one so young is the sort of tragedy that can never be forgotten. The sympathy of the table tennis world goes out to her parents Brian and Val Pengelly and her sister Rachel.

Inquiries and an inquest seem certain to be held in due course, meanwhile the facts that seem reasonably certain to have caused the catastrophe are that Clare and her boyfriend Simon MacMachon were in a pick-up truck that careered down a 200 ft cliff face at the end of a trip into the mountains. Simon escaped serious injury but Clare is reported to have been thrown out of the vehicle as it plunged downwards.

Clare won a number of tournaments. As a cadet she was as high as No 2 on the England list. Two years ago she was No 4 on the junior list. She was originally coached by her father, then ETTA Development Chairman Mike Lewis followed by coach-promoter Malcolm Francis. Clare had been out of the sport for over a year with a back complaint. In the end a trip into the mountains. Simon escaped serious injury but Clare is reported to have been thrown out of the vehicle as it plunged downwards.

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The world of table tennis in Devonshire was stunned to learn of the death, in most tragic circumstances whilst on holiday in Gran Canaria, of Clare Pengelly. Clare, one of three talented sisters, had been a regular member of the county senior and junior squads from a very young age and had also represented England at Cadet level. Always supported by Dad Brian and Mum Val, the family regularly travelled the country supporting tournaments and were well known and respected on the circuit.

There are no adequate words of consolation to a family who have lost a much loved daughter, but I am sure I speak for many people when I extend to Brian, Val, Rachel, Sarah and all their family our very sincere and heartfelt sympathy and to assure them that out thoughts and prayers are with them at this very sad time.

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