

Barrie Kendall

# ROTHMANS INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS



## NEW ZEALAND TOUR

BY

## DENNIS NEALE & STUART GIBBS

OF

## ENGLAND

ENGLAND v. NEW ZEALAND

O.T.T.A. Headquarters

FIRST TEST

31 July 1967

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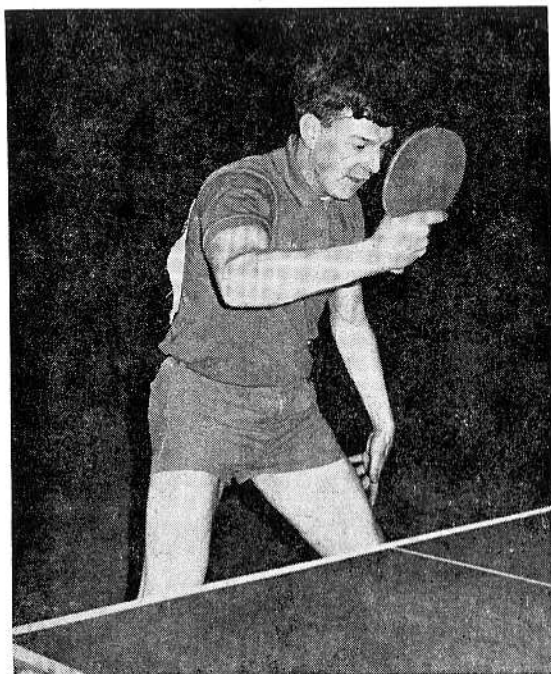
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DENNIS NEALE

Twenty-two year old Dennis Neale is currently ranked number two in England, although he was far and away the best performed of the Englishmen at the recent World Championships.

Dennis made his first appearance for the England Juniors at the age of 16, and made his senior debut two years later. Since then, Neale has represented England at two World Championships, two European Championships, and has now played for his country on 65 occasions.

Dennis has scored victories over many highly-rated players in his comparatively short international career. Included in his wins are; K. Johansson, No. 1 in Europe; E. Scholer, No. 2; V. Miko, No. 3; and D. Giurgiuca, No. 4.

At home in England, Neale has won—as well as many county tournaments—the English Closed Singles (in 1966). Last season he led Yorkshire to the County Championship, he himself finishing 2nd in the individual table.

His fine form at Sweden ranks him equal to Chester Barnes on present performances, while in Europe, Neale must be nudging on the top ten (he was 15th at the start of 1967).

Like Gibbs, Dennis' game is principally one of all-out aggression, and features an unusual backhand—one theory is to play it as if it were a chop shot!



STUART GIBBS

Stuart Gibbs, at nineteen, is the younger of this two-man English team. Stuart had a fine career in junior ranks, winning the Scottish Open and playing number two in the English junior team behind Chester Barnes. Gibbs also accompanied Barnes in the Essex Senior side—one of the strongest counties in the English competition.

In 1966, Stuart reached the final of the English Closed Singles, losing to Dennis Neale, and also made the last sixteen in the European Championships. This year also saw Gibbs making his International debut against the Netherlands.

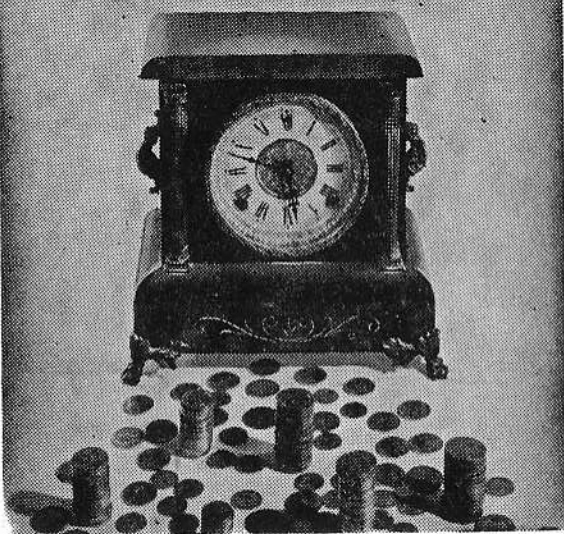
At the beginning of 1967, Gibbs was ranked 5th in England, and in this season scored numerous tournament victories over his higher ranked opponents. Playing for Essex, Stuart recorded 8 wins and 6 losses—the team finishing second to Yorkshire on a countback. His best performance at home was the winning of the English Closed Mixed Doubles.

Gibbs represented England against Australia, Sweden, West Germany, and Czechoslovakia, recording the greatest win of his career over Sweden's Kjel Johansson—Europe's number one. Stuart climaxed a fine season by playing for the four-man England team at Sweden's World Championships.

Gibbs' game is solely one of attack, being based on a strong loop drive and brilliant counter attack from all angles.



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## PROGRAMME

1st Match ..... (E) v ..... (NZ)

Umpire: G. Homer

2nd Match ..... (E) v ..... (NZ)

Umpire: B. Kendall

3rd Match D. Neale & S. Gibbs (E) v A. Tomlinson & B. Foster (NZ)

Umpire: J. Dougal

4th Match ..... (E) v ..... (NZ)

Umpire: E. Schlaadt

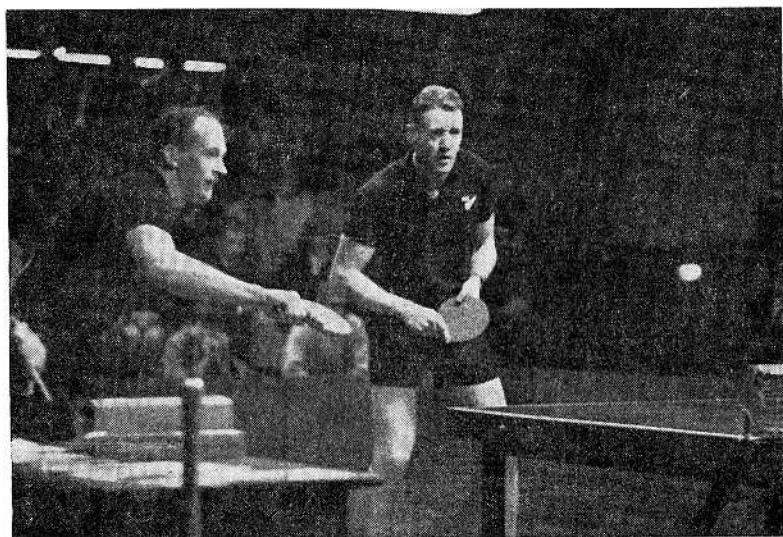
5th Match ..... (E) v ..... (NZ)

Umpire: A. Diehl

Match Manager: Mr P. J. Collett

Referee: Mr G. Henderson

All Matches will be the best of five advantage games of 21 points up.



## THE NEW ZEALAND TEAM

B. A. Foster, Otago (left) and A. R. Tomlinson, Auckland

Emergency: M. W. Borlase, Wellington.

New Zealand Selectors: Messrs J. E. Stewart, A. R. Harding and  
R. G. Lea.

## ALAN TOMLINSON

Alan Tomlinson captained New Zealand on its recent world tour and was the best performed member of the mens team, reaching the final of the Plate event at the World Championships. Alan also scored a win over Dennis Neale during the English part of the tour.

Tomlinson has captured six New Zealand doubles titles since he first succeeded in 1955, and also won the Singles Championship in 1959 and 1964.

On the 1966 Australian Tour, Alan recorded wins over Cliff McDonald—the 1965 N.Z. Champion, Leigh Pascoe—the 1965 Australian Champion—Murray Thomson and Michael Wilcox—who toured successfully as the Australian Team through N.Z. in 1964. Tomlinson's brilliant form on this trip earned him the New Zealand Player of the Year award, an honour he also won in 1959.

Like Foster, Alan has had a long career as a member of New Zealand teams, and has represented the North Island for the last eleven years.

A quarter final loss in the 1966 N.Z. Mens Singles saw Tomlinson drop to 3rd in the National Rankings, a position he holds behind Foster and Murray Dunn.

## BRYAN FOSTER

Bryan Foster has been, in recent years, the only South Islander to give the strong North Island contingent any serious opposition. He has represented the South Island every year since 1957, captaining the side five times.

Bryan first came into prominence in 1956 when he captured the Under Eighteen Singles and Mixed Doubles at the New Zealand Championships. 1957 saw him retain the Singles title and add the Boys Doubles Championship.

In senior ranks, Bryan reached the finals of at least one event at the Nationals from 1963 to 1966—when he won his first New Zealand Senior title by taking the Mens' Singles from Murray Dunn. He also carried the Otago Mens Side through to second place in the teams contest—a performance not bettered by an Otago team since 1948.

Foster and Alan Tomlinson scored New Zealand's greatest overseas success in 1966 when they beat Australia 3-2 in both tests to take the series for the first time. These same two players recently led the New Zealand team's challenge on their World Tour, where Foster finished up second behind Tomlinson in the team's individual performances.

Bryan has represented his country consistently since 1957, was New Zealand's Player of the Year in 1963, and is currently ranked number one in the country.

## THE 1966 N.Z. RANKING LISTS

### MEN

1. B. A. Foster (Otago)
2. M. L. Dunn (Auckland)
3. A Tomlinson (Auckland)
4. G. A. Frew (Northland)
5. M. Borlase (Wellington)
6. H. Waterhouse (Wellington)
7. G. Wilkinson (Auckland)
8. T. O'Carroll (Northland)
9. J. Armstrong (Canterbury)
10. G. Murphy (Hutt Valley)

### WOMEN

1. Mrs N. Traill (Northland)
2. Mrs N. Houlihan (Northland)
3. Miss C. Johnson (Hamilton)
4. Mrs J. Boswell (Franklin)
5. Miss D. Wade (B.O.P.)
6. Miss V. Rolson (Hamilton)
7. Mrs M. Shadbolt (Canterbury)
8. Mrs T. May (Canterbury)
9. Mrs J. Orr (South Taranaki)
10. Miss Y. Fogarty (Otago)

### APPRECIATION

The executive of the Otago Table Tennis Association wishes to express its sincere thanks to the Press, NZBC, Advertisers, Rothmans and the public for helping to make this evening such a success.

# BARNA

## TABLE TENNIS BALLS BY

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### ENGLAND v NEW ZEALAND

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