

Dates to Diary

1998 Dec 12/13 Annual General Meeting and Conference

1999 Jan 9 -15 Summer Nationals Nelson
Entries close Tuesday 8th December 1998

Apr 2 - 5 N Z Veteran Champs Nth Harbour

NELSON SUN AND A TABLE TENNIS FEAST AWAITS HOLIDAY MAKERS

The entry form is now available for the Summer Nationals to be held in Nelson from 9 – 15 January. This table tennis event is unique. The best players in the country can enter; social players can enter; and there is down time for competitors to enjoy the sun, beaches and other Nelson holiday attractions. The combination offers a multitude of reasons for any player in the country to pack their bat and beachwear and head for Nelson:

- To see some of the best players in the country in action
- To enjoy social play in either the 2nd grade events, or age-group events. (Senior and Junior)
- To make new friends
- To enjoy the Nelson sun and holiday attractions.

As a further incentive, cash prizes are offered. Call Bryan Keane (03 547 7530) if you want an entry form or more details. Some accommodation is still available at the Academy.

TABLE TENNIS PLAYERS DICTIONARY

Ball:

Elusive, wayward, uncontrollable spherical missile magnetically attracted to the net, the floor and one's own end of the table.



BEST WISHES FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

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TABLE TENNIS INFO

Issue: 9



November 1998

MEDIA MEAL

- Player "hugely disappointed", reported the NZ Herald under the headline "Ping Pong Pangs"
- "Towel Foul Upsets", thundered a bold headline dominating the Evening Post's main sports page.
- "Too much Towel sours Final" (Nelson Evening Mail)
- "Replaced Umpire vows to Protest at Highest Level" (Manawatu Evening Standard)

And so on.....

All publicity's good publicity, and there's nothing like a controversy to attract the interest of the media. If the controversy happens to be over a seemingly trivial incident such as a player wiping his face with a towel, so what? It'll be devoured all the more hungrily.

This is not so much a comment on the New Zealand sports media, but on the preferred taste of its readers. We love a scrap.

More Page 3

"Please, let me talk to you, I'm from the Wanaka Warbler!"



CHUNLI DOES IT AGAIN

New Zealand Player Beats World's Best

New Zealand's Li Chunli (pictured) has caused a major upset at the Women's World Cup for the second year in a row. In Group Play, she beat Li Ju, of China, 21-13, 20-22, 21-19. Li Ju is the number two ranked player in the world, and with the recent retirement of No 1 Deng Yaping, is effectively the world's top active woman player.



This was clearly the best win ever by a New Zealand player at a world event of any kind.

More bottom next page





Executive Director

I'm writing this in the middle of a two week trip around the country with John Stapleton, the new National Development Officer for TTNZ. We're in the process of visiting most of our Associations and most of the Regional Sports Trusts.

As always, when meeting people involved in Table Tennis, I'm impressed by their love of the game and genuine passion to see the game develop. This is most heartening as administering a sport like Table Tennis is not a glamorous job. There's few rewards involved and there's a lot of hard work. But it does have one significant ongoing reward - seeing new initiatives you've developed or been involved with come to fruition. Examples of these that we've seen include the introduction of new day-time clubs, new coaching programmes in schools and new schools competitions.

One thing we have observed is that new initiatives usually come from new, young and fresh administrators. And the sport needs more of them. A lot of the existing administrators we've met have said to us that they're only still involved because no one else has come forward and they don't want the game to die in their area.

So if you're reading this, and concerned about the future of your game, consider becoming involved. Consider putting something back into Table Tennis.

We need you.

Michael Brown

TOP SCHOOLS

Sunnynook Primary (on Auckland's North Harbour), Wanganui High School, and Nelson College were the three title winners at the National Schools Teams Championships held in North Harbour just prior to the start of the NZ Junior Championships in September. The three schools won, respectively, the Primary/Intermediate title, the Secondary Girls title, and the Secondary Open title.

More than 30 teams participated in a new format which allowed any school to enter regardless of whether or not they had won qualifying contests at local level. After preliminary rounds the teams were graded with only A Grade teams eligible for the titles. Certificates were presented to the lower grade winners.

The new format will continue next year with the likely addition of individual singles and doubles. Hutt Valley association have expressed interest in hosting the 1999 event.



Li Chunli *from front page*

The Woman's World Cup assembles the top players from each of the world's six continental federations: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, Africa and Oceania. Oceania, owing to its size, is entitled to send one player only and Chunli qualified as Oceania Champion. The event was held in Taipei from 6 – 8 November.

To prove she was well and truly in her league in this company, Chunli also beat the World No 12, "Canadian" Geng Lijuan. Who knows what would have happened if she had scrambled past her quarter-final opponent, Taipei's Tong Fei Ming. Unfortunately, she lost to Tong (ranked 30th) 21-18 in the fifth game. Chunli's own ranking prior to this performance was 25th.

Chunli's most prized victim, Li Ju, had won the Asian Women's Singles title just one month earlier (refer article on centre pages).

MEDIA MEAL

continued from front page

For the few who haven't a clue what's being talked about, the media quotes were triggered by an incident during the men's singles final at the New Zealand Championships. A player was considered by the umpire to be making excessive use of his towel and therefore deliberately wasting time. More than one warning was issued and eventually a penalty point was awarded to his opponent. The large crowd of spectators was not impressed; the opponent demonstrated his disagreement with the decision by deliberately throwing the next point; and after a conversation with the referee, the umpire stepped aside and was replaced.

It's not our intention to judge the rights and wrongs of the incident, but simply to make a timely examination of the relevant rules; and of the rights of referees, umpires and players.

From the maze of rules, international regulations, and match officials instructions, we unearthed 2.12.2 which says *that play shall be continuous apart from a break of no more than two minutes between games*; 3.4.4.1 which says *you can also have a brief pause for towelling every five points and during the change of ends in the final game* (the player in question was towelling more often); and two more rules (3.5.2.1 and 3.5.2.2) which *forbid players from behaving in such a way that "may unfairly affect an opponent" (intentional or excessive delay can be judged as such behaviour)*. The umpire displays a yellow card as a warning if a player's behaviour is unacceptable, and may penalise the player a point if the same behaviour is repeated. Such a penalty cannot be appealed by the player. If the same behaviour is repeated twice more the umpire should call the referee and the referee can disqualify the player from the entire match or tournament.

The handbook for match officials (para 13.2.3) assists with the interpretation of the towelling restriction: *"The purpose for the restriction on towelling is to prevent it being used as a delaying tactic, either to gain extra rest time or to disturb the rhythm of an opponent's game. There is no reason why players may not towel at times which do not further interrupt the continuity of play, such as when the ball is being retrieved from outside the playing area, but care must be taken that players do not deliberately cause such breaks"*

In this particular instance, whether the player was deliberately wasting time or was simply doing something that needed to be done can only be judged by those who were there.

THE RIGHTS OF UMPIRES, REFEREES, AND PLAYERS. (Pertaining to these rules).

Umpire

The umpire can make a final and unappealable decision on any point of fact (ie, if the umpire says a player's behaviour is unacceptable, then it's unacceptable - end of story.) The umpire has the right to consult the referee if unsure how to apply or interpret the rules relating to the facts.

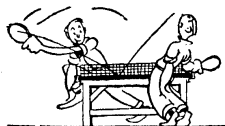
Referee

The referee cannot correct the umpire's version of the facts, even if he/she knows it to be wrong. If the referee is satisfied it is desirable to do so, he/she may replace an umpire but may not alter any decision already made by the replaced umpire on a question of fact. (Rule 3.3.1.5). The match official's guide proposes that the only reason for a referee to replace an umpire is when the retention of that umpire is likely to lead to an unfair result. The replaced umpire cannot appeal the referee's decision to make the replacement.

Players

They have the right to ask the umpire if he/she is absolutely sure on any point of fact; they can appeal to the referee if they suspect the umpire has misinterpreted the law. They cannot appeal any decision by the referee.

You be the judge.



VETERANS IN HOBART

Anyone who thinks the main season ends with the New Zealand Championships is forgetting a core group of dedicated Kiwis who make a keenly anticipated late season pilgrimage to the Australian Veterans Championships every year.

Whether they're played in Sydney or Perth (or anywhere in between) doesn't prevent at least three or four from making the trip. This year's championships, held in Hobart in late October, drew nine entries from New Zealand - several of them such staunch supporters of the event for so many years that by now one would have to consider them "veteran" veterans. There were successes. The **women's Over 40 team** finished third behind South Australia and Queensland; in the individual events **Val Beaver** (North Harbour), **Lynley Barker** (Canterbury), and **John Lelliott** (Hutt Valley) returned home laden with nine silver and bronze medals between them, with Val and Lynley coming within two points of winning the Over 50 Women's Doubles title. **John Fogarty** (Otago) beat the Australian star who dominated the over 40 men's event at the NZ Veterans Championships at Easter, **Igor Klaf**.

Veterans table tennis is an institution in Australia and New Zealand. Its blend of competitive and social elements is unique to this age-group, and friendships strengthen from year to year. As well as the annual trip to Australia by our little band of regulars, dozens of Australians have also competed in the NZ Veterans Championships over the years and invariably take home glowing reports of Kiwi hospitality.

The message to younger players is clear - stay with table tennis. There's plenty to look forward to.

TABLE TENNIS TABLES

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4

Rankings - 1998

Men

1. Aaron Li (N)
2. Peter Jackson (A)
3. Shane Laugesen (A)
4. Andrew Hubbard (HV)
5. Hagen Bower (A)
6. Chen Lei (N)
7. Aaron Winborn (A)
8. Hu Binqun (N)
9. Paul Innes (WK)
10. Chris Herlihy (WK)

Women

1. Li Chunli (NH)
2. Karen Li (NH)
3. Sarah Finch (WK)
4. Maxine Goldie (C)
5. Sabine Westenra (HV)
6. Tracey Phillips (O)
7. Tanya Hefferan (NH)
8. Yvonne Fogarty (O)
9. Tracey Epps (A)
10. Tracey McLauchlan (HV)

Under 19 Boys

1. Chen Lei (N)
2. Jason Ng (A)
3. Paul Innes (WK)
4. Peter Craven (NL)
5. Shane Warbrooke (A)
6. Yi-Sien Lin (C)
7. Adrian Soh (N)
8. Paul Stewart (C)
9. Stephen Hirst (HV)
10. Michael Mullin (C)

Under 19 Girls

1. Tracey McLauchlan (HV)
2. Anna Danby (A)
3. Lisa Boaden (HV)
4. Rachel Griffiths (WT)
5. Amber Johnson (A)
6. Catherine Danby (A)
7. Monique Neal (NH)
8. Alison Thomson (WG)
9. Jenny Brewerton (A)
10. Tamsyn Burgess (NH)

Under 15 Boys

1. Adrian Soh (N)
2. Andy Huang (A)
3. Allen Tsai (A)
4. Oscar Elwell (A)
5. Kelsey Fagan (WT)
6. Matthew Dawe (NH)
7. Frank Tsai (A)
8. Adis Kulasic (WT)
9. Johnny Cheung (A)
10. Simon Wallace (C)

Under 15 Girls

1. Jiani Hu (N)
2. Francesca Collins (A)
3. Jennifer Lo (NH)
4. Laura-Jane Young (WT)
5. Andrea Gosney (C)
6. Sacha Welsh (NL)
7. Janice Chen (NH)
8. Chantelle Kok (NH)
9. Eileen Schwab (NL)
10. Jaimee Colvin (N)

To qualify for a NZ ranking, players must have competed in a minimum of 4 rating events in any particular category, excluding B & C Grades. Allowance is made for overseas commitments.

FAIR PLAY IN SPORT

Joachim Kusche



There was a good article on this subject in the July issue of Table Tennis Info. It seems to me that some competitors have a different thinking about fair play. Just two examples:

1. At one open tournament a player is always using illegal glue. Everybody knows, nobody complains. But is it fair? In one of the early rounds he is going to lose a game to a weaker player. He therefore starts to complain about the service of the other player. Is it a wrong service? If so the service of the complaining player is as wrong as the service of this player. But that's not important. It works! Everybody notices the weaker player with the apparent "wrong serve" is not trying anymore and gives up. Was it fair play? May be it would have been better to complain at the beginning of the match not when he was going to lose. One should watch one's own service.
2. Let balls: One player wins the point. Suddenly a ball from the neighbour table appears. The player who lost the point complains and gets his let. Perhaps he doesn't know the rule book. But was it fair to try to get the point or at least the let after the point was already scored? The umpire should not have allowed this anyway.

Is fair play exemplified by resolutely seeking victory by any means even in such low levels most of us are playing?

5

50 Years

Now that is a LONG time! How many people have worked that long?

We'll consider this - **SID WAY** has been the secretary of the **Central Club** in New Plymouth for **FIFTY (50)** years. The club was founded 50 years ago and with only one secretary there has not been a great turnover!

To mark the occasion the club invited many former members to a surprise presentation to Sid, who was able to recall amusing events that had happened to the club over the years.

The **Central Club** with 24 members is the largest in Taranaki and meets every Thursday night at the East End Surf Club. **Jocelyn Bleakley** the hard working club captain, ensures that club nights have a variety of events and competitions.

In other news the North Taranaki Association held their residential championships and **Steve Walker** is this year's A grade singles champion. Other top guns were:

Veterans	Kevin Hinz
Doubles	Kevin Hinz and Cliff Erb
A Reserve Singles	Alan Henderson
Doubles	Donna Gedye and Joe Zimmerman
Under 18	Murray Hinz
Under 15	Timothy Zimmerman



Sid Way (left) being presented with a memento by Club President **Jack Bromley**.

Executive Director Plays Table Tennis – and WINS !!!

World-wide press release – dateline Tauranga

Two Bay of Plenty officials, the National Development Officer (NDO), and the Executive Director (ED) hammered it out recently in a widely publicised men's doubles match during TTNZ's whistle-stop tour of New Zealand.

NDO (aka **John Stapleton** and already an established player with a formidable reputation) was paired with BOP Secretary **Ron Sheridan**, while former NZ representative **Malcolm Darroch** drew the "wild card": ED **Mike Brown**. Malcolm knew he could rely on support of rich intent but uncertain character from his partner as Mike's previous attempts to play the game he exerts national control over have been handicapped by his total inability to gauge the speed of his own bat-rubber - resulting in balls soaring through the roof, over the horizon, and to a variety of other off-table destinations.

Wisely taking this into account, his senior partner (well-trained in international gamesmanship) armed him with a bat whose rubber had been discarded, disused and effectively deceased for several decades - and by a miraculous twist of fate the pair won the match 21-19, 21-19. The reaction of their vanquished opponents was predictable. "That's it, I'm definitely retiring now." said John.

New Zealand JUNIOR Championships

from Bryan Keane

The 1998 Junior nationals held at the Auckland Stadium were a great success with a large number of team and individual entries. This year the event was boosted by a strong New Caledonian group which gave the competitions a real international flavour and set up some exciting clashes.

Jerome Morisseau beat **Chen Lei** (Nelson) in the under 19 boys semi-final which set up a great final against Auckland's star **Jason Ng** who was desperately unlucky not to win going down 25-23, 21-19 in the final.

The Auckland Association did a fine job running this event providing the highest quality playing conditions and management team available in NZ, which meant the tournament ran extremely smoothly. The only comment received from a number of players was that the timetable was providing a little too much time between matches. For example a quarterfinal one night, then semi the next day and final that afternoon, which is something we must teach our players to get used to if we are to continue this idea and make sure they are all mentally tough enough to win.

The finals of the teams contests were all great matches, especially the under 19 Boys A grade title where **Nelson** pipped **Auckland** 5 -4, and the under 15 girls A grade where **North Harbour** got home 5-4 in a very close battle with **Nelson**. The under 19 girls saw **Auckland** beat archrivals **Hutt Valley**. **Auckland** were also too strong in the under 15 boys team event.

The individuals saw great table tennis and the future looks extremely bright if we keep on producing young players of such a high standard. **Peter Craven** (Northland) was impressive in his junior matches and is one of New Zealand's bright stars for the future

along with the under 15 and 13 champion **Andy Huang** (Auckland).

Overall a very pleasing event for TTNZ and Auckland, free of problems and a fine display of exciting table tennis which has not been so obvious for a number of years.

Results pages 20-21

1998: OUR PEOPLE OF THE YEAR

PLAYER: **Li Chunli** – primarily because of her results at the Oceania Champs and World ranking of 25.

JUNIOR: **Tracey McLauchlan** (earned for playing results, sportsmanship, potential, dress, personality, enthusiasm and interest in club or assn affairs). H N Ballinger Trophy.

JUNIOR PLAYER: **Adrian Soh** (earned by the junior who brings most credit to TTNZ from performance, behaviour, neatness, co-operation and team spirit). Russell Dickey Memorial Trophy.

TEST YOUR UMPIRING SKILLS.

Annabelle & Benjamin are playing Yolande & Zacharia in a social game of mixed doubles. But the game develops an anti-social tone when A, who should have served to Y, serves to Z. B screams "Wrong player! Our point." Bedlam erupts until A produces her rule book, flicks deftly to page 10 and quotes Rule 2.10.1.11: "A player shall score a point if a doubles opponent strikes the ball out of proper sequence." Y & Z decide they can't argue with the rule book, concede the point, and grumpily proceed with the game.

Have the players interpreted the rules correctly? (Answer on page 22)

National Championships – Seniors

from Richard Lee

The New Zealand senior individual events concluded in dramatic and controversial fashion on Saturday, 10th October, with a pulsating tension packed Mens' Singles final between top seed and defending champion, **Aaron Li** of Nelson, and 3rd seed, **Andrew Hubbard** of Hutt Valley, the 1994 champion.

A highly motivated and psyched-up Hubbard played superbly to race to a 2 sets lead, using his powerful forehand topspin to devastating effect in a manner to which Li had no answer. However, Li fought his way back taking the 3rd and 4th sets and then got an all-important break from 10 all in the 5th. Try as he might Hubbard could not quite bridge the gap, eventually going down 19-21 in a match which would rate as one of the best finals ever.

Both players emerged with immense credit with Hubbard playing one of the best matches of his career whilst Li showed his class and fighting qualities to come from 2 sets down.

The match had its controversy with Hubbard docked a point at 11-13 in the 3rd set for excessive towelling by umpire Mike McAvinue. Li, magnanimously, deliberately lost the next point but the decision and repeated warnings had its effect on Hubbard's concentration and composure and his request to have McAvinue replaced at the end of the 4th set was granted by Tournament Referee, Bill Burns.

Earlier on, Hubbard had survived a 5 set battle with old adversary, 2nd Seed **Hagen Bower**, in a match in which Bower appeared to tire a little in the 5th set and a match in which he squandered a 20-16 lead in the 1st set which will have him looking back and thinking what might have been. The other semi saw Li defeat 4th seed **Aaron Winborn** 3-1. Winborn played his best table tennis of the week but Li generally had the match under control.

Other games of note in the Men's Singles saw Bower defeat **Chen Lei** in 5 sets whilst the only upset to the seedings saw **David Jackson** beat 8th seed **Raoul Rainouard** of New Caledonia in the round before the quarters.

The Women's Singles was dominated as expected by North Harbour's **Karen Li**, who defeated the unseeded ex-international **Maxine Goldie**, now of Canterbury, in the final, this being Goldie's 4th appearance in a National Singles final with the other three being against Li's sister, Li Chunli, with the same outcome.

The semi's saw Goldie defeat 3rd seed **Sarah Finch** in a long tense duel - 19 in the 5th with Goldie getting an all-important break early in the last set, whilst Li defeated unseeded team-mate, **Tanya Hefferan**, 3 straight in the other semi.

Earlier on, the upsets had come from Goldie defeating 2nd seed **Laura Leroy** of New Caledonia while Hefferan beat both 4th seed **Tracey Epps** and top junior **Tracey McLauchlan** en route to her semi-final spot.

The Men's Doubles final was a thrilling contest with **Aaron Li** and **Chen Lei** overcoming a 14-17 deficit in the 3rd set to defeat Hubbard and Winborn at 19, while Karen Li and Hefferan combined to win the Women's Doubles easily against Finch and Epps.

Earlier on, **Aaron Li** and **Debbie Garrett** had combined to win the Mixed Doubles against Hubbard and Finch, meaning Li walked away with a Triple in the Open Events whilst the unlucky Hubbard went away as a beaten finalist in all 3 events.

In the Mens' teams event for the Keane Shield, **Nelson** defeated Auckland 5 to 2 with Aaron Li dominating with 3 singles victories. With Shane Laugesen's withdrawal, Auckland were always going to be struggling in the No. 3 spot and try as he might, **Sean Chen** could not win any of his matches which may have given the Auckland team a chance.

The surprise finalist in the Women's teams event for the Teagle Shield were the Otago team, not rated in the top 3, but who went through group play undefeated, beating the more fancied Auckland and Hutt Valley teams as well as North Harbour. However, Otago hopes of repeating this success against Harbour were soon quashed when **Tanya Hefferan** upset their No. 1, **Tracey Phillips**.

With Karen Li almost guaranteed 3 singles, it is very difficult to beat such teams (as Auckland found in the Men's teams) unless virtually all other contests go your way. It was not to be for Otago and North Harbour won 5-2.

The lingering memory for most, of the 1998 Nationals will hopefully be the epic Men's Singles final and Hubbard's superb display and Li's gutsy comeback and it is to be hoped the umpiring controversy which occurred does not overshadow this.

Results – Page 20

AUCKLAND SHOWS ITS TRUE METTLE

Undaunted by the experience of the North Island Championships recounted in detail in the previous issue of Table Tennis Info, the Auckland Association made amends in grand style as they coasted through the much more complex New Zealand championships without a blemish. Staffing levels were adequate, public relations at all times cordial, and the planning and implementation of the timetable was flawless.

TTNZ had experimented with the separation of the senior and junior segments of the championships but the idea was not favoured and this year the previous system of playing both one after the other at the same venue was reverted to. This meant Auckland had a massive eleven day event to organise - team events as well as individuals plus extra tasks such as judging for umpire awards and special trophies.

The flawless organisation kept morale high and the event was alive and buzzing throughout. The table tennis was good and the men's final the best seen for many years.

WATERLOO TURNS 50

In 1999 the *Waterloo Table Tennis Club* will be celebrating its 50th Jubilee. To mark this momentous occasion in our history, the Club has planned a whole weekend of activities in Lower Hutt from 9-10 April.



Past members who are interested in attending

organised functions may contact Chris Robb (Jubilee Secretary), telephone (04) 569 6059 (evenings), and an information leaflet can be mailed out. Also, if you know of other past members who may be interested, could you please let them know as well.

From the highs of the 1970's and 1980's, our membership dwindled in the early 1990's but in the last two to three years there has been a steady resurgence and today we are a very strong competitive club again. As well as that our social activities have increased so our Club will be to the fore in table tennis into the new millennium. As always, we also operate a thriving junior section.

An important feature this year is that several new members of the Club's Committee are young and bring with them enthusiasm and fresh ideas for the operation of the Club. We now have an ideal balance of youth and older hands. This is proving a huge success and is also instrumental in spreading the good word and increasing membership.

Chris Robb

DELIGHTFUL VIEWS ON THE BENEFITS OF TABLE TENNIS

"Table Tennis is effective in preventing senility," asserted seventy-eight year old Mr Hikosuke Tamasu to an engrossed audience at the International Table Tennis Coaches Conference in Bratislava in September.

An active player since the age of 11, Mr Tamasu delighted the audience with a series of anecdotes verifying his theory that table tennis stimulates the brain more than any other sport. He cited the work of American scholar, Dr Win Wenger, whose logic can be followed by even the most intellectually backward non-table tennis player: "Table Tennis requires more eye movement than almost every other sport; eye movement stimulates the mid-brain; the mid-brain controls the healthy maintenance of body cells."

Mr Tamasu went on to prove of his theory with three documented examples:

"Empress Michiko lost her voice due to a shock she experienced. She was unable to speak for two years. Her first signs of recovery occurred when she was enjoying playing table tennis"

"Thirty Japanese factory workers improved efficiency and productivity after a two month period when table tennis practice was included in their routine."

"A group of neuro-surgeons showed after five years of experiments that table tennis has proved to be an effective means of rehabilitating patients paralysed on one side of their bodies."

He quoted other research which confirmed greater brain activity in sports requiring a moving ball to be hit (eg, table tennis, softball, tennis, cricket, etc), than those in which a stationary ball is hit (eg, golf).

The message couldn't be much clearer. If we've got any brains, we should keep playing table tennis.

(Mr Tamasu's speech is summarised in Butterfly World Report, issue 96.)

How long do we play for?

Well – noticed in a publication "Petticoat Pioneers" (1975), reference was made to a Mrs Maria Prince who in 1958 with husband David, (both from the Manawatu area) became the longest-married couple in the Commonwealth with 75 years married. To quote **"At that stage they were still active. Maria, aged ninety -four, was still a keen table tennis player with a strong serve"**.



Possibly Canterbury's new Stadium – Look at the lunch room in the front of the building! (Story opposite page)

10

The Development of a "Winner" Auckland Inter Schools Competition

The Auckland Management Committee approved changes to the 1998 hugely popular Inter Schools competition. For years three sessions were held (two on Friday evenings and one on Thursday. The latter has not been popular creating a high percentage of defaults.

The changes reduced the team contests from 10 to 7 matches and all three sessions are now played on Friday nights at 4pm, 6pm, and 8pm. The new competition produced income in excess of \$25000. That's a lot of kids at \$3 per night!

This year four separate Inter-School competitions were held for the first time, one in each school term. In 1986 Murray Sakey, a school teacher, agreed to run the competitions and increased the main winter league from 70 to 125 teams in his seven year reign. The writer took over the competition in 1994. Team numbers have risen from 125 to a peak of 155 in 1997 Winter league and 163 teams in the Pre-season tournament. This was surprising since North Harbour opened their stadium in 1997 and North Harbour schools have not been in our competition as previous.

I believe all associations should run an Inter-School competition. A lot of top players will emerge from this. Talent scouts are required to look for players, particularly those who are doing well in their grade, and invite them to take part in group coaching sessions. Most girls schools take part providing the potential for future women players.



Bob Lassen

Incredible Initiative by Eddie Moore and Keith Armstrong for Canterbury Assn.

Eddie and Keith have organised an option for the Canterbury Association, on a 1500 sq, mtr warehouse in Blenheim Rd Christchurch. The amount involved is in the vicinity of \$600,000 and they are currently going through the process of funding applications to various sources and the appropriate council consents.

A concrete floor means extra cost in upgrading to wood. The building could hold up to 18 tables and the project looks very promising.

We hope we have a full story and lots of good news in the next issue.

← photo

SORTING OUT THE WORLDS (AND COMMONWEALTHS)

"Where are the 1999 World Championships?"

"In Belgrade, Yugoslavia"

"Wow – better make sure the team take their bullet-proof tracksuits"

Such was the doubt about the wisdom of holding the Worlds in such a battle weary hot-spot that Osaka was on standby to take over the event if required. However, all doubt was removed by a message in October from the Yugoslavia TTA to ITTF officials confirming that, as the political tension was confined to the southern regions of Kosovo and Metohija, Belgrade was now being declared safe for world sporting events by international bodies of other sports.

So it's all on for the Worlds in Belgrade, but what about the Commonwealths. Still not finalised. Sheffield is likely (Sheffield, England, not Sheffield, Canterbury), but if they can't do it, it'll be somewhere in India – later in the year. So if we want the Commonwealths and Worlds to follow consecutively in April/May, and in the same part of the world, it's fingers crossed for Sheffield.

11

New Zealand Does Itself Proud In Asia



The New Zealand team has just returned from the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Osaka, and they did well. Team Manager Murray Finch (left) reports on the table tennis, the hospitality, and the experience....

Our representatives: **Li Chunli**
Karen Li
Sarah Finch
Tracey Epps

Andrew Hubbard
Aaron Winborn
Chris Herlihy

Coaches: **Zhu Hui and Murray Finch**

Both teams played extremely well and achieved creditable results. The women finished 9th in a field of 20 and the men 12th out of 28. The women's result was particularly meritorious - finishing 9th against such strong competition (the majority of the world's top teams come from Asia) represents one of New Zealand's best ever team efforts. Because of the current low world ranking of the women's team (based on the 1997 World Champs finish where we competed without Chunli or Karen Li) we drew the formidable South Korean team in group play who beat us 3-1. **Chunli** had an excellent win over the world number 20 Park Hae Jung, who had beaten her on their last two encounters. This placed us in the play-offs for positions 9 to 16 which we went through unbeaten, scoring wins over Indonesia and India in the process. The Li sisters were the dominant performers with Chunli losing only one match. **Karen**, after a shaky start reflecting her lack of recent play, got better and better and had the look and confidence of a world class player by the end of the tournament. **Sarah** had a good win against the Indian number three and **Tracey** suffered from a lack of opportunities to compete against players within her range.

The late withdrawal of **Shane Laugesen** weakened the men's team. He was not replaced and this provided opportunities for **Chris Herlihy**, the debutante in the team, and some worrying moments for one of the coaches who was suddenly elevated to reserve! Chris had an excellent tournament, winning 50% of his team matches. He had a crucial win over the Kazakhstan number 3 to

give the team a 3-2 win; and scored the only win against the Malaysian team in a 1-3 loss.

Andrew started the tournament extremely well and although his form fell away a little he played consistently throughout. Strangely, one of his best matches was a loss (22-20 in the third), to the top Kazakhstan player Andrey Pereverzev. The two players were similar in style and this led to some excellent rallies by the far the best of which was at 18-20 in the third when Andrew won a loop to loop counter-hitting duel of at least 20 shots. **Aaron** had a slow start to the tournament but picked up quickly to get back to the form that made him so effective at the 1997 World's and Commonwealth's.

CHINA DOMINATES

As expected China won both team events although not before the men's team had a major fright in the semi-final against Japan, down 0-2 before they fought back to win 3-2. The two experienced defenders, Matsushita and Shibutani, make for interesting matches whenever Japan plays. The men's team final threw up a South Korean to watch in the future, the tall Oh Sang Eun who defeated Ma Lin of China in straight games and looks an exciting prospect.

In both the men's and women's open singles ex-Chinese national players now

representing Japan provided highlights with 36 year old Seiko Iseki losing to Wang Liqin in the final and beating two Chinese team players Ma Lin and top seed Liu Guoliang along the way.

In the women's event Chire Koyama reached the semi-finals after a couple of exciting 5 game matches. The eventual winner was top seed Li Ju.

NEW ZEALAND HANGS IN THERE

During the individuals Chunli again showed her class, coming from two games to love down against the in form Japanese player An Konishi to win in 5 games. Chunli lost in the last 16 against South Korean number one Ryu Ji Hye in 5 games. The other result of note from the New Zealand perspective was the first round win by Andrew Hubbard and Sarah Finch in the mixed doubles against a highly rated Singaporean pair 19 in the 3rd.

WOMEN DRAW THE CROWDS

In general the quality and entertainment value of the women's play was an eye opener. The crowd were more interested in them than the men; there was far more television coverage of the women's play and it was on the "big screen" more. Generally they had longer rallies and demonstrated a wider range of shots and tactics. The men hit the ball so hard that few rallies went beyond three shots. The exception to this was the match between eventual winner Wang Liqin and Japanese defender Koji Matsushita which went to 5 games with many breathtaking rallies before Wang gained revenge for his teams loss to Matsushita, winning 18 in the fifth. But not before the expedite rule was introduced at 19-16 in the final game.

THE JAPANESE EXPERIENCE

On the touring side the Japanese experience was certainly different for those new to the country. As you would expect, the organisation and facilities were

outstanding. We were on the 14th floor of a 5 star hotel. The meals were in the banquet hall which was more than half the size of the Auckland stadium and there were invariably 3 to 5 senior staff dressed in formal dinner garb at the door to greet and farewell us for **every** meal. Kinda made you feel important! On the whole the food was good and the coffee was exceptional. The stadium was disguised as a hill from the outside and inside the main hall was huge with only 12 tables surrounded by seating for 10,000 and a big screen at each end.

Osaka itself was the stereotypical "concrete jungle" with little in the way of greenery and plenty in the way of crowded accommodation, smog and motorways built above existing roads and buildings. Osaka on a Friday night introduced us to the phenomenon of "chaser boys", young (and not so young) men dressed to kill standing around in small groups offering themselves as escorts for the young women walking past. This seemed to be a pastime doomed to failure with not one success observed, however Chris sees potential for the New Zealand market and is keen to interview prospects!

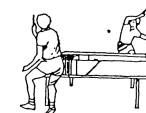
Japanese hospitality extended to providing us with an interpreter and a helper. For some reason we seemed popular with these people and every day a new person would walk up and introduce themselves as our interpreter! And the old one was still there as well! This seemed strange but it was positively baffling when interpreters from other teams started spending more time with us than their designated teams - and started giving us the gifts they had for their designated team. The gift thing takes a bit of getting used to and you can easily let it get out of control spiraling into a never-ending cycle of reciprocal gift giving.

It was a successful tournament. The value of the Asians as part of the buildup for the World and Commonwealth Champs next year cannot be underestimated.

And it was a fun trip.



BESST
WBIH



"SAD TO LEAVE". SAYS NATIONAL COACH

New Zealand table tennis will lose the services of National Coach **Zhu Hui** in December when he moves to China to take up a new job.

TTNZ had advised him they could not afford to employ a National Coach once NZ Employment Service support was removed next year, so he has been on the lookout for other employment opportunities. He successfully applied for a job representing a New Zealand company in Beijing, and will start in mid-December.

Zhu expressed deep regret at leaving the job and leaving New Zealand. "I have really enjoyed my ten years here and feel sad to leave. I wish New Zealand table tennis and all the players and coaches I have worked with all the best and I will always be available to help out if ever a China/New Zealand table tennis liaison person is required."



Zhu has been employed by TTNZ since February and his departure means another person will have to be found to prepare the New Zealand team for the 1999 World Championships, due to be announced by the end of November. Executive Director Mike Brown has already approached Richard Lee and discussions are continuing on possible terms and conditions.

Australian Championships an Impression from **Mike McAvinue**



"I would have to say that this tournament would be one of the best that I have attended overseas, taking into account the way I was received and looked after by Table Tennis Australia. The organisation, conduct of players and officials were first class and conditions were excellent, with the wonderful near- new stadium.

I umpired a lot of matches, culminating in the women's final. The tournament was like a mini Olympics with 18 of the top 20 men and 13 of the top women in the world in attendance. The two men missing were Primorac who was injured and Vladimir Samsonov (world no 1) who wanted \$10,000 appearance money, but T.T.A. told him where to go. Unfortunately Waldner (among the top 4 in the World) did not fire and lost in the first round.

The 2000 plus people at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre kept noise to a minimum and with nearly a house full I think that the Australian Open Championships have come of age. I would say next year should be sold out.

It was the first time that I have seen table tennis players drug tested. As soon as the men's final had finished and before they had had time to towel down they were ushered away. The drug testing officials even had a Korean and Chinese Interpreters with them. Table tennis is about the only Olympic clean sport left and to the players credit has returned a clean bill of health.

The Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre is huge, a swimming complex at the front with separate children's pool, public pool, diving pool, training pool and a big competition pool. The table tennis centre is next, followed by separate halls for Badminton, Volley Ball, Children's Basket Ball and a big Basketball Stadium of 12 courts. At the end of the complex, they have a show court which is used for finals and big events. At the press of a switch 2000 bucket seats come out of the wall. At the end of the Table Tennis Finals they emptied the Stadium within 30 minutes and had a State basketball match going. To clear the floor, they not only had to clear the spectators, but take up the specially laid floor coverings, shift T.T. Equipment and other accessories. It was a wonderful sight."

(Mike McAvinue is New Zealand's only active International Umpire.)

NATIONAL COACHING COURSE

Table Tennis New Zealand organised a coaching course at the North Harbour Stadium on 17-18 October. The course was financially supported by the sports training organisation, SFRITO. David McBride was there

The aim of this course was to instruct and encourage new coaches and more experienced ones to adopt a consistent, New Zealand-wide approach to basic instruction, particularly with young or inexperienced players.

TTNZ gathered together approximately fifty-five trainees and some of New Zealand's finest coaches with a number of the best players in the country to assist. We were under the control of Lyn Johnston (from STA, the company contracted by TTNZ to oversee the training), and Zhu Hui, New Zealand Head Coach.

Richard Lee, James Morris and Murray Finch presented and explained, stage by stage, the new TTNZ basic coaching manual. It covers the technical and mental sides of the game in simple language and pictures. I was very impressed with the manual's ease of understanding and "user friendliness". I recommend it be made available as soon as possible to players, schools, associations and libraries.

The trainee coaches, from all over New Zealand, practised problem-solving, communication skills, practical coaching instruction and demonstration, discipline management, and the cultural and ethical side of the sport. We were required to sit a practical and theoretical exam and were monitored throughout, individually and in our groups (6 trainees). Eight of the best players in New Zealand helped us, encouraged us and judged us.

We were very well looked after by the people of North Harbour table tennis. Many thanks to them, to SFRITO, to TTNZ and all the coaches and organisers. This course will really help to make coaches available to more people at a grass roots level and to get more people playing – socially or competitively

SIX FIGURE WINDFALL FOR NORTHLAND

\$103,000 has just landed in the grateful laps of the Northland Table Tennis Association. The grant, from **ASB Trust** and **Lotteries Board**, will meet nearly two-thirds of the cost of Northland's stadium extensions – an improvement which will accommodate four extra tables as well as storage and administrative facilities. Work has already begun and the estimated completion date is March, 1999 .

Sympathetic team-mate after player's humiliating loss:
"What happened to you could have been worse.....(It could have happened to me)."

Choppers – popular way of play again?

Joachim Kusche tells us of a short report in the latest German Table Tennis news. The European Junior Championships were held in Italy recently and in the girls events many defensive players competed very successfully. The Ukraine team was runner up in the under 15 girls team event and both players were choppers. One of the girls won a gold medal in the singles.

The under 15 Russian team, Bronze medal winner, had one defensive player and the under 18 Russian team with two choppers won the Gold medal. The runner up – Hungary, had one defensive player. The bronze Medal winner in the under 18 girls played 5 matches, 3 of which were against choppers.

AOTEAROA MAORI CHAMPIONSHIPS

Open

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Winner

Wayne Gear (A)
Tanya Hefferan (NH)
B Davis & W Gear (CM/A)
E Davenport & P Hoete (AM)
W Gear & A Welsh (A/NL)

Singles Runner Up

Alan Hefferan (NH)
Eileen Davenport (AM)

Over 50 years

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

John Te Pania (NH)
Maryann Costello (AM)
P Bennett & B Otene (AM/WT)
M Costello & D Te Pania (AM/NH)
J Te Pania & D Te Pania (NH)

Peter Bennett (AM)
Diane Te Pania (NH)

Over 40 years

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

John Te Pania (NH)
Maryann Costello (AM)
P Bennett & B Otene (AM/WT)
M Costello & D Te Pania (AM/NH)
J Te Pania & D Te Pania (NH)

Peter Bennett (AM)
Phyllis Hoete (AM)

Under 40, Over 20 years

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Wayne Gear (A)
Tanya Hefferan (NH)
B Davis & W Gear (CM/A)
T Gayner & T Hefferan (CM/NH)
A Hefferan & T Hefferan (NH)

Brett Davis (CM)
Eileen Davenport (AM)

Under 20 years

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Josh Alexandre (A)
Ann-Marie Welsh (NL)
J Alexandre & B Smith (A/BP)
J Alexandre & A Welsh (A/NL)

Carl Te Pania (NH)
Tari Davis (A)

Under 17 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Josh Alexandre (A)
Ann-Marie Welsh (NL)
J Alexandre & C Te Pania (A/NH)
J Alexandre & A Welsh (A/NL)

Carl Te Pania (NH)
Tari Davis (A)

Under 14 years

Boys' Singles

Josh Alexandre (A)

Brodi Smith (BP)

B Grade

Men's Singles
Women's Singles

Rawiri Winiata (BP)
Ann-Marie Welsh (NL)

Tony Peters (A)
Nellie Milich (NL)

Novice Grade

Men's Singles
Women's Singles

Robert Rogers (NL)
Puhi Tairakena (A)

Peter Stokes (NH)
Tari Davis (A)



Thoughts of a committee member:

**"Why should I compromise?
(..... when I know I'm the one who's right)"**

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED AT SYDNEY, 2000

Are you a keen, dedicated worker with a sound knowledge of table tennis, and willing to work as a volunteer at the Sydney Olympics table tennis competition ?

Are you able to pay your way to Sydney and back; and find and pay for two month's accommodation in Sydney ? Then read on.

The Sydney Olympics organisers are seeking applications from people with experience either in event management; or in providing administrative support or any other level of back-up to a major event, not necessarily international. Those chosen as volunteer workers will be provided with official uniforms, free meals and free travel on public transport within the Sydney metropolitan area.

The reason for the two month time period is because the four-week Olympic event will be followed ten days later by the Paralympics, which last for three weeks, and which volunteers will be required to work at as well. Furthermore, all applicants will be encouraged to work at the Pro Tour table tennis final in January, as this would greatly assist the organisers in making their selections.

The dates are: Pro Tour final 13 – 16 January, 2000
Olympics 1 – 29 September, 2000
Paralympics 11 – 29 October, 2000

Dates include a period of training prior to each event.

Application forms are available from the national office of Table Tennis New Zealand, phone (04) 801 4160; fax (04) 471 2152.

JUNIOR Ratings~Latest Top 10

As at 9 Nov 1998

Boys Under 19	Girls Under 19	Boys Under 17	Girls Under 17
1. Chen Lei	1. Tracey McLauchlan	1. Peter Craven	1. Rachel Griffiths
2. Paul Innes	2. Samara Collins	2. Paul Stewart	2. Alison Thomson
3. Jason Ng	3. Amber Johnson	3. Yi-Sien Lin	3. Deborah Morrison
4. Peter Craven	4. Anna Danby	4. Adrian Soh	4. Lisa Boaden
5. Shane Warbrooke	5. Catherine Danby	5. Guy Williams	5. Jenny Brewerton
6. Stephen Hirst	6. Rachel Griffiths	6. Michael Mullin	6. Jiani Hu
7. Paul Stewart	7. Monique Neal	7. Jeffery Vinicombe	7. Helen Wilson
8. Vincent Ho	8. Alison Thomson	8.= Anthony Simmons	8. Ann-Marie Welsh
9. Yi-Sien Lin	9. Deborah Morrison	8.= Andrew Hovey	9.= Francesca Collins
10. Adrian Soh	10. Lisa Boaden	10. James Chapman	9.= Leanne Wight
Boys Under 15	Girls Under 15	Boys Under 13	Girls Under 13
1. Adrian Soh	1. Jiani Hu	1. Andy Huang	1. Jiani Hu
2. Andrew Hovey	2. Francesca Collins	2. Simon Wallace	2. Jennifer Lo
3. Andy Huang	3. Laura-Jane Young	3. Anthony Wilson	3. Eileen Schwab
4. John Cordue	4. Andrea Gosney	4.= Allen Yeh	4. Theresa Holmes
5. Kelsey Fagan	5. Jennifer Lo	4.= Hadleigh Bunce	5. Samantha Barriball
6. Allen Tsai	6. Eileen Schwab	6. Josh Alexandre	6. Leanne Ridder
7. Oscar Elwell	7. Sacha Welsh	7. Ben Warbrooke	7. Maree Moyle
8. Johnny Cheung	8. Janice Chen	8. Scott Ridder	8. Anna Chan
9. Adis Kulasic	9. Johanna McCord	9. Shaun Poh	9. Suzi Judson
10. Matthew Dawe	10. Jacqui Wood	10. Colin Hicks	10. Kelly Samson



PROFILE - David Jackson

From time to time this name crops up in the magazine. Who is this fellow? What does he do? Whilst many associate him with the playing fraternity and computer draws and ratings, there is a little more - so here goes!

He has lived in Auckland all his life, has worked in data processing (specialising in large systems development and PC networking), and has devoted a huge amount of his spare time to table tennis. Last April he was elected to the highest decision-making body in the sport, the International Table Tennis Federation Council, and his multitude of other roles, overseas and in New Zealand, make an impressive list:

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION:

ITTF Ranking Committee member Monitors and controls the computerised ranking system.

Research Centre Advisory Board Assists with the prioritisation of ITTF research projects such as studies of the ball, net, racket and coverings.

Council Member. The Council meets once per year and is the decision making body that makes changes to the rules.

OCEANIA FEDERATION:

Management Committee Member. The major activity of Oceania, largely funded by Olympic profits, is the development of the sport within the region (Australia, NZ, and 11 other South Pacific countries).

TABLE TENNIS NEW ZEALAND:

Chairman of Selectors On the national local scene:
Selection of players to represent NZ.

continued – top opposite page

Technical Committee

Part of a group of people who give advice to the Executive Director on ball adoption, tournaments and rules etc. Also covers ranking and seeding.

Tournament Entries.

Being a computer programming guru, David has over a period of 20 years developed the appropriate programs for processing of entries for national championships. The software also controls the draws, timetabling, games played, and results.

Tournament Team

This is a specialist team which assists the host association to conduct national championships. David heads the team, with his software, that is critical to running the tournaments. The team is also involved in timetabling and scheduling.

Rating System

David's computer system incorporates a rating system that will be used from next year.

Previously he has served 4 years as TTNZ council member, 11 years on Auckland Association management committee and 3 years as Treasurer. Is a Life member of Auckland Association. He has also coached and managed teams to such championships as Commonwealth, Oceania, Asian, Australian, Japan, Hong Kong and the World Team Cup, plus 4 world championships.

He is also quite a mean player having reached Junior finals and won three over 35 men's singles titles. In 1989 he was NZ's 4th ranked player.

Other Interests

Has he any other interests? Well - yes - he is married to Helen, they have two sons, and apart from TT and computer programming his other leisure interests are puzzles, crosswords, trivial pursuit and stamp collecting. So with all this considerable amount of interests it is no wonder David has retired from working - no not really - he is now a house husband, after many years in the computing industry.

If the surname sounds familiar - brother, Peter is New Zealand's top International table tennis player, playing professionally in France. Father, Bob, is a former TT NZ champion - many times, and has been a top NZ Croquet player for 30 years. Mum, Barbara plays a good game.

Robin Radford

NELSON SUMMER CAMPS – an update

All pre-Christmas Camps are full. Vacancies exist in Camp 4 (27 – 31 December, \$185); Camp 5 (1 – 4 Jan, \$155) and Camp 6 (5-8 Jan, \$155). These camps are an ideal build-up for the Summer Nationals.

Phone Bryan Keane for bookings (03 547 7530).

327 Coldstream Rd,
Rangiora. 8254
Ph: 03-313 3449
Fax: 03-313 3412

DONIC
New Zealand
Joachim Kusche

Christmas Specials

(offers end 31.12.98)

RUBBER SHEETS

Desto was \$40 now \$35.

Ideal for offensive spin and modern spin-smash strategies.

Coppa was \$40 now \$35.

For aggressive players who operate with top spin, counter top spin and block techniques and who make their points by hitting hard.

Coppa Z1 was \$45 now \$40.

This is the Formula 1 rubber in the table tennis world.

MADE UP BATS

Persson 400/Franz400 was \$27 now \$23.

- ◆ Two free rubber protection sheets for orders \$100 or more.
- ◆ Free delivery.
- ◆ Ask for the new **DONIC** catalogue (free).

SORRY! Some errors occurred in the **North Island results** in the September issue for which we apologise. It was a matter of mixing some doubles results in two junior events and one from somewhere else. The correct winners were:

Under 17

Girls' Doubles winners: **A Thomson & L Wight (WG)**
Mixed Doubles: **A Soh & R Griffiths (N/WT)**

Under 15

Girls' Doubles winners: **J Hu & L J Young (N/WT)**
Mixed Doubles: **J Cordue & F Collins (W/A)**

With the help of David Jackson, technology is assisting in the accuracy from this issue on, as results and ratings are produced electronically from the tournament and rating system to the magazine. (Saves a lot of typing tool)

New Zealand Championships

Auckland

<u>Open</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Singles Runner Up</u>
Men's Singles	Aaron Li (N)	Andrew Hubbard (HV)
Women's Singles	Karen Li (NH)	Maxine Goldie (C)
Men's Doubles	Chen L & A Li (N)	
Women's Doubles	T Hefferan & K Li (NH)	
Mixed Doubles	A Li & D Garrett (N/S)	
<u>B Grade</u>		
Men's Singles	Peter Craven (NL)	Simon Fenwick (C)
Women's Singles	Samara Collins (O)	Pat McArthur (NH)
<u>C Grade</u>		
Men's Singles	David Baker (NH)	Stephen Lui (A)
Women's Singles	Nellie Milich (NL)	Sarah Loader (WG)
<u>Over 55 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Bob Lassen (A)	Chip Eade (WT)
Women's Singles	Margaret McGregor (WT)	Merle Trenwith (WT)
Men's Doubles	B Lassen & B Penberthy (A)	
Mixed Doubles	C Eade & M Trenwith (WT)	
<u>Over 45 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Terry Murphy (A)	Pat Low (A)
Women's Singles	Yvonne Fogarty (O)	Anne McLean (A)
Men's Doubles	P Low & D Pattinson (A)	
Women's Doubles	V Beaver & A Roberts (NH/HV)	
Mixed Doubles	P Low & J Murray (A/NH)	
<u>Over 35 years</u>		
Men's Singles	David Jackson (A)	Murray Finch (WK)
Women's Singles	Val Beaver (NH)	Averil Roberts (HV)
Men's Doubles	D Jackson & P Low (A)	
Women's Doubles	V Beaver & A Roberts (NH/HV)	
Mixed Doubles	D Jackson & V Beaver (A/NH)	
<u>Under 21 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Chen Lei (N)	Jerome Morisseau (NC)
Women's Singles	Karen Li (NH)	Tracey McLauchlan (HV)
Men's Doubles	C Herlihy & P Innes (WK)	
Women's Doubles	M Beazer & T McLauchlan (HV)	
Mixed Doubles	Chen L & K Li (N/NH)	
<u>Under 19 years</u>		
Boys' Singles	Jerome Morisseau (NC)	Jason Ng (A)
Girls' Singles	Tracey McLauchlan (HV)	Samara Collins (O)
Boys' Doubles	P Craven & G Williams (NL/WG)	
Girls' Doubles	T Burgess & M Neal (NH)	
Mixed Doubles	P Innes & T McLauchlan (WK/HV)	
<u>Under 17 years</u>		
Boys' Singles	Peter Craven (NL)	Paul Stewart (C)
Girls' Singles	Rachel Griffiths (WT)	Deborah Morrison (SC)
Boys' Doubles	P Craven & G Williams (NL/WG)	
Girls' Doubles	J Brewerton & F Collins (A)	
Mixed Doubles	P Craven & D Morrison (NL/SC)	
<u>Under 15 years</u>		
Boys' Singles	Andy Huang (A)	Andrew Hovey (WG)
Girls' Singles	Jiani Hu (N)	Francesca Collins (A)
Boys' Doubles	A Soh & A Tsai (N/A)	
Girls' Doubles	A Gosney & L Young (C/WT)	
Mixed Doubles	A Soh & J Hu (N)	

<u>Event</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Singles Runner Up</u>
<u>Under 13 years</u>		
Boys' Singles	Andy Huang (A)	Simon Wallace (C)
Girls' Singles	Jiani Hu (N)	Eileen Schwab (NL)
Boys' Doubles	A Huang & S Wallace (A/C)	
Girls' Doubles	D Burgess & J Hu (NH/N)	
Mixed Doubles	A Huang & J Hu (A/N)	



More thoughts of a committee member:

"I think she should at least meet me half-way.....(she needs the exercise)"

Men's Open

1. Aaron Li
2. Shane Laugesen
3. Hagen Bower
4. Andrew Hubbard
5. Aaron Winborn
6. Chen Lei
7. Hu Binqun
8. Sean Chen
9. Paul Innes
10. Chris Herlihy

SENIOR Ratings TOP 10

as at
9 November 1998

Women's Open

1. Karen Li
2. Sarah Finch
3. Tracey Phillips
4. Sabine Westenra
5. Maxine Goldie
6. Tracey Epps
7. Yvonne Fogarty
8. Tanya Hefferan
9. Tracey McLauchlan
10. Shelley Neal

Men's Under 21

1. Chen Lei
2. Paul Innes
3. Chris Herlihy
4. Jason Ng
5. Peter Craven
6. Shane Warbrooke
7. Graeme Windley
8. Mark Stewart
9. Conrad Lee
10. Stephen Hirst

Women's Under 21

1. Karen Li
2. Tracey McLauchlan
3. Samara Collins
4. Amber Johnson
5. Melissa Beazer
6. Anna Danby
7. Catherine Danby
8. Rachel Griffiths
9. Belinda Beazer
10. Monique Neal

Men's Over 40

1. Sean Chen
2. David Jackson
3. Lindsay Ward
4. Bob Lassen
5. Terry Murphy
6. Frank Zhao
7. William Weinstock
8. Pat Low
9. Maurice Burrowes
10. Warren Evans

Women's Over 40

1. Yvonne Fogarty
2. Val Beaver
3. Ulrike Kusche
4. Averil Roberts
5. Lynley Barker
6. Pat McArthur
7. Chris. Cunningham
8. Jill Murray
9. Kaylene Findlay
10. Val Scarr

Men's Over 50

1. Bob Lassen
2. William Weinstock
3. Warren Evans
4. Alan Tomlinson
5. Chip Eade
6. Alan Alabaster
7. John Lelliott
8. Bruce Connolly
9. Nam Hang Lee
10. Peter Bennett

Women's Over 50

1. Val Beaver
2. Lynley Barker
3. Pat McArthur
4. Chris. Cunningham
5. Jill Murray
6. Kaylene Findlay
7. Val Scarr
8. Anne McLean
9. Ngaire Garrett
10. Diane Te Pania

Men's Over 60

1. Alan Tomlinson
2. John Lelliott
3. Nam Hang Lee
4. Colin Tipper
5. Paul Winder
6. Colin Neutze
7. Bill Otene
8. Albert Roberts
9. Gerry Doyle
10. Ron Wells

Women's Over 60

1. Annice Robottom
2. Margaret McGregor
3. Elsie Spooner
4. Kath Thompson
5. Nellie Milich



SPORTS TRUST WRITES TO EVERY SCHOOL PROMOTING TABLE TENNIS

Table Tennis in the Wellington area scored an unexpected bonus when the local sports trust, Sport Wellington Region, offered to design and send a flyer to every primary and intermediate school in the greater Wellington region, promoting a free Kiwi Table Tennis Course for teachers.

Earlier this year a closer working relationship had been established between Sport Wellington Region and a group of local table tennis administrators and in October the Trust suggested a development initiative utilising National Coach Zhu Hui for a four day series of courses training players, coaches and teachers. They offered some financial assistance and large scale publicity for the teacher training course. Needless to say, the offer was accepted and all involved hope it that it could be the beginning of a really productive partnership in terms of membership development and the raising of table tennis's public profile.

We can only make yet another plea – *use* your local sports trust. There are people there who are paid to help develop the growth of individual sports and they are often operating under some sort of incentive scheme that benefits *them* if they are able to increase membership numbers in a sport that approaches them. They're *waiting* for your call.

Still more thoughts of a committee member:

*"Something inside me keeps thinking the same as I did
(before I changed my mind)"*

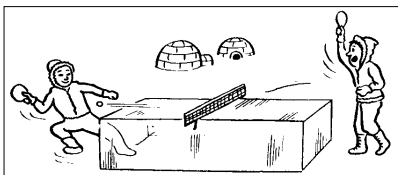
WORLD RANKINGS

NZ Players (as at 22 October 98)

Li Chunli	25
Karen Li	115
Peter Jackson	129
Shane Laugesen	302
Sarah Finch	357
Andrew Hubbard	374
Aaron Winborn	398
Hagen Bower	415

It is great to note that Li Chunli has moved from 29 to 25, the ranking of sister Karen Li, and Hagen Bower, the massive improvement by 46 places of Shane Laugesen, and Andrew Hubbard's 55 places upwards move, since the May rankings.

Congratulations to Peter and Kathryn Jackson on the arrival of their baby son Matthew in France.



Answer to Page 7 Question

If "A" had flicked equally deftly to page 9 and also quoted Rule 2.9.1.5: "The rally shall be a let if, in doubles, the wrong player serves or receives", then the players could have had a more reasoned debate over which of the two rules applied in this case. They would have concluded that the page 9 rule applies when a genuine error is made in the playing order and the wrong player either serves or receives; and that the page 10 rule applies when a player hits the ball out of sequence *once* the rally is in progress and the sequence has been established.

In this situation, the rally should have been declared a let.

Te Rama Table Tennis Club

Wellington

The club was founded in 1936 as the Technical Old Students Club and met at the Technical College in Taranaki Street. There were 2 tables and membership was restricted to 40.

The club was at its strongest in the late 1930's, 1940's and early 1950's with 6 A Grade Titles won in 8 years (1939-1946). A prominent early member was Eric Boniface, who was selected in the first ever New Zealand team (1938) against the visiting Hungarian team and toured Australia (1939) in the first NZ team to go overseas.

Open NZ Title winners included Eric Boniface, Max Gosling, George Smith, John Crossley, Dawn Croxton, Joyce Strange, Margaret Hoar and Thyra McGregor.

In the 1950 NZ Championships Club members reached all 5 open finals. Margaret Hoar won the Women's Singles, Doubles with club member Thyra McGregor, and Mixed Doubles with Owen Jaine (Auckland). John Crossley won the Doubles with Neville Brightwell (Canterbury) and lost in the Men's Singles to Bob Jackson (Auckland). In addition Murray Dunn won the Under 16 Boys' Singles Title.

Prominent administrators were the late Duncan McGregor and Brian Hearfield who were made Life members of both the club and the Wellington Association.

The Club moved to the Te Rama Tennis Club building (Kilbirnie) in the 1970's and changed its name to Te Rama Table Tennis Club to meet city council requirements to stay at that site when the tennis club closed. A number of moves have been made since, before the club moved to the Wellington Table Tennis Stadium.

The Diamond Jubilee of the club was celebrated in 1996.

Malcolm Wong



"IT'S THE ANSWER TO THE SPONGE-BAT PLAYER - Y'SEE, WHERE HE PUTS YOU OFF BY NOT GOING 'BONK' AT ALL, THIS PUTS HIM OFF BY GOING 'BONK-BONK' AFTER IT'S 'BONKED'."

1970 Cartoon by the late Neville Lodge, published with the kind permission of Mrs P J Lodge and the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.