

BARRY WYNKS (QSM) MADE LIFE MEMBER BY **Manawatu**

Barry Wynks was awarded life membership of Table Tennis Manawatu recently for his contribution to the sport over many years.

Known by many names (Winkles, Wynksy, Baz and others that cannot be mentioned), Barry's involvement in Table Tennis has encompassed the entire spectrum. His contribution as a player, administrator, coach, spokesman and Table Tennis personality has been huge.

Most are reluctant to use words like "disabled" or "having a handicap" when talking about Barry. Yes, he has a short right arm and an artificial right leg but those of us that have competed with or against Barry never see that. What we do know is that he has a very good left leg and an extremely good left arm.

In 1972 he reached the last 32 in the National Championships only to be beaten by the then No. 1 James Morris. He also reached the last 32 in the 1973 National Championships.

He started playing Table Tennis at St Stephens Club at age 8 and after four seasons he switched his loyalty to the Takaro Club where he has remained for some 36 years. The most important job in any club is Club Captain and Barry has been that for 24 years. Along the way he has been the main organiser for fundraisers, social trips and recruitment man for Interclub teams and in charge of them. In 1972 he was the main organiser for the Ping-Pong-a-thon, a fundraising event which raised some \$1,700. He also played for the 100 hours and was largely responsible for the collection of the sponsorship money that had been pledged.

While it would be fair to say that Barry had the resolve, focus, drive and competitiveness to be a top player, he has always maintained an empathy with the beginner and the social player – making him the ideal club man he has so obviously been.

He was the most feared Manawatu player by outside opponents and at the National Championships Inter-Association teams events Barry was nearly always Manawatu's top performer. In 1973 he became the first Manawatu player to win the Manawatu Open Mens Singles and score a 100% record in Interclub. He has gone on to win many Open Singles, Mens Doubles and Mixed Doubles events and has carried on his winning way in recent years in the Veterans arena.

In 1982 Barry was awarded the QSM for his service and dedication to the community and Table Tennis.

We are lucky that he chose our sport. At 10 he was playing halfback in a rugby team; he played cricket to the 4th Form at college; he played badminton (it was a toss up between badminton and table tennis); he played water polo; was the school diving champ and gained the second highest award for life saving. He has also played tennis successfully and has played off an 18 handicap in golf. He is now destined for representative honours in outdoor bowls. Indeed, an extremely accomplished sportsman!

Terry Curtis, Shona Cudby



TEAM GOES HI-TECH

The NZ team at the Commonwealth and World Championships will have the use of a Video Analysis Programme throughout both events.

James Morris spotted the chance for access to this hi-tech coaching tool when he met up with a former table tennis colleague, **Martin Dowson**, who now works at the Auckland University of Technology and was involved in the development of the video programme. James' fellow team coach, **Simeon Cairns**, lectures at the same university and could offer input combining his table tennis knowledge with his professional sport science expertise.

The analysis programme has been made available to Li Chunli as part of the support the New Zealand Sports Foundation provides for all "carded" athletes (Chunli is automatically carded as a recipient of a

personal grant from the Foundation).

Working with video recordings of on-table training and actual matches, and operated through an ordinary laptop computer, the programme isolates specific shots or particular rallies following a similar pattern, and allows the player and coaches to identify subtle faults and strong points far more efficiently than any other method.

TTNZ acknowledges the foresight and assistance of those named above, and also **Chris Bullen** of the NZ Sports Foundation - all of whom worked together to create this opportunity.



DEMOCRACY AT WORK

A recent appeal by North Harbour over a TTNZ Board decision to allocate the 2002 North Island Championships to Taupo created a chance for TTNZ's appeal procedure to be given its ultimate test. Although there has been precedent for a decision by the Executive Director to be appealed, this is the first occasion on which a decision of the Board itself has been challenged since the Board structure was set up in 1996.

The process involved setting up a three person tribunal to hear the appeal, with each of the three people making up the tribunal requiring the approval of both the appealing party and the TTNZ Board.

The tribunal members were presented with submissions from both parties and were given several weeks in which to consider their ruling and submit a report. In the event, the original decision was upheld but more importantly, the process demonstrated that there is no group or individual, not even the Board, that is not subject to the scrutiny of objective assessors.

The Tribunal requested that its report be given maximum exposure and recommended that it be published on the TTNZ website.

The whole issue demonstrated a willingness on the part of the Board to be as open and democratic as possible. This was further reinforced at last month's Board meeting when radical changes were proposed to rules relating to the representative eligibility of players in team events. A decision was deferred until all Associations had been consulted.

New Life Members of TTNZ

Trevor Flint

A well-deserved LIFE MEMBERSHIP was conferred on Trevor Flint at the December Annual General Meeting.



Deputy Board Chairman Ron Garrett summed up Trevor's remarkable career at the meeting, telling the gathering of delegates about the many years of selfless work and interest that Trevor had dedicated to the sport at national level and, for an even longer period, within the Canterbury Association.

He began playing in 1938 and after World War 2 was selected for Canterbury to begin a succession of 200 representative matches for that Association. 1953 saw him play in an unofficial team at the Vienna World Championships. The same year he won two titles in England and was runner up for the NZ singles title.

Over the years he won many Doubles titles and in 1953 with Neville Brightwell won the North & South Island Men's Doubles. A left-handed player, he used pimple rubber in his early years and was one of the few with a powerful topspin forehand attack.

Over many years (1964-1978) he was closely involved with coaching at local and New Zealand level, taking teams overseas and travelling at his own cost to other countries to develop his coaching knowledge. In 1968 he submitted a plan to the TTNZ Annual Meeting to improve the standard of play in NZ. He coached NZ teams from 1971-1978, travelling to Japan, China, Singapore, Australia, Guernsey, England and Yugoslavia.

A New Zealand selector from 1978 to 1980, he has also been a NZ Vice-President.

Trevor's whole life has revolved around Table Tennis, and he would have forgotten how many tournaments he has managed or assisted with. They include numerous NZ Open Championships, the 1983 World Deaf Games and the 1999 World Wheelchair Games (as Tournament Manager). Just recently he was also Tournament Manager for the 2001 NZ Veterans Championships in Christchurch.

Retirement seems to be an unknown word to Trevor and any one visiting the Canterbury Stadium will inevitably meet up with Trevor still working away for table tennis and its members.

from info prepared by George Hart



1903 Postcard

and

Robin Radford

The name of Robin Radford will be better known than any other to readers of *Table Tennis Info* – he edits the magazine. In addition to the painstaking task of juggling the wide variety of material to fit it all together, he also ferrets through table tennis publications the world over for items of interest, cartoons, drawings and anything that will make the magazine more visually interesting or entertaining.

But his work with the magazine is not the main reason he has just been elected a Life Member of Table Tennis New Zealand. Nor is his work with the TTNZ website, which he maintains single-handedly. It is in recognition of an unbroken administrative table tennis career spanning more than forty years.

The Life Membership was approved with generous acclamation from delegates at the December 2000 Annual General Meeting after Deputy Board Chairman Ron Garrett summarised Robin's impressive contribution to table tennis at all levels.

In brief:

- Since 1959 he has accepted major administrative roles in Waikato Association (later Hamilton), Kapiti Association, and TTNZ.
- He was active during the administratively complex period when Waikato Association split into three, with the central one re-named Hamilton.
- As Kapiti Secretary he was a principle motivator in the Association's move to a large new stadium, and a new semaphore board, barricades, and the introduction of a canteen were all Robin's initiatives.
- His involvement with TTNZ began in 1982 when elected to the Executive Committee and has continued ever since. Ron Garrett acknowledged Robin's ability to bring common sense to many a debate at TTNZ AGMs.
- As a player, Robin represented Waikato, Hamilton and briefly, Canterbury.

While a career as active and long term as this fully justifies well-earned retirement, the age of computer technology has stirred Robin's enthusiasm to the point where he is even more active today than he ever was when his voluntary table tennis work had to be fitted in with a long career in the insurance industry.

His present-day work on the website and on this magazine bubbles with energy and creativity. He also liaises closely with the national office and the Individual Member Registration data entry volunteer, suggesting many timesaving ideas and innovative ways of publicising and utilising the IMR data. He also holds an office key and steps in when extra hands are needed to keep the administrative wheels turning.

By combining an interest in modern technology with decades of administrative experience, Robin is able to make a unique contribution to our sport. A more deserving recipient of Life Membership would be hard to find.

John Kiley



Rankings for 2000

Men	Women	Under 19 Boys
1. Aaron Li (N)	1. Li Chunli (O/Seas)	1. Peter Craven (NL)
2. Peter Jackson (O/Seas)	2. Karen Li (MN)	2. Adrian Soh (N)
3. Shane Laugesen (A)	3. Sarah Finch (A)	3. Andy Huang (A)
4. Andrew Hubbard (HV)	4. Tracey McLauchlan (HV)	4. Yi-Sien Lin (C)
5. Aaron Winborn (A)	5. Sabine Westenra (HV)	5. John Cordue (W)
6. Wayne Gear (A)	6. Raewyn Young (HV)	6. Paul Stewart (C)
7. Chris Herlihy (A)	7. Lisa Astle (C)	7. Josh Alexandre (A)
8. Andy Huang (A)	8. Val Beaver (NH)	8. Simon Wallace (C)
9. Peter Craven (NL)	9. Jiani Hu (N)	9. Evan Kramer (W)
10. Jared Smith (HV)	10. Samara Collins (O)	10. Jeff Vinicombe (HV)

Under 19 Girls	Under 15 Boys	Under 15 Girls
1. Deborah Morrison (C)	1. Simon Wallace (C)	1. Jiani Hu (N)
2. Andrea Gosney (C)	2. Josh Alexandre (A)	2. Eileen Schwab (NH)
3. Sandy Wang (A)	3. Nathan Lowe (A)	3. Sandy Wang (A)
4. Claire Dimmock (NH)	4. Binbin Zhu (HV)	4. Florence Li (A)
5. Eileen Schwab (NH)	5. Jonathan Chen (C)	5. Sophie Shu (MN)
6. Meena Chang (C)	6. Anthony Wilson (S)	6. Sarah Ho (WK)
7. Prathiba Kahatapitiya (A)	7. Scott Ridder (S)	7. Leanne Ridder (S)
8. Francesca Collins (A)	8. Hadleigh Bunce (NH)	8. Kelly Samson (C)
9. Jacqui Wood (C)	9. Jack Wells (N)	9. Michelle McCarthy (HV)
10. Florence Li (A)	10. Rhys Van Stipriaan (NH)	10. Katie Stretton (NH)

To qualify for a New Zealand ranking, players must have competed in a minimum of four rating events in any particular category, excluding B and C grades. Allowance is made for players who were unable to compete in rating tournaments due to overseas commitments.

The rankings are compiled by the Technical Committee. Age-group rankings were based on only results recorded in that age-group. Results from Under 18, 17 and 16 events were considered as well as Under 19 for the Under 19 list; and results from Under 15 and all younger age-groups were considered for the Under 15 list.

Obituary: **Roy Gregory**, stalwart of Waitemata Association, passed on last November. Roy, who was 73, won eight Auckland titles and 53 medals at New Zealand and North Island Veterans championships. He was a Life Member and, at various times, President, Secretary, Treasurer and Selector of the Waitemata Association. He was a qualified umpire and represented Waitemata at TTNZ AGM's for several years.

After retiring from the building trade Roy was responsible, along with another top player (George Robinson), for the building of the Waitemata Stadium in 1975/76.

Roy arrived in NZ about 30 years ago and was in his 40's before taking up table tennis. In England he was a road cyclist and a basketball player. He was also a keen golfer and gardener.

Our sympathy is extended to Roy's family and friends.

Dennis Galvin

Web Site Active.

TTNZ Web site at <http://www.tabletennis.org.nz> continues to be active with the latest Info on table tennis available including Championships, entry forms, results, ratings etc. The site attracted, on average, over 800 visitors a week in the latter half of 2000 in a steady increasing volume. Not a lot in web site terms but considerable for table tennis.

Table Tennis Canterbury is pleased with their pages and tell us they have a lot of response from top players and coaches around the world. At least 2 top class players have arrived in Canterbury as a direct result of their web pages. It pays to advertise! From the Canterbury pages visitors can see the stadium and what is offered in Christchurch. From the TTNZ pages, they also get a good idea about the sport in NZ.

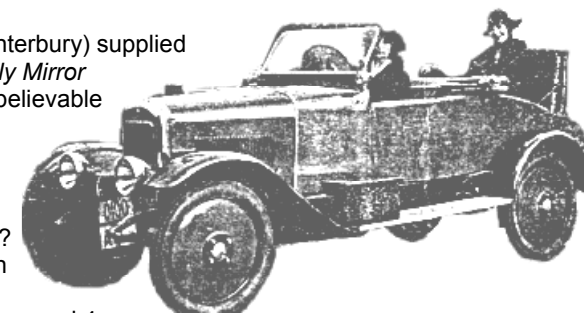
Two more associations plus a club have expressed interest in participating.

Those were the days!

“Daily Mirror” All-British Table Tennis Championships, 1923

First prize: Two Calthorpe motor cars (one for the man champion, one for the woman champion).

Bryan Thompson, (Kapiti – ex Sth Canterbury) supplied details of this event from England's *Daily Mirror* newspaper dated 1 May, 1923. The unbelievable first prize drew over 30,000 entries and thousands of matches were played throughout the UK over a three month period. The *Mirror* reported: “12 men and 2 women owed 5 points (Handicap? Playing for a car??). 84 survivors began their struggle for the All British Championships and continued until 4 men and 4



On the second to last day 64 men and 20 women battled it out in the premises of London's Selfridges department store (admission free) and on the final night play moved to the Stadium Club, Holborn, where four men and four women played the semi-finals and finals. Seven hundred seats were available to the public at five shillings, three shillings and two shillings (apply to Colonel C Bartlett).

We found no record of who won the two cars but did discover that the car manufacturer collapsed that same year. Perhaps the Daily Mirror got the Calthorpe cars for a good price!

People of the Year

Player of the year: Li Chunli

Junior of the Year (Ballinger trophy): The criteria covers sportsmanship, dress, personality, enthusiasm, interest in club or association affairs and playing results.

Kelly Samson

Junior Player of the year: (Russell Dickey Memorial Trophy) Made to the junior player who brought most credit to NZ table tennis taking into account – Performance, Behaviour, Neatness of presentation, Co-operation, and Team Spirit.

Sandy Wang

Nathan Lowe – has plans and goals.

I am writing on behalf of Nathan Lowe. He would like to give some feedback and as his father and ex-coach (for 4 years), I am adding my bit as well to convey our plans, aspirations and goals.



Firstly we would like to thank TTNZ for recognising Nathan's talent and selecting him for the Oceania Championships last year. Oceania was an eye opening experience for both of us. It was a great time to observe the top senior players in Oceania. I spent an hour talking to the NZ number 1 Peter Jackson about the professional table tennis scene and found this very informative.

Initially, we parents all think our children might be future champions. We often have unrealistic expectations, especially if they have exceptional sporting talent at an early age. Parents also invest an incredible amount of time, money, and energy in the sporting careers of their children. If, like myself, the parent has some knowledge of the sport, it can become a two-edged sword on which both father and son can fall.

Nathan and I have been discussing and modifying our long term goals over the past 18 months. At the age of 9 (4 years ago), he was wanting to pursue a career in table tennis, and as a father I was creating the environment that could assist this. I now think that we are a little more realistic.

Nathan's medium term plans are to win a national singles title and his long term goal is to represent NZ at senior level. Therefore my job (and TTNZ's ?) is to maintain his interest in the sport. I have decided to balance his sporting career with an educational one and have attempted to maintain other interests outside table tennis. I have initiated this because of the dropout problem. Also I think top players need a profession to fall back on, as they really cannot make a good living in NZ from table tennis.

After having several sessions with Aaron Li and Barry Griffiths some years ago, I have difficulty finding a coach of international standard. However Nathan really did enjoy the [2000] Easter training camp held at North Harbour with some of the current NZ coaches, and he progressed significantly afterwards. He played the Anzac tournament a week later and comfortably beat an under 18 NZ rep. I have not seen him play as well and consistently since. I must wonder if juniors would be committed enough to train to a fraction of the Chinese standards. Practising more than 12 hours a week is quite difficult in today's modern lives, especially amongst older teenagers.

I trust this will give you some feed back from Nathan and myself.

Malcolm Lowe

Veterans Championships – report from Ron Menchi

OVER 65'S STEAL THE SHOW

One of the best matches in the 2001 NZ Veterans Championships in Christchurch over Easter was the Over 65 men's singles final between Case de Bondt (Victoria) and Tony Herbert (Queensland). It was a fantastic match and showed the dizzy heights these athletes can reach irrespective of age.

The Table Tennis Canterbury Stadium is a tremendous facility and will be difficult to equal once the tables have been standardised and upgraded.

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Veteran Championships - Christchurch – April 2001

<u>Over 40 years</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Singles Runner Up</u>
Men's Singles	Wayne Heginbotham (NSW)	Mick Wright (Vic)
Women's Singles	Kay Crowell (SA)	Alice Abbas (SA)
Men's Doubles	W Heginbotham & D Beaumont	
Women's Doubles	A Abbas & L Baker (SA)	
Mixed Doubles	W Heginbotham & A Abbas (NSW/SA)	
<u>Over 50 years</u>		
Men's Singles	David Beaumont (NSW)	Mick Wright (Vic)
Women's Singles	Lorraine Baker (SA)	Betty Bird (SA)
Men's Doubles	M Ede & M Wright (Vic)	
Women's Doubles	L Baker & B Bird (SA)	
Mixed Doubles	H Frohlich & B Bird (Vic/SA)	
<u>Over 60 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Case de Bondt (Vic)	Alan Alabaster (C)
Women's Singles	Betty Bird (SA)	Carol Hughes (NSW)
Men's Doubles	T Herbert & E Herman (Q/SA)	
Women's Doubles	B Bird & J Stephens (SA)	
Mixed Doubles	K Sands & B Davies (NSW)	
<u>Over 65 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Tony Herbert (Q)	Case de Bondt (Vic)
Women's Singles	Margaret McGregor (WT)	Joyce Woodward (Q)
Men's Doubles	T Herbert & E Moore (Q/C)	
Women's Doubles	E Spooner & J Woodward (MN/Q)	
Mixed Doubles	E Moore & J Prisk (C)	
<u>Over 70 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Mervyn Allardyce (HV)	P Bargh (MN)
Women's Singles	Joyce Woodward (Q)	Elsie Spooner (WG)
Men's Doubles	M Allardyce & P Bargh (HV/MN)	
Women's Doubles	E Spooner & J Woodward (WG/Q)	
Mixed Doubles	D Galvin & J Woodward (WT/Q)	
<u>Over 75 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Harry Taylor (C)	Bill Joker (C)
Women's Singles	Nancy Brant (CM)	A Stevenson (C)
Mixed Doubles	H Taylor & A Stevenson (C)	

With a large party of 27 Australians competing, a Test Match was held on Thursday night. It opened with a wonderful rendition of the NZ and Australian National Anthems by a choir from Burnside High School.

Superb Table Tennis was played in all age groups, with Malcolm Darroch and Wayne Heginbotham displaying marvellous skills in both the test match and teams competition.

Tournaments often provide us with "characters" and this one was no different. Albie Biddington never disappoints but one of my favourites is Brian Anderson whose service action was spectacular - extensive bat arm rotation followed by a quick strike of the ball.

Trevor Flint, Nanette White and all the members of the Management Team organised a Tournament which gave us that mix of friendliness and efficiency that is special at Veterans' Championships. Well done Canterbury.

DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR HITS THE MARK

"Listen to your players; make them feel they belong (identity, pride, loyalty); be flexible; review constantly; seek partnerships; track down past players; organise the occasional spectacular event for the media....."

Ideas flowed at a Development Seminar recently conducted in Palmerston North on the initiative of the TTNZ Board member responsible for development, Andrew Gordon.

It was a well-presented event, held over two days and conducted by professional facilitator Ian Farmer. Multi-talented and highly creative, Ian regularly adorns his presentations with live music (he is also a singer), and with a variety of audiovisual material.

The groundwork for the seminar was laid at a workshop preceding last year's AGM, also facilitated by Ian and Andrew, and the answers to questionnaires circulated then were summarised and discussed at the seminar.

Later sessions, including videos, covered Time Management, Chaos Management (an intriguing term which effectively means allowing change to evolve naturally and utilising the energy created – instead of keeping the lid on change to maintain "control"); and Stress Management. All three sessions doubled as valuable lessons in life skills as well as providing useful tools for administering and growing our sport. All three emphasised the need for people running sport to be at ease with themselves to maximise efficiency and to enable them to meet the needs of others.

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Ping Pond Pondering

There has been a modest response to our invitation for suggested games to play on the Ping Pond table (four table halves with curved ends arranged around a square water tank adorned with water lilies and floating tt balls). But if you're planning to build your own, here are some ideas:

- Round the Pond: As in Round The Table, or Donkey. Three times off the table or once in the water and you're out. Balls should be left in the water to add artistic merit to the equipment.
- Multi-doubles: Four pairs, with their table segment and flip scorecard colour-coded, four umpires well out of the way – ball hit to any other table segment.
- Double-singles: Two singles matches played concurrently, with the umpire seated in the lotus position on one of the water lilies.
- Smash and Splash: Coach feeds high balls - trainee aims smashes at nominated ball floating in the water. A point for each direct hit. Short break after each five points for towelling down.



The second day featured a guest speaker from a regional sports trust; brainstorming sessions on development strategies, marketing and promotion, and a discussion on the best ways to submit funding applications.

The seminar was not a series of lectures – it was highly interactive.

The one major tragedy was that **only nine associations were represented**. This wasn't through lack of promotion - two flyers were distributed and calls were made directly to all associations who didn't respond. Many of the associations not there are the very ones who need the most help with development programmes.

Notwithstanding this, it was a valuable exercise and if some of the strategies which emerged are implemented, the value of them will filter through and may well still be picked up by those Associations who weren't there.



Table Tennis New Zealand has entered into a relationship with

Ezysurf a new Internet Service Provider.

In exchange for promoting their service Ezysurf will donate a percentage of the subscribers entry and ongoing fees to TTNZ.

This is a wonderful way to raise funds for Table Tennis and we urge members to support the concept and join Ezysurf.

TTNZ does not have any control over the service provided which is entirely between Ezysurf and the subscriber.

To subscribe: <http://www.ezysurf.co.nz/>

Don't forget to select Table Tennis NZ Inc as the sponsored organisation.

NORTHLAND HOSTS SUCCESSFUL MULTI-DISCIPLINE EVENT

Table Tennis Northland, in conjunction with Sport Northland, organised and hosted the "**Great Sports Challenge**" in the Advocate Stadium, Whangarei, on 27 March. The aim of the event was to find Northland's most versatile sportsman and woman.

Sport Northland, Kensington Tavern, Wynn Fraser, Adidas & KCCFM were the principal sponsors. This made the event a profitable fundraiser for Table Tennis Northland. The Challenge attracted 19 male & 15 female competitors from a wide range of sports codes. They rotated around 12 stations involving sport specific skills in hockey, basketball, badminton, cricket, table tennis, fishing, rugby league, darts, rowing, indoor bowls, a lightgate run and an obstacle course covering accuracy, speed, strength, balance, agility, endurance, ball co-ordination, and kicking and striking skills.

The fishing station had the competitors playing a marlin using a rod and reel while viewing the fish on a video!

The male winner was **Marcus Bourke** - ex Northland Junior table tennis player! The top female prize was jointly won by **Shannon Cochrane** (Triathlete) and **Cindy Johnson** (Volleyball).

It is hoped to make the "Great Sports Challenge" an annual event following the success of this year's inaugural competition.

Brent Davies

Open

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

B Grade

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

Over 50 years

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

Over 40 years

Men's Singles
Men's Doubles

Under 20 years

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

Under 17 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Under 14 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Girls' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Winner

Simon Wallace (C)
Jiani Hu (N)
Simon Wallace & Stuart Wallace (C)
J Hu & M Zilinskas (N/C)
J Wells & M Zilinskas (N/C)

Tim Armstrong (N)
Sophie Shu (MN)
M Chan & T Chan (N)
D Grimes & S Shu (C/MN)
R Quayle & S Shu (N/MN)

Roy McLauchlan (N)
Marie Zilinskas (C)
R McLauchlan & L Wells (N)
P Bargh & B Russ (MN/N)

Stuart Wallace (C)
W Haszard & S Wallace (ML/C)

Simon Wallace (C)
Jiani Hu (N)
D Roddis & S Wallace (N/C)
D Roddis & S Shu (N/MN)

Simon Wallace (C)
Sophie Shu (MN)
M Rees & S Wallace (N/C)
D Battersby & S Shu (N/MN)

Binbin Zhu (HV)
Jiani Hu (N)
C Erskine & J Wells (N)
J Hu & S Shu (N/MN)
B Zhu & J Hu (HV/N)

Singles Runner Up

Ian Alino (N)
Sophie Shu (MN)

Jack Wells (N)
Deborah Grimes (C)

Lionel Wells (N)
Sally Williams (N)

David Watson (N)

Ian Alino (N)
Sophie Shu (MN)

Jack Wells (N)
Katie Roddis (N)

Jack Wells (N)
Sophie Shu (MN)

RULE BOOKS

A new rule book with a bright yellow cover has just been published. It contains the laws of the game, international regulations, and a summary of the rule changes over the past two years. One free copy has just been sent to all associations and they were invited to order extra copies for a reduced fee.

The book is available to any registered member. Send \$5 and an A5 self-addressed envelope and you will be sent a copy.

Qualified umpires are being issued with Rule Books free of charge through the Umpires Committee.

PLAYERS TO THROW OUT THE SPONGE IN **MANAWATU**

Competitors in a novelty tournament in Palmerston North on 12 May will leave their sponge bats at home and line up for their regulation issue spongeless, pimped rubber bats.

It's the annual Manawatu "Hard Bat" tournament – one of the few novelty events in the country that gets widely publicised, and well supported. Organiser Barry Wynks told us that the event will run in three sections with round robin singles, doubles and mixed doubles in each. The sections are:

- 1) People who think they can play (eg A grade interclub players)
- 2) People who hope to play better (eg club or lower grade interclub players)
- 3) Non-players, beginners, husbands, wives, partners, etc.

Matches will be one game to 31; doubles pairings will be controlled to keep the pairs of similar strength; and cash prizes ranging from \$5 to \$100 will be allocated on a lucky-dip basis, bearing no relationship to the results of the matches.

The entry fee is \$15. Barry Wynks can be contacted for more information on 06 356 2183 or 025 571 378.

Table Tennis Info has published articles in the past on novelty events, and novelty variations used in club play, but we would like lots more. Articles, however brief, on "table tennis with a difference" in your local area, would be most welcome.



Subscription Offer

Readers of Table Tennis Info have the opportunity of subscribing to the **Butterfly World Report**, an 8 page glossy publication containing colour photographs, tournament results and table tennis articles.

The offer is made possible by **HB Sports** who will supply the magazines for TTNZ to distribute. Six issues are published each year and two hundred copies of each are available for our readers to purchase by subscription.

The cost is \$8 for the year (6 issues). Write to **Table Tennis New Zealand, PO Box 867, Wellington**, enclosing \$8 and your name and address. Your copy of each issue will be mailed direct, enclosed with your Table Tennis Info magazine if publication dates coincide.



WORLD RANKINGS

NZ Players
(as at 2 April 2001)

Women

Li Chunli 42
Karen Li 111
Sarah Finch 369

Men

Peter Jackson 177
Shane Laugesen 289
Aaron Li 345
Andrew Hubbard 348
Aaron Winborn 400
Malcolm Darroch 512
Chris Herlihy 532

Letter to TTNZ from Life Member **BARRY BUTLER:**

It seems a long time since I have made contact with you and I apologise for this. I wish to acknowledge the life membership awarded to me - it was much appreciated. I felt very honoured. I received considerable enjoyment from my involvement in the game playing, coaching, administering, and working with a group of people with unified goals. I am still keen to follow what is happening.

My muscle illness makes writing and speaking difficult, so this is the first letter on my new computer which is meant to assist me not waste time and make life easier but that's a real joke at the minute. Thanks to all who have sent letters, cards and messages.

In my opinion New Zealand Table Tennis has gone full circuit since the change in having a Board instead of internal management. Several mistakes were made, unintentionally, for which the repercussions have been felt - too many on the Board outweighed the experienced input of the game's own administrators.

Another was the appointment of an outsider to the position of Executive Director with wide powers and no history of running such an operation. This is not a personal attack as the enthusiasm was there but unfortunately the noisy minority ruled. Plus some decisions that don't always follow as expected when put into practice, eg affiliation, as any businessman or politician could tell you.

Thus I feel that New Zealand Table Tennis has been the full circuit and paid the penalty in revenue and affiliated players playing. We need to remember and learn from this and build on the structure we are now forming.

I have observed some good signs:-

- Continued involvement of your chairman Alan Hounsell, the only surviving high-flyer left that was going to put NZ table tennis on the map,
- Having James Morris in my old position - a big job to develop a countrywide network, but it is needed and I think most of the critics for change have been silenced or died away.
- Some Associations progressing - like Canterbury's new stadium. Congratulations - great news. Also North Harbour, and the resurgence of interest in places like Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa and Hutt Valley.

The workshop I was most interested in was player retention and I have some strong feelings which include:

- To retain players each Association needs its own resident coach to work weekly with them.
- This person must possess good people skills
- This person must be available on training, coaching, and tournaments nights and weekends and should: arrange transport and playing equipment; promote table tennis in schools and make learning the skills fun. In other words just about be their second mum and dad.

In today's climate I think that Associations need to look for a resident coach on contract for three years on a job share basis from fifteen to twenty hours weekly. Therefore the Association sponsorship grants and playing fees would need to raise about fifteen thousand.

If the coach brought in sixty more children split into four groups and supported them for three years, one night a week coaching and weekend tournaments around the country, and they also play in their local competition once a week it would broaden the base and provide ongoing numbers. By introducing these children committee members and other helpers are picked up.

In today's climate voluntary adult help is declining therefore I feel that the above is the only way that Associations can progress.

While I don't condemn bringing in professional touring coaches it is only a help to the better players and coaches and it does not increase your player base. I firmly believe that it needs committed coaches to be available over a long period of time. This will gain the confidence of the children.

SUCCESSFUL SEASON FOR TABLE TENNIS IN **Southland**

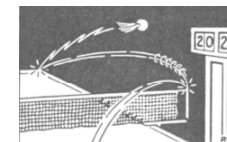
Teams finishing 3rd in two A Grade competitions at the 2000 NZ Championships (Women and Under 15 Boys), and local juniors winning both the girls and boys national umpiring awards gave Southland's end of season media release an impressive look.

Also reported was their Residential finals, in which 14 year old **Anthony Wilson** beat veteran **Ron Garrett** for the senior men's title; and two Japanese players based in Southland (**Akiko Kimura** and **Tomono Ozawa**) played each other for the women's title with Kimura winning.

The media release concluded with reference to the visit by overseas exhibition players Pansky and Orłowski, steadily growing school participation numbers, and plans to host the 2003 New Zealand Championships - leaving readers in Southland and beyond no doubt that table tennis is an active and vibrant sport in their area.

The Cost of Table Tennis

Readers may recall this article by John Kiley in our March 2000 issue, which raised the question of who pays for table tennis. You will be interested to learn that the article was reprinted in full by the magazine of the International Table Tennis Association – full marks to John.



That's (nearly) all folks!

