

# Triumph in New Delhi

## Commonwealth Championships

### Perfect Timing For A Silver Medal

Heartiest congratulations to Li Chunli on winning the women's singles silver medal at the Commonwealth Championships in New Delhi, India, last April. The success could not have come at a better time. TTNZ was preparing its application for Sports Foundation funding and its main focus was our build-up to the Commonwealth Games in 2002. Our medal chances at the Games multiplied instantly when Chunli's result came through and, quite rightly, medals are what the Foundation's funding policy is all about.

There's more on Chunli's performance in an article by Simeon Cairns on page 18.

### Bronze Medal As Well

With her sister Karen, Chunli also collected a bronze medal for the women's doubles, and reached the last eight in the mixed doubles with Aaron Li, who in turn reached the men's singles last eight. Other quarter-finalists in the doubles were Peter Jackson and Aaron Li; Peter Jackson and Karen Li ; and Karen Li also reached the last eight in the women's singles.

### Best Ever

So with NZ players reaching the quarter-finals in every event, winning a silver and a bronze medal, another bronze medal in the women's team event; and an improvement of one place (to fifth) for the men's team made this NZ's best ever overall performance. The team merits the acclamation of every table tennis stalwart in New Zealand.

### No Medals for Transport and Organisation

There's more than just table tennis in any overseas tour. The team also has to sleep, eat, and be transported about. While the accommodation was adequate, the half hour bus trip between the stadium and the hotel over rough roads and often without enough seats tested the endurance of our players and officials. The bus schedule was a work of fiction and the general organisation well short of ideal with officials in a constant state of confusion.

The stadium itself and playing conditions were good except for swarms of mosquitos. Lighting was inadequate in the practice hall.

The hotel food was okay but not the stadium food and arrangements had to be made to transport hotel food to the stadium. There were cases of dysentery among the team members.

### The Team

Men: **Aaron Li, Peter Jackson, Shane Laugesen, Adrian Soh, Peter Craven**  
Women: **Li Chunli, Karen Li, Tracey McLauchlan**  
Coaches: **James Morris, Simeon Cairns**

### Results at a glance

Womens Team: Officially fourth, but awarded bronze medal as semi-finalist

Men's Team: 5<sup>th</sup>

Men's Singles: **Aaron Li** reached last eight, lost to G Herbert (England) 24-26, 18-21, 12-21

**Peter Jackson** reached last 16, lost to S Raman (India) in four games  
**Shane Laugesen** reached last 16, lost to R Jenkins (Wales) 18-21 in 5<sup>th</sup> game

**Adrian Soh** reached second round, lost to A Bagley (England)  
**Peter Craven** reached second round, lost to T Prydasa (Sri Lanka)

Women's Singles: **Li Chunli** reached final, lost to Li Jia Wei 21-23, 21-18, 16-21, 19-21  
**Karen Li** reached last eight, lost to Li Jia Wei 9-21, 18-21, 17-21  
**Tracey McLauchlan** lost 1st rnd to M Paul (India) 18-21, 21-23, 16-21

Men's Doubles: **A Li/P Jackson** reached last eight, lost to top seeds  
**S Laugesen/A Soh** lost first round  
**P Craven/S Jenkins** (Wales) reached second round

Women's Doubles: **Li Chunli/K Li** lost in semi-final to Zheng XL/TP Fern 17-21, 12-21  
**T McLauchlan/Zheng PP** (Canada) lost first round

Mixed Doubles: **A Li/Li Chunli** reached last eight  
**P Jackson/K Li** reached last eight  
**S Laugesen/T McLauchlan** lost first round  
**A Soh/P Erica** (Canada) lost first round



L/R:

James Morris (Coach)  
Karen Li  
Tracey McLauchlan  
Li Chunli  
Simeon Cairns (Coach)

At the Commonwealth Championships.

## COACH'S VIEW OF THE BIG FINAL

Apart from the players and the umpire, nobody is more directly and intimately involved in a match than the coach. With New Zealand in the exciting position of having a player in the Commonwealth Women's Singles final, we now know what it feels like to be sitting alongside the table, living and breathing every point, as New Zealand's biggest ever match is played out. Women's team coach **Simeon Cairns** tells the story.....

In the semifinal, **Chunli** had won an epic five set battle with a Singaporean, Zhang Xue Ling, 21-8, 23-21, 19-21, 22-24, 21-19. After Chunli dominated early on, the Singapore girl changed her tactics to draw level at 2 games all. However, a tremendous fight by Chunli, more than anything else, brought her a close victory. This was an extremely satisfying result for Chunli but also an energy sapping performance. How this was going to influence her final that afternoon was unknown.

After a brief rest at the hotel Chunli returned for her final. The practice tables which were available in the morning prior to her semifinal had disappeared, but after discussion with officials I managed to get the lights turned on in the adjacent practice hall which was less than ideal. But a warm-up was achieved and Chunli was prepared. At this stage my main concern was just how fatigued Chunli was after the morning contest and whether her lunchtime rest was sufficient.



**Li Chunli and Simeon Cairns**

Her opponent was another Singaporean, Li Jia Wei, ranked 23 in the world – 17 places higher than Chunli. The first game was a crucial one. Jia Wei initially employed the same service strategy used by her team-mate in the semifinal. Nevertheless, this was successfully countered. Indeed, Chunli actually held a game point at 20-19 on service, but Jia Wei won this most crucial point, then sneaked home. Chunli started the second game on fire and raced to a seven point lead hitting many spectacular winners. However, Jia Wei was smart and changed her game to slowly recover. At 19-18 in Chunli's favour some sunlight entered a stadium window to focus itself on Chunli's face. In consequence, play was held up for over 10 minutes while a screen was erected to block the sunlight. Chunli came over to the bench but she couldn't relax and continued to move around anxiously for the majority of this break. On her return to the table Chunli was extremely focused and won the next two points rapidly. One game all. The third and fourth games involved many long rallies with Jia Wei blocking back several crucial smashes which on any other day would have been point winners for Chunli. Not much in it

but huge points were won by Jia Wei. As match point was approaching in the fourth game, play was once again held up as one of the scorecard umpires requested expedite to be introduced. This was not upheld and Jia Wei went on to win the contest 23-21, 18-21, 21-16, 21-19. These scores really did reveal the closeness of this match. Chunli showed little signs of tiredness and there were some superb rallies – perhaps helped in part by the use of the larger ball!! Chunli was the aggressor for the majority of the match displaying tremendous power with numerous backhand and forehand smashes using her penhold grip. Jia Wei, a shakehand grip player, spent much of the match countering Chunli's attacking play with considerable tenacity.

All credit to her for smart play in the big points to win this match. She certainly is a worthy champion but NZ can take much credit from the play of Chunli.

Chunli had earlier beaten Li Jia Wei in the teams event. This leaves no doubt that Chunli is a gold medal prospect for the singles event at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester 2002. For the moment, however, we should extend our congratulations to her for a great performance in winning New Zealand's first ever singles Commonwealth Championships silver medal.

☒☒



## World Rankings – Lots of NZ'ers on it?

The latest World Rankings (see back cover) has an increased number of New Zealand players listed since our last issue. Wonder why?

There is no need to play overseas to get a ranking as open singles and A Grade team results from our National Championships are included. Players have to beat two persons already on the list to make it, so the newly ranked players must have done this over the months since our last issue.

It's interesting that Sarah Finch, who is not currently playing, moved up the table. This has been put down to players being removed following the World Championships. They are removed after 12 months of inactivity.

We'll give a detailed explanation of how the world ranking system works in a future issue.

## BENCH-WARMING ROLE DISAPPOINTS

**Adrian Soh** was unhappy to be left on the bench throughout the Commonwealth Championships team events.

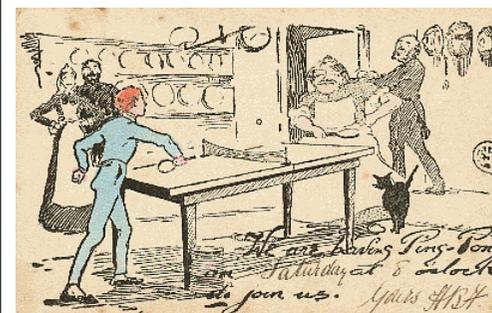
Clearly selected as a future prospect and attending the Championships for a taste of the atmosphere and to experience the pressures of major international competition, the situation was a disappointment nonetheless for both Adrian and team manager James Morris.

"It was disappointing not to be able to play Adrian, our fourth player, in the team events." said Morris. "Our placing for funding purposes was crucial. Our strongest team had to play."

It could have been a different matter if the team had been languishing in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> place, but the top three players proved New Zealand was a genuine medal prospect by losing only to the two teams who contested the final – India and Nigeria.

Adrian played in the individual singles and doubles events which followed the team competition.

Most of our top players will recognise Adrian's situation and some will have been there themselves. The message from them all is: *hang in there!!*



100 year old postcard invitation to a tt evening.

## Team Manager's Reflections

### Commonwealth Championships

This tour was part of a build up for the Commonwealth Games in Manchester in July 2002. Strong international competition is essential for NZ to achieve at these games.

This was my third visit to India with a table tennis team but my first to New Delhi. It's quite a humbling experience to go outside a 5 star hotel with a full stomach, travel by bus to the stadium and engage in pursuit of winning matches by hitting a ball across a table, which we deem as very important, after seeing from the bus window the reality of the situation for the masses in India. It makes one think of the values of life. For example, hundreds live under jute sacks and plastic shelters, and the beggars and dirty squalid pollution leaves much to be desired. But the country is rich in culture, tradition and history. Unfortunately one of my greatest wishes was to see the Taj Mahal but time was not on my side.

India was a first experience for some members of the team and some had to cope with Delhi belly. Not to mention the mosquitos who haunted the stadium in their droves. Although local organisers tried their best, cohesive organisation was lacking. I remember one example where a management meeting changed the teams draw and some teams who were not present at the meeting were not informed!

Chunli and Karen Li both won individual medals (Chunli's silver was a real triumph); and our players excelled to gain a last 8 placing for NZ in all individual events plus a bronze for the women's team and 5<sup>th</sup> placing for the men's. All looks well for the Commonwealth Games preparation.

I was satisfied and proud of all players and their performance in one of the most challenging environments.

### World Championships

The three table tennis stadiums used were in a huge sports complex. The main stadium was magnificent. This in fact is the last world championship where the team events and the individuals are played together. From now on they are to be held separately.

Japanese efficiency was evident throughout with buses and scheduling running to precision. The organised, affluent society was a contrast to India.

It was disappointing not to have a women's team attend with Li Chunli only playing in the individuals. The men's team finished 44<sup>th</sup>, one place ahead of Australia! NZ's men's placing at the last world's was 57<sup>th</sup>. The team system was such that the winning teams went up to winners and losers went down to losers in section play. When I look at the final results and see teams like Finland, Indonesia and Armenia finishing behind us, I think our results were credible. There were 92 countries competing and 126 nations represented at the AGM. It's one of the biggest sporting events outside the Olympic Games.

Well done team.

**James Morris**



## NZ stars fall to Koreans at WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Four men and one woman represented New Zealand in the 2001 World Championships in Osaka, Japan from 23 April – 6 May.

Our best hope was undoubtedly Commonwealth silver medallist **Li Chunli** whose world ranking earned her a direct place in the main draw of 64. In the first round she beat Nanthana Komwong of Thailand 21-12 in the fifth game, and then lost in four (21-19 in the fourth) to Kim Yun Mi of North Korea. As Chunli had the higher world ranking this would seem a disappointment but when Kim went on to defeat the second seed and Olympic silver medallist (Li Ju) in the next round and then win the next two matches to reach the semi-final, Chunli's performance became perfectly respectable.

The four men all had to compete in qualifying rounds with **Aaron Li** and **Peter Jackson** both reaching the final of their sections but prevented at the last hurdle from entering the main draw by Korean players. Aaron lost to Kim Bong Chul of South Korea, 14-21, 18-21; and Peter went down to Jong Kwang Hyok of North Korea, 21-15, 5-21, 16-21. **Peter Craven** lost in round one to a Singaporean player, 8-21, 19-21; and **Shane Laugesen** lost 12-21, 17-21 to a Russian player in round two. There were eight players in each section and qualifying play was a straight knock-out.

In the men's doubles **Peter Jackson** and **Aaron Li** were pipped 18-21, 21-16, 21-23 in the first round by a pair from the Czech Republic, and **Shane Laugesen** and **Peter Craven** lost in the first round to an Israeli pair 18-21, 16-21. In the mixed doubles, **Peter Jackson** and **Li Chunli** lost 21-11, 17-21, 18-21 to a pair from Belgium, also in the first round.



New Zealand men's team at Osaka, Japan for the World Championships in the Butterfly sponsored tracksuits. The main colour was light grey.  
L/R: **Aaron Li, Peter Jackson, Shane Laugesen, Peter Craven, James Morris** (Manager/Coach).

Earlier, New Zealand had finished 44<sup>th</sup> in the men's team event, improving 13 places on our previous world ranking.

(See also "Team Manager's Reflections" on page 20)

#### **BUTTERFLY DONATES GEAR**

The New Zealand team at the World Championships paraded in new tracksuits kindly sponsored by Butterfly.

The supply of the smart grey and black attire was initiated by New Zealand Butterfly agent, Hagen Bower. Each team member also received four shirts, two pairs of shorts, a sports bag, towel, socks, a pair of shoes and a shoe case. It was an extremely generous sponsorship.

TTNZ and the players thank Butterfly for this gesture.

## UMPIRING FOR THE BEST PLAYERS IN THE WORLD

Fresh from the Sydney Paralympics, International Umpire **Averil Roberts** has now added the Osaka World Championships to her portfolio of experience. She was the only New Zealand umpire there. This is her perspective on the glamour event:

The first day we travelled by courtesy bus to the main playing hall to orientate ourselves. This proved to be a very valuable exercise as three separate halls were used. Number 1 Hall was a huge complex with 12 tables, No. 2 was a smaller venue but also had 12 tables and No. 3 was quite small and had 8 tables. All were within about 500 metres of each other, so easily walked. The huge food hall which catered for all officials and players was between Hall 1 and Hall 3 so everything was easily accessed.

The Umpires briefing meeting was very confusing to say the least. It was in Japanese and the 'interpreter' had a very limited knowledge of English, and less of table tennis. A number of the daily briefings were also conducted in Japanese. Still, overall I think things ran fairly smoothly. There were 150 International Umpires: 80 from Japan and the others from all around the world.

The first day of competition dawned and wouldn't you know it – my first World Champs umpire was in the first session and on Show Court No. 2 – a TV table. It was a women's team match between Croatia and Italy. A marvellous match. The score was 3-2 to Croatia with the final match going to 21-19 in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Needless to say the match went overtime and unbeknown to me at the time, delayed the whole Opening Ceremony by ¾ hour!! Whoops, good start! My second match for the day was on Show Court 1 – the main TV table. There were two huge TV screens at either end of the Stadium. While umpiring or assisting it was impossible not to catch sight of your match on the screen. My umpiring partner for these matches was a Japanese lady who was a reasonable umpire, but didn't speak English so communication was difficult. I think my sign language has improved! Being the only New Zealand umpire meant I was paired with Japanese umpires for the entire teams competition. For the individual events I was paired with various English speaking umpires. Mick McShane and I teamed up to umpire the ¼ final men's singles match between Ma Lin and Liu Guozheng (won by Ma Lin 21-19 in the 5<sup>th</sup>), and I teamed with Nicole Rischard-Hengen of Luxembourg to do a semi-final women's doubles match between two Chinese pairs. The winners won the title.

Spare time was rare but on my one full day off (out of 14) a few of us, accompanied by Kimie, a lovely Japanese lady who could speak some English, went by train to Kyoto for the day. Thank goodness for Kimie. Otherwise we would have got lost in the Osaka Railway Station! That did happen to some of the other umpires.

I managed to watch a few of the New Zealand Men's team matches and to catch up with them in the food hall.

The Championships were a valuable and most enjoyable learning experience for me. It was also great being able to talk to the other umpires from around the world. Most of us would socialize for an hour or so at the end of each day in the foyer of our hotel.

Thank you to Hutt Valley T T Association and Waterloo Club who contributed towards my considerable expenses, also the Mayor of Hutt City.

**Averil Roberts**

## BAY OF PLENTY'S SHINING SUN

By John Lea

Spectators at the recent North Island Championships saw a new star on the women's scene. Bay of Plenty's **Sun Yang** reached the open final, losing to Karen Li in 4 games; won the women's doubles with Lesley Gardner; and also won the under 19 girls and mixed doubles events. This performance lifted her to third in the New Zealand ratings, behind Karen and Li Chunli, after just two tournaments.

'Sunny' swept aside her opposition in the Auckland Junior Open, her first tournament appearance in New Zealand, and was grateful to find tougher competition in Palmerston North. Her speed of foot, and ball control from well behind the table, caused many to take notice when she pushed Karen Li in pool play. The ability to chop and float well from both wings is rarely seen nowadays and prompted Karen's team to review video footage of the match, in expectation of a rematch in the final.

The only disappointment was that Sun Yang knocked out Bay of Plenty's other leading player, Kadia Keller-Rice, in the first round of the main draw. This was their first ever meeting, and had the effect of pushing a determined Kadia out of the national top 10.

### Six Months Only

The Bay of Plenty Association is hosting Sun Yang for six months, as part of a sister city exchange with Yantai in China. The exchange was planned from 1999, and she was originally intended to arrive in mid-March. After a series of problems with visa's, and communication problems with the foreign affairs ministry in Yantai, she arrived on May 27<sup>th</sup>, with the Association only being given four days notice of her pending arrival!

The Tauranga District Council, who obtained substantial sponsorship from the Hillary Commission, initiated the visit. Additional funding has been provided by Pub Charities, leaving only a minimal cost for the overall project.

### Coaching Experience

Sun Yang is 18 years old, and had been training at the Table Tennis Academy in Yantai, where she coached juniors. During her six months in New Zealand she hopes to expand her coaching experience at intermediate and senior levels, and improve her English language skills. She is a quiet, pleasant lass with a ready smile, and is known in the Bay as 'Sunny'. Sun Yang has formed a good rapport with local players, and she impressed greatly on her first school visit to Western Heights College in Rotorua.

### Open to Offers

After the North Island Championships she commences weekly junior squad training on Monday nights, and is looking to secure more visits to schools in the region. She will be kept busy in Tauranga, Rotorua and Whakatane until the National Championships. However, the remaining six weeks before her mid-November return to Yantai are open to offers.



*Continued over page*

**Sun Yang** from previous page.

The Bay of Plenty Association intends to run 'train the trainer' workshops later in the season. This aims at increasing the number of people actively encouraging table tennis in the region, and hopes to provide support for the current coaching force of Ron Sheridan, Ricky Smith and Kadia Keller-Rice. Targets will include teachers, parents and players.

### Positive Publicity

With more people to organise clubs and encourage players to seek higher competition, the short-handed Bay administration can secure an income base capable of supporting dedicated leasehold premises. The population is large enough, and with the positive publicity generated by Sun Yang, the Association has hopes of achieving this goal in the next two or three years, and becoming a force in New Zealand table tennis.



## MEDAL CHANCE GOES BEGGING AT COMMONWEALTHS

At a crucial stage of the mixed doubles quarter-final when **Aaron Li** and **Li Chunli** were playing Singaporeans Sen Yew Fai and Tan Paey Fern, there was a sudden change in Chunli's approach to the match. The NZ pair were one game up (best of three) and leading 18-12 in the second. Surely a cake-walk from here to the semi-finals and a guaranteed bronze medal? But from that point Chunli ceased playing her aggressive style and changed to a more passive approach well back from the table. The opponents moved in and quickly caught up. This continued in the third game which was lost. Aaron demonstrated his dismay over the situation by leaving the final three services of the match unplayed. Chunli explained afterwards that she had suddenly felt overcome by tiredness but the incident created a severe rift between the two and they did not play together at the World Championships.

## WHO INVENTED TABLE TENNIS?

**This remains the great unsolved table tennis mystery of all time.**

An article in a croquet magazine claimed that we were dreamed up by John Jaques and Son (makers of croquet equipment). We quote: "The firm was founded in 1795 and it launched the modern game (of croquet) by displaying gear at the Great Exhibition in 1851 at Crystal Palace. It also invented Snakes and Ladders, Tiddly Winks, Ludo, Happy Families and Table Tennis, which was first known as "Gossina" and then Ping Pong."

Just when we thought the mystery was solved and that we shared the same unflattering ancestry as a clutch of children's games, a stalwart was ferreting among old newspaper cuttings and unearthed a report claiming that Mr James Gibb, a Cambridge engineer, invented the game in 1891. "Champagne corks were knocked from one side of the table to the other with cigar box lids. He then improved the game by using celluloid balls and sticking a rubber mat on the box lid. The game was patented as ping-pong, after the sound made by the balls, but its name was later changed to table tennis."

So the mystery remains. Who *did* invent table tennis? Can any reader throw light on this monumental puzzle?

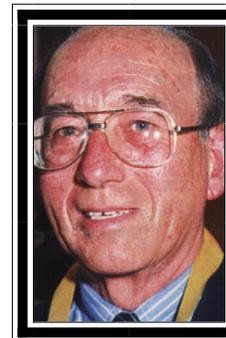
## OBITUARY

### JOHN LELLIOTT

8.5.28 – 27.5.01

**John Lelliott**, a man who stamped his indelible mark on table tennis in the Hutt Valley and nationally, died at the age of 73 on 27 May following a debilitating illness.

Born in Kent, England, on 8 May, 1928, he came to New Zealand in 1960. John wasted no time getting involved in table tennis - a sport for which he had developed a love as a boy and in which he had reached A grade level at the age of eleven. After spells in Canterbury and Southland, John commenced an attachment with Hutt Valley table tennis that spanned some 25 years. He held the positions of HVTTA President, Vice President, Chairman, Secretary, Selector and Life Member. He was also a loyal supporter of the Empire Club, and was Club Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Selector.



As a member of the HVTTA Interclub Committee he relished the task of preparing draws and being hall steward at interclub even though others could have carried out this role. John simply enjoyed the table tennis atmosphere. Collecting table fees was always done thoroughly, and he made sure that all arrears were collected no matter how small, even if he had to wait until the beginning of next season to accost a tardy payer. As Publicity Officer, John would arrive home after interclub and often work until 2am writing out the interclub report to ensure he was able to deliver it to the media first thing next morning.

He became very experienced at organising major tournaments and was Manager of the NZ Championships in 1980, 1986 and 1990, and the North Islands in 1984 and 1994. In 1986 he took the initiative to have medals presented at national championships for the first time.

John spent 11 years on the National Executive and was a National Selector for 5 years. He managed the New Zealand team to the World and Commonwealth Championships in 1985. In 1989 he set up a National Veterans Newsletter Club, and organised annual trips to the Australian Veterans Championships.

John was particularly proud of playing at A grade level for 55 years, until the age of 71, which could be a world record. As a veteran he won a very large number of New Zealand titles and three Australian titles. His most memorable achievement was reaching the quarter-final of the 1998 World Veterans Over 70 Men's Singles, where he was narrowly beaten by the eventual winner.

In modern day terms John Lelliott could have been described as a table tennis junkie. He confessed to working up to 12 hours a day on table tennis work and up to 60 hours a week. He had a particularly strong personality and many in opposition to his argument may have regarded him

as abrasive and obstinate on occasions. But if that's what it took to make his point, John was usually prepared to overlook diplomacy. Conversely, John was usually helpful to anyone who sought his assistance and ensured that any help offered was followed through. He earned the respect of many junior players and was sometimes sought to provide a reference for a job application.

John was a man of extremely rare quality who deserved the highest praise for his work in table tennis, his love of which was passionate to the extreme. It is perhaps a sad reflection that his efforts were not always recognised.

In 1997 John received a Civic Honours Award for voluntary community service to table tennis. He was also a member of the NZ Sports Hall of Fame.

**Brian Pearson**

## TABLE TENNIS IDENTITY FEATURES IN QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST

Within months of being elected a Life Member by Table Tennis New Zealand, Canterbury's **Trevor Flint** has been named in the 2001 Queens Birthday Honours List to receive the New Zealand Order of Merit.

This is an honour for the sport of Table Tennis, and a tremendous and well-deserved honour for Trevor, whose remarkable playing, coaching, and management career was summarised in our previous issue when we reported on his life membership.

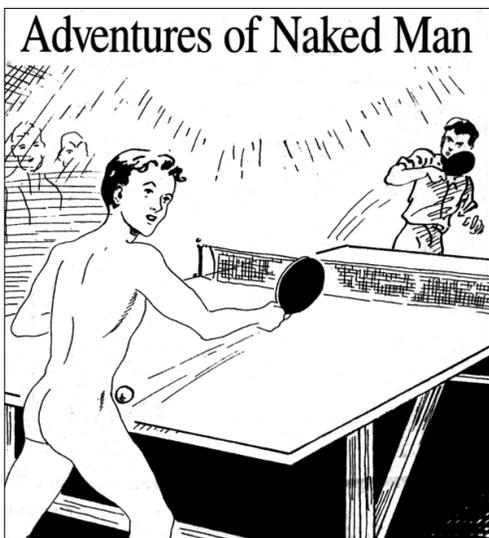
A Christchurch newspaper devoted half a page to Trevor's award, tracing his playing career from it's beginnings at age 13 to its peak in the 1950's when he participated in the 1953 World Championships and won several national titles. It also covered his long coaching career and recalled the visit to China in 1974 when a New Zealand team coached by Trevor played in front of 18,000 people.

Trevor is still active in table tennis management at national as well as local level and sees his involvement with table tennis as a community service. That's exactly what it is - a thirty year community service! Worthy of royal recognition.



## Wellington's "Naked Man" Takes Up Table Tennis

The **Evening Post** publishes the "**Adventures of Naked Man**" each week and invites its readers to submit captions, a selection from which are published the following week. With the kind permission of the artist, **Robert Gott** of Melbourne, we publish a recent effort featuring table tennis.



Some of the leading captions were:  
**"It was the strangest method of vasectomy that the other urologists had ever observed."**

(This was the winner).

**"Bill was suddenly glad he didn't play volleyball."**

**"It was at that moment Jacob was glad it wasn't archery."**

**"Temporarily distracted by the Mexican Wave, Naked Man paid a severe penalty."**

**"Roger misunderstood the coach, who had told him that to score a point in table tennis one had to keep the ball on the table."**

There were several submissions of **"Ouch!"**

## AUCKLAND INNOVATIVE APPROACH NEEDED

Since 1995, there has been a decline in the number of players in some provinces, including Auckland. In an attempt to buck this trend, Auckland created a new position this year encompassing both the coaching role and the promotion and development of the sport. Anne Noble, a former NZ Women's Champion, was employed in this role.

As part of the new initiatives undertaken by Anne and the Auckland "team" (including Bob Inns, Bruce Penberthy, Bill Burns, Jim Coad and Hagen Bower), Auckland now has a new coaching programme, run by Hagen Bower and Shane Laugesen; new tables, table barricades and scoreboards, as well as a revamped kitchen, an exercise room and robot machine. Seeing the fresh look Canterbury Stadium at last year's Nationals provided inspiration for Auckland to also "strive for better things". Hopefully, players from throughout the country will be able to experience a revitalised atmosphere at this year's Nationals in October.

Sponsorship has played a big part not only with prizes for this year's Nationals but also for the new equipment and stadium renovations. We are grateful for the continued support of our major sponsor, Cathay Pacific, and also to our new sponsors. Credit must go to Anne Noble and the Auckland Committee for making it all happen this year.

Table Tennis in NZ is reliant on sponsorship for its survival and growth and our experience this year has shown that money is available from the commercial sector, if people are prepared to go after it.

Good luck in your own endeavours to continue to promote the sport for the benefit of players and associations alike. See you at the Nationals.

Wayne Gear

## Internet Service Provider

**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.**

# South Island Open – Otago June 2001

<b><u>Open</u></b>	<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Singles Runner Up</u></b>
Men's Singles	Aaron Li (C)	Malcolm Darroch (C)
Women's Singles	Linda Chen (C)	Laura-Lee Smith (C)
Men's Doubles	M Darroch & Simon Wallace (C)	
Women's Doubles	M Chang & L Chen (C)	
Mixed Doubles	A Li & R McKechnie (C)	
<b><u>B Grade</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Karl Samson (C)	Gahan Joughin (C)
Women's Singles	Andrea Gosney (C)	Maria Darroch (C)
Men's Doubles	C Erskine & J Wells (N)	
Women's Doubles	M Chang & S Chang (C)	
<b><u>C Grade</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Chris Erskine (N)	Neville Duggan (C)
Women's Singles	Claire Dimmock (NH)	Jacqui Wood (C)
Men's Doubles	C Erskine & J Wells (N)	
Women's Doubles	M Darroch & J Wood (C)	
<b><u>Over 60 years</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Alan Alabaster (C)	Colin Tipper (C)
Women's Singles	Brenda Adamson (S)	Alva Ingle (O)
Men's Doubles	A Alabaster & C Tipper (C)	
Mixed Doubles	B Kendall & A Ingle (O)	
<b><u>Over 50 years</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Alan Alabaster (C)	Colin Tipper (C)
Women's Singles	Raina McKechnie (C)	Sherry Chang (C)
Men's Doubles	A Alabaster & C Tipper (C)	
Women's Doubles	B Adamson & R McKechnie (S/C)	
Mixed Doubles	A Alabaster & R McKechnie (C)	
<b><u>Over 40 years</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Maurice Burrowes (O)	Peter de Boer (C)
Women's Singles	Lesley Gardner (C)	Raina McKechnie (C)
Men's Doubles	M Burrowes & J Fogarty (O)	
Women's Doubles	L Gardner & R McKechnie (C)	
Mixed Doubles	D Samson & R McKechnie (C)	
<b><u>Over 35 years</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Peter de Boer (C)	Lyndon White (C)
Women's Singles	Lesley Gardner (C)	Maria Darroch (C)
Men's Doubles	P de Boer & L White (C)	
Women's Doubles	M Darroch & L Gardner (C)	
Mixed Doubles	L White & L Gardner (C)	
<b><u>Under 21 years</u></b>		
Men's Singles	Simon Wallace (C)	Yi-Sien Lin (C)
Women's Singles	Samara Collins (O)	Andrea Gosney (C)
<b><u>Under 19 years</u></b>		
Boys' Singles	Simon Wallace (C)	Yi-Sien Lin (C)
Girls' Singles	Andrea Gosney (C)	Claire Dimmock (NH)
Boys' Doubles	J Cordue & Y Lin (W/C)	
Girls' Doubles	C Dimmock & J Wood (NH/C)	
Mixed Doubles	S Wallace & A Gosney (C)	

<b><u>Under 17 years</u></b>		
Boys' Singles	Simon Wallace (C)	Anthony Wilson (S)
Girls' Singles	Jacqui Wood (C)	Leanne Ridder (S)
Boys' Doubles	S Ridder & A Wilson (S)	
Mixed Doubles	J Wells & J Wood (N/C)	
<b><u>Under 15 years</u></b>		
Boys' Singles	Binbin Zhu (HV)	Jack Wells (N)
Girls' Singles	Kelly Samson (C)	Leanne Ridder (S)
Boys' Doubles	C Erskine & J Wells (N)	
Mixed Doubles	C Erskine & K Samson (N/C)	
<b><u>Under 13 years</u></b>		
Boys' Singles	Binbin Zhu (HV)	Chris Erskine (N)
Boys' Doubles	C Erskine & B Zhu (N/HV)	

## International Federation considers GLUING

### NO RULE CHANGE – But.....

The International Table Tennis Federation's Board of Directors (formerly the ITTF Council) has said no to a proposition to ban fresh gluing – but there is no doubt that they would like to get rid of the use of speed glue in the future.

"We would like to eliminate toxic gluing, but this is not the time to make more changes", said the ITTF president Mr Adham Sharara, referring to the change of ball, scoring and service rule.

It was concluded from the discussion that the ITTF is now sending a signal to manufacturers encouraging them to develop rubbers and glue that eliminate the advantages of gluing several times every day of competition, and remove the toxicity.



### Plenty of Jobs on Offer

This is the time of year when volunteers are sought for the next two years in some key positions at national level. Here's the list:

Board Member  
National Selection Panel  
National Senior Coach  
National Senior Assistant Coach

Applications close on 15 October. Contact National Office, TTNZ, PO Box 867, Wellington, for more details.

**Subscription Offer** to the Butterfly World Report, an 8 page glossy publication containing colour photographs, tournament results and table tennis articles, is still available.

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.

# Top 10 Ratings

As at: 29 July 2001

## Men's Open

1. Aaron Li
2. Peter Jackson
3. Shane Laugesen
4. Andrew Hubbard
5. Malcolm Darroch
6. Aaron Winborn
7. Hagen Bower
8. Yang Ying
9. Simon Wallace
10. Andy Huang

## Women's Open

1. Li Chunli
2. Karen Li
3. Sun Yang
4. Linda Chen
5. Sarah Finch
6. Tracey McLaughlan
7. Val Beaver
8. Angela Li
9. Hilary Low
10. Sabine Westentra

## Men's Under 21

1. Yang Ying
2. Simon Wallace
3. Andy Huang
4. Adrian Soh
5. Yi-Sien Lin
6. Peter Craven
7. John Cordue
8. Paul Innes
9. Rong Chen
10. Josh Alexandre

## Women's Under 21

1. Sun Yang
2. Lily Huang
3. Wendy Zheng
4. Jiani Hu
5. Samara Collins
6. Deborah Morrison
7. Lisa Boaden
8. Andrea Gosney
9. Sandy Wang
10. Meena Chang

## Men's Over 40

1. Malcolm Darroch
2. Maurice Burrowes
3. Peter de Boer
4. Doug Pattinson
5. Bob Lassen
6. William Stewart
7. Pat Low
8. Alan Alabaster
9. William Weinstock
10. Chip Eade

## Women's Over 40

1. Val Beaver
2. Yvonne Fogarty
3. Averil Roberts
4. Ulrike Kusche
5. Chris Cunningham
6. Anne McLean
7. Lesley Gardner
8. Helen Codlin
9. Lynley Barker
10. Raina McKechnie

## Men's Over 50

1. Doug Pattinson
2. Bob Lassen
3. Pat Low
4. Alan Alabaster
5. William Weinstock
6. Chip Eade
7. Nam Hang Lee
8. Barrie Kendall
9. Alan Tomlinson
10. Stephen Craw

## Women's Over 50

1. Val Beaver
2. Yvonne Fogarty
3. Averil Roberts
4. Chris Cunningham
5. Anne McLean
6. Lynley Barker
7. Raina McKechnie
8. Jill Murray
9. Sue Shirriffs
10. Linda Wynks

## Men's Over 60

1. Alan Alabaster
2. Chip Eade
3. Nam Hang Lee
4. Barrie Kendall
5. Alan Tomlinson
6. Colin Tipper
7. Albert Roberts
8. Bruce Penberthy
9. Bob Hurr
10. Denver Glass

## Women's Over 60

1. Margaret McGregor
2. Pat McArthur
3. Joyce Coleman
4. Gladys Halford
5. Annice Robottom
6. Kath Thompson
7. Elsie Spooner
8. Valda Smith
9. Pamela Keene
10. Nellie Milich

## Boys' Under 19

1. Yang Ying
2. Simon Wallace
3. Andy Huang
4. Adrian Soh
5. Yi-Sien Lin
6. John Cordue
7. Josh Alexandre
8. Karl Samson
9. Greg Burton
10. Evan Kramer

## Girls' Under 19

1. Sun Yang
2. Lily Huang
3. Wendy Zheng
4. Jiani Hu
5. Deborah Morrison
6. Lisa Boaden
7. Andrea Gosney
8. Sandy Wang
9. Meena Chang
10. Eileen Schwab

## Boys' Under 17

1. Yang Ying
2. Simon Wallace
3. Andy Huang
4. Josh Alexandre
5. Binbin Zhu
6. Jack Wells
7. Ian Loubachevskii
8. Anthony Wilson
9. Frank Tsai
10. Kurt Strid

## Girls' Under 17

1. Lily Huang
2. Wendy Zheng
3. Jiani Hu
4. Sandy Wang
5. Eileen Schwab
6. Sarah Ho
7. Sophie Shu
8. Florence Li
9. Jacqui Wood
10. Sacha Welsh

## Boys' Under 15

1. Binbin Zhu
2. Jack Wells
3. Nathan Lowe
4. Chris Erskine
5. Jonathan Chen
6. Yazan Zainal
7. Adam Ryland
8. Vance Kelly
9. Geoffrey Smart
10. Blair Paterson

## Girls' Under 15

1. Lily Huang
2. Jiani Hu
3. Sandy Wang
4. Sophie Shu
5. Florence Li
6. Leanne Ridder
7. Kelly Samson
8. Katie Stretton
9. Hanna Squire
10. Michelle McCarthy

## Boys' Under 13

1. Binbin Zhu
2. Chris Erskine
3. Blair Paterson
4. Billy Lam
5. Matthew Lowe
6. Levi Welsh
7. Michael Ho
8. Johnathan Dixon
9. Peter Cameron
10. Luke Tough

## Girls' Under 13

1. Jiani Hu
2. Sandy Wang
3. Sophie Shu
4. Hanna Squire
5. Sally Ho
6. Sarah Barrie
7. Rebecca Bourke
8. Ji Hyun Lee
9. Natasha Kok
10. Hayley Jones

## Novelty Table Tennis

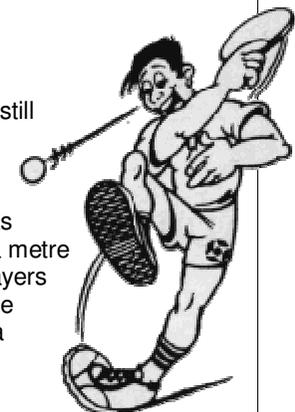
This is the last of our current supply of Novelty TT. Contributions are still welcome.

### Cafeteria Table Tennis

If all the table tennis tables are occupied and your club or stadium has small cafeteria tables, arrange four of them in a square pattern with a metre gap between tables, and stand (or sit!) a player behind each one. Players gently hit the ball to land on any other table. It must be returned by the player guarding that table, to any other table. Anyone missing loses a point. Last person to lose 21 (or 11) points wins.

### Siamese Doubles

The free arms of doubles partners are tied together at the wrists with soft material such as a scarf. Games then proceed as "normal. Serve with care – serving becomes quite intimate. Pairings of left and right handed players have a decided advantage in this game.



### RULE BOOKS

The new rule book is still available. It contains the laws of the game, international regulations, and a summary of the rule changes over the past two years. Send \$5 and an A5 self-addressed envelope to TTNZ and you will be sent a copy.

