

93

Table Tennis History Journal

February
2021

Excellent reading for Historians, Collectors,
and all Lovers of our Great Sport



What a discovery ! Pages 4-6

Table Tennis History Journal



No. 93
February 2021

Editor and Publisher:

Chuck Hoey, Honorary Curator
ITTF Museum, China TT Museum
Contact: ittfmuseum@yahoo.com

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Oct 1 Submit articles by **Sep 15**
Feb 1 Submit articles by **Jan 15**

From the Editor

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 93rd edition of the *Table Tennis History Journal*. We begin with the story of two extraordinary men with long careers in our sport, **Jean Devys (FRA)**, and **Yao Zhenxu (CHN)**.

Fabio has found another fine array of interesting and rare items, and we are grateful for his sharing with us. **Alan Duke (ENG)** reports on a trio of early books, & continues his series on early newspaper articles. **Jorge Arango (COL)** sends his 12th & final installment on early pirated images. Jorge also found a rare and previously unknown book about Ping Pong from 1903, our back cover story. **Bruno Lancon (FRA)** reports on his discovery of many fine bats, including a seldom seen Stiga Johnny Leach.

Graham Trimming (ENG) informs us about the careers of two early English stars who became important ETTA figures. **Günther Angenendt (GER)** sends copies of early issues of *Tisch-Tennis* magazines, each with excellent cover photos of historic moments and top players.

Auction Action reports on recent trends, with some surprising discoveries and prices.

Hope you enjoy the new issue. Feedback always welcomed. Next edition scheduled for **June 1, 2021**.

For our sport, Table Tennis. For All. For Life.

Chuck

World Championships History: Missing Scores

We are tantalizingly close to finishing the Men's Singles scores, needing only 2 game scores from **1936 Rd. Of 16**:

Joffe 3-1 Proffitt; Sziff 3-0 Marin-Goldberger

For the Women's Singles scores we need to find:

1936 Rd. 16: wins by Smidova (3-0), Gal (3-1) & Koudelova

1947 Rd. 16: wins by Hruskova (3-2), Abou Heif (3-2), Pritz

1949 Rd. 16: all game scores, except Farkas v. Wijk

Visit: ittf.com/history/documents/past-world-championship-results for pdfs of all World Ch. Results, & click on Missing Scores

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Two Extraordinary Men Two Distinguished Collectors



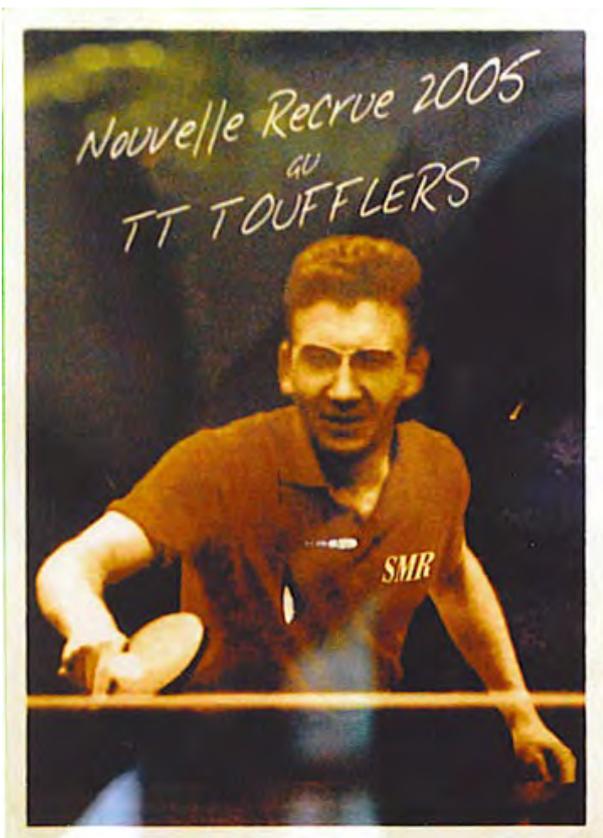
JEAN DEVYS (FRA)
Celebrates His 90th Year

Jean Devys has been with us since the beginnings, a master collector of Table Tennis philately. In 2020 he celebrated his **90th birthday** anniversary - congratulations Jean! He is also a cyclist enthusiast.

Jean began his career organizing activities for young people in Roubaix and the Flanders region in the 1950s. His first report in the French Table Tennis magazine appeared in 1958, and he was elected to the FTTT Management Committee, in charge of publicity.

He went on to become President of the Ligue des Flanders, and chairman of the national Youth committee. In 1980 he was elected Vice-President of the French Federation, and became a member of the ITTF Ranking Committee and the European Youth Committee.

In 1984 he was elected in Moscow a member of the ETTU management committee (til 1996), in charge of publicity and youth committees, til 1994, when he became E.T.T.U. vice-president. Bravo Jean !



YAO ZHENXU (CHN)
Personal Honorary
Member of the ITTF

Yao Zhenxu has devoted his entire life to Table Tennis, and is also a master philatelic collector. He was recently appointed a **Personal Honorary Member** of the ITTF. Here is the ITTF announcement:

Yao Zhenxu has been recognised for his longstanding commitment to international table tennis by becoming Personal Honorary Member of the ITTF.

Yao Zhenxu played his part in China – US “Ping Pong Diplomacy” relations. He held the role of Chinese Team Manager between 1985-1995. Thereafter, he worked as ITTF Technical Committee Chair between 1995-2009 and Vice President of the Chinese Table Tennis Association (CTTA) between 1995-2014. He was also Tournament Director at the 1995 World Championships in Tianjin and 2005 World Championships in Shanghai.

As Vice President of CTTA, Yao Zhenxu coordinated the hosting of several international tournaments and helped many international athletes to train in China, thus helping to develop and popularize the sport of table tennis in China and across the world.



New Discoveries - Old Treasures

Fabio's Fabuloso Finds



Fabio has become a true legend for his amazing ability to find 'the good stuff'. His well-trained eagle eye spotted some potential in a mixed lot of dusty rackets in a recent English auction.

After they arrived he carefully cleaned them and his hunch proved correct - he had indeed found 'new discoveries, old treasures', and they were ... fabulosos!

Lets have a look.

Left: a beautiful Briggs Barna

Below left: Bat with fine bulbous grip

Below right: Rare Vulliamy sandpaper bat

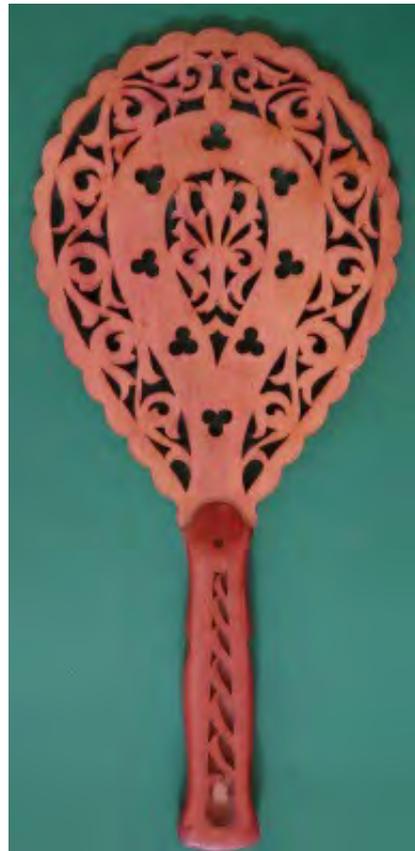




Above: Pimpled rubber wood bat with triangular head
Left: Wood bat with stylized grip & spiral pyrography



Above: Offset bat a la Fred Perry, with
finger notch
Right: Oval fretwork bat





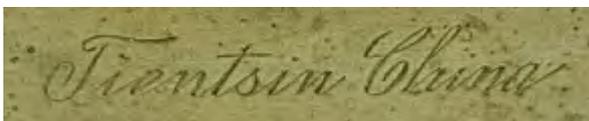
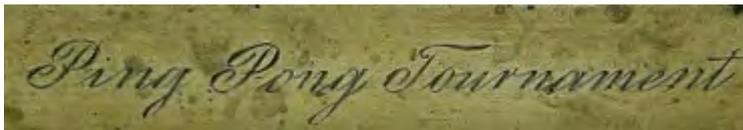
Above: Bulbous grip vellum drum racket
 Left: Bent wood strung 'Ping Pong' racket



Vera Dace bat. Vera was an English international who won 3 English Opens, & 3 Gold, 3 Bronze in World Championships, 1947-1950



Wood bat with ribbed blade



Tientsin was the old name for Tianjin

Maker's mark on bottom

Fine box used as a winner's prize for a Ping Pong tournament held in Tientsin, China. The Amerine Club was the new name for the old Tientsin Men's Club, changed at the end of World War II. There were several western settlements outside of Tientsin at the time. The lower right inscription is the maker's mark in Chinese characters. The translation of the symbols on the box lid:

pray for your own luck
 learn from the ancient wisdom
 colorful and shining
 endless waterflow with an everlasting mountain



Boxed set by R. Wylie Hill of Glasgow, with pair of large head vellum rackets with medium short handles. Especially rare are the Gossima style net holders, with the white cloth belt apparatus for securing the net under the table.





Award for the Victor Barna Cup, Helsinki. Barna was so popular & successful that many awards in his name were presented over the years.



Argentine announcement of Parlor-Tennis, with patent diagram, by E.I.Horsman Jr, 1890. Sets also exist with name Tiddledy Winks

New Discoveries, Old Treasures
Bruno Lancon (FRA)



Stiga Johnny Leach !

STIGA Johnny Leach

Weltmeisterschläger mit Griff, der mit Wildleder umwickelt ist. Genehmigt durch den SBTF (Schwedischer Tischtennis Verband). Preis für die Hardbatversion ist 10.5 SEK.



German advertisement for the Stiga Johnny Leach hardbat. Johnny won the World Singles title in 1949 and 1951, so a circa date for this bat is early 1950s



3-ply

ÄVEN DU
KAN NU FÅ
SPELA MED



VÄRLDSMÄSTARRACKETEN

I övrigt ingår i vår elitserie

Garret Nash's
amerikanska
offensivracket



Peggy McLean's
exklusiva VM-
modell med skett
i getskinn.

Johnny Leach

segraren vid VM i Stockholm 1949, har lämnat oss ensamrätt för Skandinavien för sin berömda originalracket, som han vann sitt VM-tecken med, och som han använder i alla tävlingar. Greppet är utfört i mockaskinn och slagytans kanter i plastikband.

STIG HJELMQUIST, TRANÅS

Tillverkar allt
i BORDTENNIS



Säljes endast genom
Järn- och Sporhandlare

Stiga advertisement for their Johnny Leach bat



'Splendid' bat



SSS Driver bat. S.B.T.F = Swedish Table Tennis Federation



Michel Haguener bat



Stigma Gold Star bat
Approved by SBTB

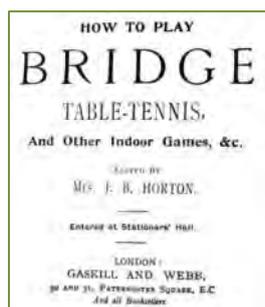


Stigma 'Puck' bat



A trio of books from 1902

by Alan Duke



This first of these was new to me when I discovered it whilst researching at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. I don't believe that it has previously appeared in any Table Tennis Bibliography, and feel it worthy of inclusion for a number of reasons. Firstly it's from the period of the very earliest publications on table tennis (1902 claimed by the Library), if nothing else it adds another variation on the name of the game (I hadn't seen Dining-Table Tennis used before, until its appearance in *TTH 86*, page 52!), and there's a quaint little sketch on the frontispiece!

HOW TO PLAY BRIDGE, TABLE-TENNIS, AND OTHER INDOOR GAMES

Edited by Mrs J B Horton.

Published by Gaskill and Webb, Paternoster Square, London.

32 pages, hard back.

Mainly covering Bridge, but a few pages allocated to Table Tennis and Halma.



Dining-Table Tennis.

So popular has Lawn Tennis become that the same game has been brought out for indoor play.

ARRANGING THE TABLE.

THE net is placed across the centre of the table, the strings coming from the top of the two uprights pass under the table, then when the net is well strained, the two ends are tied together.

The table should be about six feet by three feet.

The Drum Racquets will improve in elasticity, if they are slightly warmed by the fire, holding them at a safe distance.

Special care should be taken to have the net well strained, this will keep the uprights very firm.

Use only one of the balls at one time.

It requires a little practice before the player's judgment of the force required to strike the ball is acquired. After a short time this experience is gained and the players are soon able to keep the ball within the space of the table.

RULES FOR TABLE TENNIS.

- a. Two players take part in the game and stand at opposite ends of the table. The Server is the one who first delivers the ball, and the other, who endeavours to return it, is the Receiver.
- b. The Server should always deliver the ball from beyond his end of the table, holding the racquet below the wrist. This is called the service.

c. At the conclusion of the first game, the Receiver becomes Server, and the Server the Receiver, and so on alternately.

d. When the ball is served it must drop on the half of the table beyond the net to be in play, when the Receiver must endeavour to return the ball to his opponent's half of the table. If, however, the Server fails to deliver the ball into play, but hits it into the net or off the table, it counts one to the Receiver.

e. Different from Lawn Tennis there is no second Service.

f. In serving, if a ball touch a net in passing over, it is a let, when no score is registered, and the Server delivers the ball again.

g. If the *Receiver* fails to return the ball over the net and on to the other half of the table then *the server wins a stroke*.

h. When the *Server* fails to hit the ball over the net on to the other half of the table *the Receiver wins a stroke*.

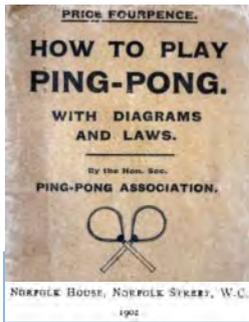
i. Volleying is not allowed, (i.e. striking the ball before it drops on the table).

j. The first stroke won by either player registers fifteen, and the second stroke won by either player also registers fifteen, making thirty.

The third stroke won by either player only counts ten, making forty for that player, and the fourth stroke won by a player is game, except in the event of both players having won three strokes each (forty all), when it is called deuce.

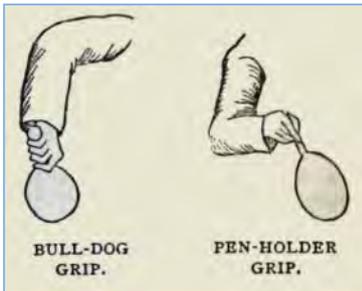
The next stroke won after deuce is called advantage to the player winning it, and if the same player also wins the next stroke (that is, wins two strokes in succession) he is the winner of the game, but if he fails to win the next stroke the score is again called deuce, and so on until either player wins two strokes in succession following the score of deuce, when the game is won by that player.

k. That player wins the set who first obtains six games.



The second book featured is better-known, although quite rare. Written by the Hon. Sec. of the Ping-Pong Association (G Washington Gray), its full title is *How to Play Ping-Pong, sub-titled With Diagrams and Laws, and Hints on How to Conduct Tournaments, Clubs, &c.*

A few extracts follow, including advertisements for Hamley Brothers and Jaques, with each naming the other as 'Jointly Concerned':



PING-PONG.
The original and only proper game.

HAMLEY BROS. & JAUQUES (Jointly concerned).

THE NEW WOOD BATS.

	EACH.
Championship all Black Bats (Quite new) ...	3/-
Corrugated Wood Ditts (Recommended) ...	2/-
Cork Face Bat (Special) ...	26
Cloth Face Bat (A novelty) ...	26
The Screw Bat, Sand-paper Face ...	26
Practice Wood Bats, Various ...	1/-
Ditto, Superior, with hard wood handles... ..	16
Ditto, with bound handles	2/-
The Middlesex Wood Bat, with cork handles	3/-

Ping-Pong Sets, 2, 6, 5/-, 7, 6, 10, 6, 12, 6 to 42/-
The Noted Bull Dog Bat, best vellum, 4/-
Postage Extra.

HAMLEY BROTHERS,
The Noah's Ark Toy Warehouse.
Head Office (Wholesale and Retail): 86 & 87, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.
94, Regent Street, W. 612, Oxford Street, W.
331, High Holborn, W.G. 88, New Oxford Street, W.C.
PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

! PING-PONG PROPER !

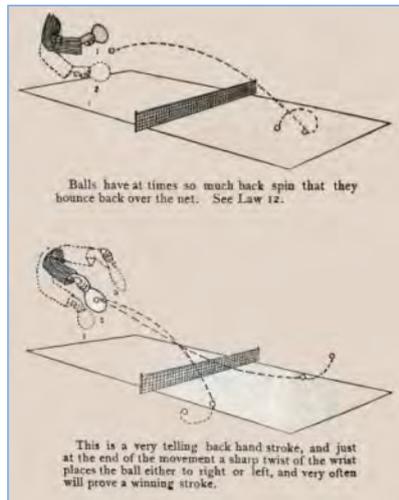
JAUQUES' MATCH QUALITY BALLS,
AS USED AT **QUEEN'S HALL**
AND BY ALL THE LEADING CLUBS AND PLAYERS.

Far superior in finish to any other balls yet produced.
Advantages over other makes:—Heavier, Stronger; No lines or ridges; Good Colour; Lasts longer; Roundness. Any deterioration will be replaced.

PRICES:
Match Ping Pong. Each dozen in Tube, per doz. **16.**
Gross lots, **15** •
2nd Choice. Stamped Ping-Pong, **13** per doz.

See that the balls bear the name Ping-Pong on each or they are not genuine.
Practice quality, **1/-** per doz

J. JAUQUES & SON, Ltd., and HAMLEY BROS.,
(Jointly concerned)
102, HATTON GARDEN, LONDON, E.C.



HAMLEY'S PATENT PING-PONG TABLES
UNQUALIFIED.
These tables are the best on the market. They are light, have a good playing surface painted green, (as approved for Tournaments) with a white line round. The legs fold inside, so as to take up very little space.

! PING-PONG PROPER !

JAUQUES' NEW PORTABLE TABLES,
AS USED AT QUEEN'S HALL AND LEADING TOURNAMENTS.
7 ft. by 4 ft. 70/- 8 ft. by 4 ft. 80/- Full size 9 ft. by 5 ft. 90/-
Full Price List on Application. Special Terms in Clubs.

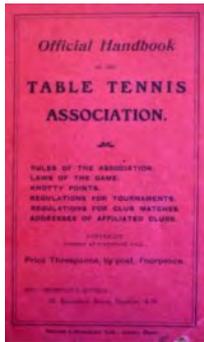
JAUQUES & SON, Ltd., Sole Makers, 102, Hatton Garden, London.
and HAMLEY BROS., Makers, London.

SCORING.

In Ping-Pong tournaments and matches the game is 20 points up.

When scoring by points, the service must change every five points, *i.e.*, after serving five times; and should the players wish to change ends, this is done when the united score reaches 5—15—25—35 points. However, for play in the home, the usual lawn tennis scoring seems to hold first place, and where there is no umpire the score is easy to remember. At the same time there is a great difference between the two systems of scoring which necessarily affects the play. The golfer will appreciate the difference when I say scoring by points represents the "medal game," and scoring by lawn tennis represents the "match game." In the former every mistake scores against you, so that fewer risks are taken.





The third example from that year is the *Official Handbook of the Table Tennis Association*. Reviews of this publication were featured in *Early Newspaper Articles* [TTH 90/46]. As always, advertisements are the source of much useful historical information, and this booklet includes examples from most of the major equipment suppliers of the time e.g. Slazenger, Mally, Ogden Smith, Ayres, Benetfink, Wootton, Gamage's, plus other smaller specialist dealers (with the exception, of course, of the Ping-Pong brigade above!). There were also advertisements for magazines: *Pastimes Review*, *Games Gazette*, and *The Table Tennis & Pastimes Pioneer* (this latter providing the basis for Steve Grant's 'story' about the Editor [TTC 67/12]).

The Tee-Tee Ball
Is now recognized by . . .
The Table Tennis Association as a reliable standard to be adopted for all Tournaments.
It is superior to any other ball, highly polished surface, very durable and accurate in size, weight and bound.
Price 1/6 per dozen.

The Whiff-Whaff Ball
Is a reliable and useful ball having the dull surface, made from the best materials and uniform to the requirements of the Table Tennis Association.
Price 1/2 per dozen.

Solid Table Tennis Bats.
The Patent Cork Face 3/6
The Composite with Vellum or Rubber Face 2/6

Sole Makers:
SLAZENGER & SONS,
Laurence Pountney Hill, Cannon Street, E.C.
And can be obtained from all dealers.
PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

F. H. AYRES, Manufacturer of all Sports and Games,
111, Aldersgate Street, LONDON, E.C.

TABLE TENNIS.
PORTABLE TABLES.
Patent applied for.

Firm and Rigid when fixed for play.

The Regulation **SEAMLESS BALLS.**

Best Make. Stamped F. H. Ayres.

The New FISH-TAIL BATTLEBORES
Lathier Bound Handle.

Illustrated CATALOGUE
on Application.

The **F. H. A. PATTERN BAT.**
Plain or Covered Face.
Wood or Cork Handle.
2/- each.

All Requisites for the Game, with Latest Improvements, to be obtained from all dealers.

TABLE TENNIS.
Tailby's p. Patent Folding Table.

OPEN.

Is portable and easily moved by few persons when open, not giving way in the centre, and when closed as shown in the Illustration is easily carried from Room to Room or to the Garden, by handles attached.

Is perfectly rigid, and will not sag or bend . . . when sat upon. . .

Made in all sizes from thoroughly seasoned wood, and finished in any style and colour.

CLOSED INTO SPACE 6-IN. THICK OVER ALL.

For further Particulars apply to—
EDWARD TAILBY,
76, Summer Row, BIRMINGHAM.
(xiv.)

J. R. MALLY & Co.,
Patenters and Manufacturers of the Latest
Improvements in Table Tennis Tables,
AND ALL ACCESSORIES,
15, GOSWELL ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

Patent Composite Table Tennis Tables from 26" to 58" wide. Regulate Size 58".

MALLY'S CELEBRATED PATENT:

Ball Bag Willow Bat	4/-	Ball Woaden Bat	2/-	Cork Covered Woaden Bat	3/-	Patent Covered Woaden Bat	3/6
Strong Ball Bag Bat	5/6	Woaden Woaden Bat	2/6	Perforated Covered Woaden Bat	3/6	Patented Woaden Bat	3/6
Ball Bag Terror Bat	5/6	Clasped Woaden Bat	2/6	Clasped Covered woaden Bat	2/6	Patented Iron Bat	1/- & 1/6
Ball Bag Iron Bat	2/-	Corrugated Woaden Bat	2/-	Sand Covered Woaden Bat	2/6	Perforated Iron Bat	1/- & 1/6

and the latest size of regulation size and shape, with short square handles.

MALLY'S P. PATENT:
New P. Patent Non-Sagging Square Bat
No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

New Feature: The 'Allblack' Wooden Bats. 2/6 each.
Specially made on the request of Prince of Wales.

53 DIFFERENT MAKES OF RATS TO SELECT FROM.

STERLING SILVER MOUNTED BATS FROM 4/6.

The **CLUB** Set is Nickel, made especially for Clubs, Public Rooms, Hotels, Restaurants, etc., regulation size and perfectly a real "SPORTING SET" for a TOY. Containing 3 Cork Balls, 3 Patent Covered Balls, 3 Ball Bag Bat, 3 Woaden Bat, 3 Ball Bag Terror Bat, 3 Ball Bag Iron Bat, 3 Ball Bag Willow Bat, 3 Ball Bag Square Bat, 3 Ball Bag Round Bat, 3 Ball Bag Oval Bat, 3 Ball Bag Heart Bat, 3 Ball Bag Star Bat, 3 Ball Bag Cross Bat, 3 Ball Bag Diamond Bat, 3 Ball Bag Triangle Bat, 3 Ball Bag Square Bat, 3 Ball Bag Round Bat, 3 Ball Bag Oval Bat, 3 Ball Bag Heart Bat, 3 Ball Bag Star Bat, 3 Ball Bag Cross Bat, 3 Ball Bag Diamond Bat, 3 Ball Bag Triangle Bat.

Price 25/- 6s.

The G.O.M. and the Olympic gymnast



By Graham Trimming (ENG)

About forty years ago I became aware that the Slough and District Table Tennis League, for which I was then Fixtures Secretary, was about to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. I decided to write a booklet about the history of the League and spent countless hours in Slough Library researching from the local newspapers. In the Slough Express newspaper dated 29 November 1935, within a report of an exhibition by international players at Slough Central Hall, I was surprised to find the following: "Mr. G. Ross, a local resident who took the first British table tennis team to Budapest before the war [Note 1], and who represented England against Wales in 1922 [sic], will also play a game against the new generation of players".

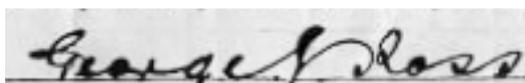
That intrigued me. Who was this Mr. G. Ross? In the intervening years I have come across his name sporadically in other publications but only recently have I decided to research this man properly. During this research, another name cropped up, P. E. Warner, so I added this second name to my enquiries.

George J. Ross and P. E. Warden

Despite being born in London, both lived, during the 1930s, in or near my home town of Slough
They played together during the 1930s in Slough
Both played during the first boom years of 1900-1904
Both were important figures in the post-World War I resurgence
Both were awarded the honour of Vice-President of the English Table Tennis Association
They sat on some of the same committees together
They were, ironically, even drawn to play against one another at the first World Championships
Both also excelled at sports other than table tennis

George James Ross

1877 Born in Hackney, London
1903 Runner-up in the UK TT Championships
1912 Won bronze Olympics medal for gymnastics
1916 Married Gwladys M. Morgan (1896-1952) in Wandsworth, London
1926 Member of English delegation to Berlin for the meeting that led to the formation of the ITTF
1926 Played in 1st World TT Championships
1945 Died in Slough aged 67



George James Ross was born on 1 December 1877 in Hackney, London, to parents George and Eliza (nee Bennett), the second of two children. George senior, who had been born in Scotland, was a wholesale haberdasher.

Eliza had been born in Slough to where George J and his wife later moved.



Lord Desborough presents the Daily Mirror Cup to James Thompson in 1922. George Ross is on the extreme left.

When the table tennis boom occurred in the early 1900s, George was in his mid-twenties. The first mention I have found of him is of being the only player to defeat the winner Smith in a tournament at Café Nero, London in February 1902. Ross was noted as playing a

“splendid game, and his hard hitting was most refreshing after the stone-walling game which now seems so much in vogue”. However, Ross only finished third having been beaten by Williams.

Ross must have been one of the leading players of this era as he was runner-up in the Gentlemen’s Singles at the United Kingdom Table Tennis Championships held at Crystal Palace in February and March 1903. Having won his preliminary section, Ross made it through to the final where, after a protracted struggle, he eventually bowed down to his more illustrious opponent, Arnold “Ping-Pong” Parker, 30-22, 30-29 (in those days a two-point lead was required to win a game, as now, but the score was entered 30-29). As a warm-up to the tournament, Ross was a member of the North London team that had beaten the Rest of London 67-33.

In the same championships of the following season (1903-04), in the event famously won by Percival Bromfield, Ross was unable to repeat his success of the previous year but did manage to win the Gentlemen’s Handicap despite having to spot twelve points start in the final to H. Willford.

During the years leading up to World War I, table tennis had a lean time in the UK and Ross found another sport to excel at: gymnastics. He featured in the Great Britain men’s all-round team at two Olympic Games, the team finishing eighth in 1908 in London and then gaining the bronze medal for a third-place finish in 1912 in Stockholm.

I have also seen references to Ross having represented England at rifle shooting but have so far not found any corroborative evidence for this.

Ross was employed by the Eastern Telegraphic Company Ltd as an accounts clerk. In 1908, by which time Ross had left the family home and was living in Bowes Park, and having already volunteered for the 7th Middlesex Regiment, he signed up for one year to the 14th (County of London) Battalion The London Regiment (London Scottish). Even though the original sign-up for was one year

only, Ross was called up for further military service by his regiment in 1914 and consequently saw service as an Acting Sergeant during World War I.

By 1911, at the age of 33, Ross was living in Wanstead, another part of London, with his aunt, uncle and three cousins. He is listed in the census of that year as the head of the household that also included a servant.

Ross then married, in 1916 at the age of 38, Gwladys Morgan, who was then only 20.



There is a famous photograph (*above: Ross is back row, furthest left*) of England’s first international table tennis team for the inaugural match against Wales in season 1922-23. Ross is included in the photo but noted as only reserve for this match. However, he did then gain full international honours in the matches during the following two seasons. In December 1923 he was a member of the England team that prevailed 500-366 with all ten England players scoring a maximum 50 points. Ross beat A.D. Matthews 50-47. The following season, in January 1925, England beat Wales 493-422 with Ross contributing a win over M.E. Lewis 50-44.

Of greater significance is the meeting in Berlin in January 1926 when Ross, Ivor Montagu and Bill Pope were the English representatives who met with officials from other European countries, a meeting that led to the formation of the International Table Tennis Federation. (*See TTC 64 for a photo, including Ross, of that meeting*).

Following on from that meeting, the first World Championships were staged in London in December 1926. George Ross was drawn to

play, in the Men's Singles, his future sparring partner P.E. Warden, whom he dispatched 21-6, 21-18, 21-13 in round one. However, he met his match in the next round, defeated by Trevor Coles from Cardiff. Ross partnered H.A. Bennett in the Men's Doubles and they lost in the third round to the Austrian team members Paul Flussmann and Munio Pillinger. In the Mixed Doubles, Ross and Joan Ingram had a bye into round two were they lost to the eventual finalists Roland Jacobi (Hungary) (the Men's Singles champion) and Miss G. Gleeson (St. Brides).

There exists also a photo of Ross arriving in Budapest with the England team for the World Championships in 1929 [see *Friday Photos, ETTA website, 1 July 2016*].

At some stage George and Gwladys moved to Slough where George engaged with the local table tennis league. In December 1935 he performed as Master of Ceremonies for an exhibition given by international players at Slough Central Hall. The following March, Ross, who was a member of the successful YMCA team in the Slough League, was included in a representative match for Slough against Uxbridge. A year later he captained Slough in a match against Ealing which Slough won 17-8. Then, in 1937, by now acting as Secretary of the Slough League, he won three matches as his YMCA team beat the Rest of the League 15-10.

George Ross died in Slough on 28 August 1945 just after the end of World War II in Europe, aged 67.

Philip Edgar Warden

1871 Born in Harrow, Middlesex
 1914 Reached semi-final of national badminton championships
 1915 Married Bertha Harriet Neal (1873-1939) in Islington, London
 1924 Civil Service TTA individual champion
 1926 Member of the 1st World Championships Organising Committee
 1961 Died in Lewisham, London aged 90



Philip Edgar Warden was born on 28 March 1871 in Harrow, a suburb in the north-west of London, to parents Benjamin and Kate (nee Wright), the eldest of seven children. Benjamin was a greengrocer by trade. "PEW" was always known in sporting circles by his initials; indeed Ivor Montagu, when writing Warden's obituary in 1961, claimed to have known him well, as the two had worked very closely together in the 1920s, and yet had been unaware of his first name. In the 1881 census PEW was listed by his parents as Edgar. It was not uncommon for children to be known by their second, rather than first, forename at that time.

By the time of the 1891 census, aged 20, PEW had moved out of the family home and was living as a boarder, occupying one room in a house owned by the Neal family in Highbury, Islington, now famous as the place where Arsenal FC play their home matches. Amongst the other residents of that house was Bertha Neal, daughter of the head of the household and who, a quarter of a century later in 1915, would become PEW's wife.

PEW was a keen contestant in table tennis and ping-pong tournaments in the craze of 1901-4. A report from the first large tournament, that at Queen's Hall in December 1901, includes mention of a gentleman playing in "a complete set of flannels, very open at the neck". PEW later claimed that this was a reference to himself and that he had started his own dress campaign. Incidentally, PEW lost to the eventual winner, Vining, in that competition.

Warden describes the racket he used in the early days as "home-made, of pimple studded rubber with a layer of thick velvet pasted between the surface and the wood".

Unlike George Ross, PEW was never quite honoured with international selection, although he was a traveling reserve for the match against Wales in 1923-24. He did, however, as one of the builders of the [English] Table Tennis Association during the early 1920s, help to formulate the rules of the Association, and he also helped found the Civil Service Association and its league in 1921-22.

The title of this article refers to the "G.O.M.", the "Grand Old Man", of English table tennis, a much-repeated title awarded to a man who eventually lived ninety years.



PEW was one of three members on the organizing committee for the first World Championships, the others being Ivor Montagu and Bill Pope, both of whom later became rather more famous. The programme for the event states: "PEW is the G.O.M. of English table tennis; the winner of numerous competitions in the past and a civil servant, he won the Civil Service championships not so long ago. He patiently retrieves everything with a soft-surfaced racket, often recovering from seemingly impossible positions". Nevertheless, PEW (St. Bride's) was no match for George Ross (Herga) in the first round of the Men's Singles in that first World Championships.

In 1934, Bill Pope paid a glowing tribute to PEW describing him as "a most popular sportsman, sympathetic friend, keen enthusiast and selfless worker". He went on to describe PEW's play in exhibitions "where crowds used to get ecstatic at his long distance defence".

PEW lived in Islington, London for many years and until at least 1931. However, in the December 1951 edition of "Table Tennis", PEW states that his most enjoyable time in table tennis was during the period 1932-38 when he would play with George Ross twice a week, October to May, in a hall in Slough. By this time, of course, PEW was over sixty years old and had been married to Bertha for a couple of decades. In the late thirties PEW gave his address as "Sunnyside", Eton Road, Dorney Reach, Taplow. Dorney Reach is a small village built along the banks of the River Thames about three miles west of Slough. Unfortunately, Bertha died in 1939 and the 1939 national register shows PEW, now a widower, living at "Sunnyside" with two members of Bertha's family and a servant.

Like George Ross, P.E. Warden did not restrict his sporting activities to table tennis. Indeed, he was perhaps more successful in other racquet sports. He was a keen tennis player and once even played against Rene Lacoste, the famous French winner of seven Grand Slam singles titles including twice at Wimbledon, in the North London hard court championships at Highbury. In doubles, his regular partner was none other than Ivor Montagu! However, it was in badminton that PEW excelled most, reaching the semi-final of the Gentlemen's Singles in the All-England Badminton Championships of March 1914.

Both George Ross and P.E. Warner were decorated with the honour of Vice-President of the English Table Tennis Association. Their paths must have crossed many times even before their table tennis games in Slough in the 1930s. In 1922 they were both founder members of the committee of the All-England Club. A year later they were both members of the All-England Club team, captained by Ross, that played a representative match against Eastbourne and Brighton at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne. The two also formed a committee along with Ivor Montagu and O.V. Forbes to achieve uniformity of rules and the change of name from the Ping Pong Association to Table Tennis Association.

Also in the twenties, in addition to ironically being drawn to play each other in the first

World Championships, they served together for some years on the organizing committee for the Middlesex Table Tennis Championships an event which was held at the Herga Club, famous for being the club where Fred Perry also played. PEW was one of the referees for this event. An article in the Uxbridge and West Drayton Gazette in March 1926 described the “most stimulating event in the long but interesting programme was that between C.G. Mase (Whitfield) and P.E. Warden (Highbury): the latter played a remarkably good game for a man of his advanced years and by his ability got back to some of Mase’s smashing shots which would have beaten many a young player”.

P.E. Warden died in Lewisham, London on 11 July 1961 at the age of 90 after a long illness that had left him nearly deaf and with failing eyesight. He had given up playing table tennis at the age of 79 when he lost to his neighbour: “I knew it was then time to pack up!”.

Note 1:

I have yet to find anything more that could tell the story of the first British team to travel to Budapest. This was, perhaps, for the Hungarian Open Championships. Can anyone add anything more to this story?

Sources:

Slough, Windsor and Eton Express
“Table Tennis”: the ETTA magazine
“Table Tennis Collector”: especially the fantastic research by Alan Duke
“Table Tennis and Pastimes Pioneer”
World Championships programme 1926
English Open Championships programme 1952
British Newspaper Archive
Ancestry.co.uk
ETTA handbooks
Wikipedia

Graham has created a photo album of his collection, on flickr:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/ttcollector/albums>

‘Elimination matches for the World Championships’



Our friend Hans-Peter Trautmann (GER) sends this wonderful photo, featuring national trials to qualify for an early World Championships. Peter always has an eagle eye for finding high quality items - thank you for sharing!

EARLY PIRATED IMAGES

By Jorge Arango

Continuation

This is the twelfth and last article of my series about early pirated images.

65. PICK-ME-UP

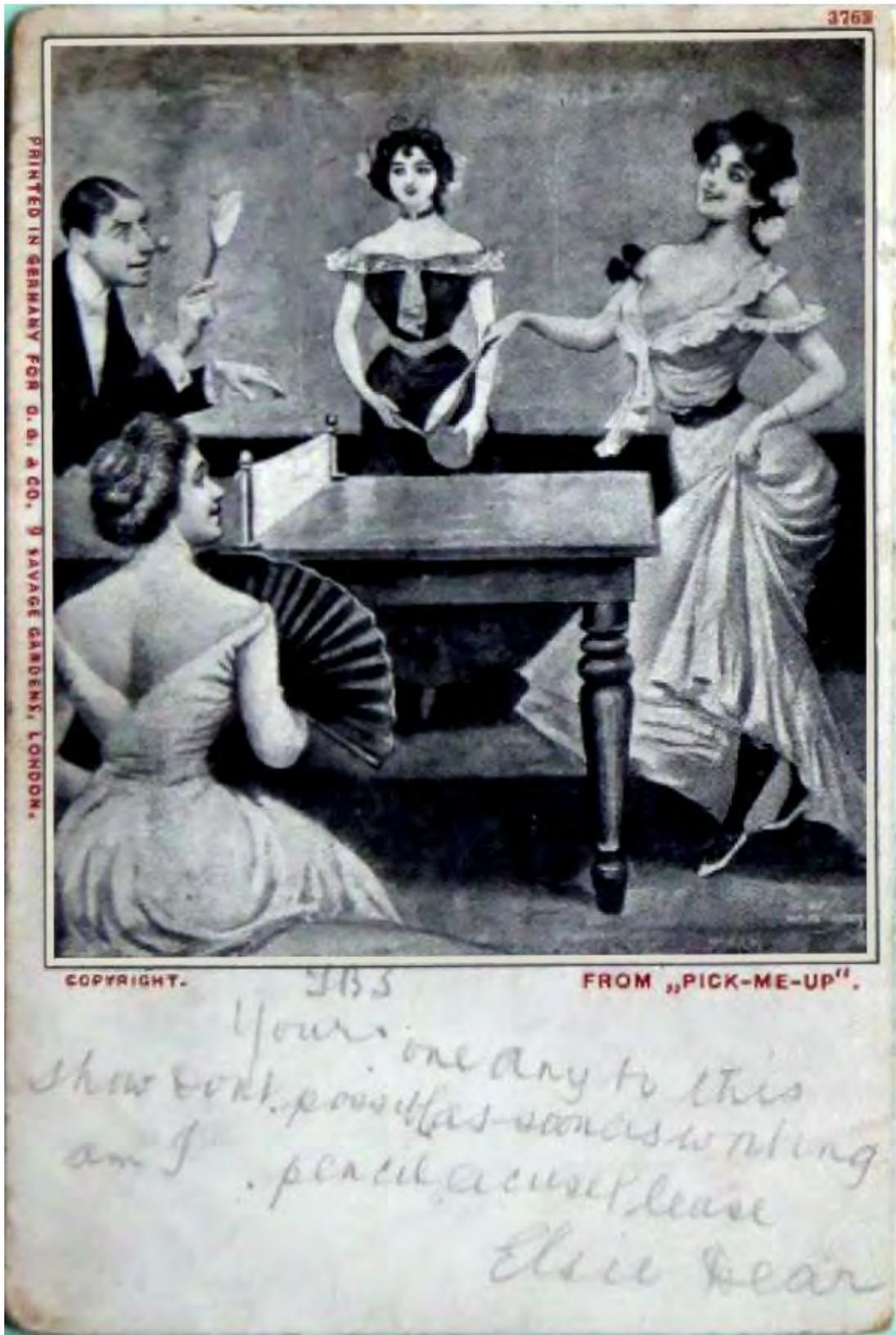
Pick-me-up

8 February 1902



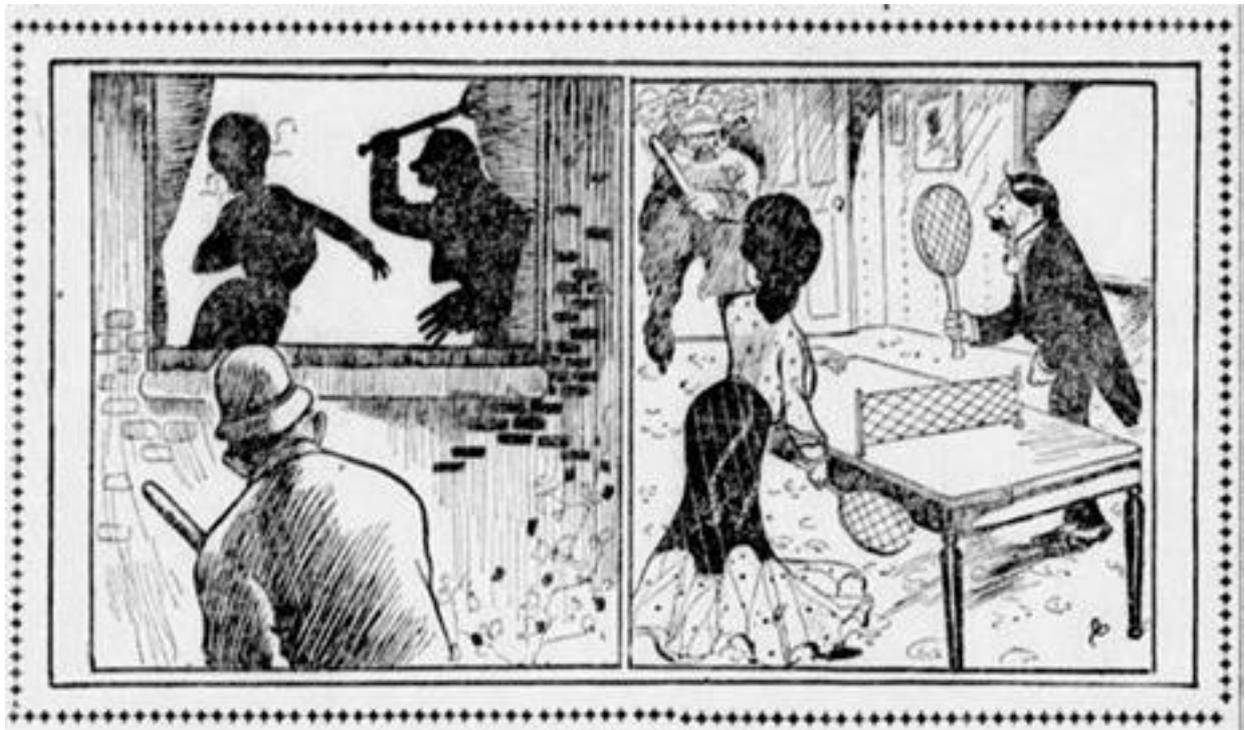
One in the eye.

Tilly: "The great thing about ping-pong, Captain, is to keep your eye on the ball."
The Captain (as the ball gets there): "Then I must be getting a champion player."

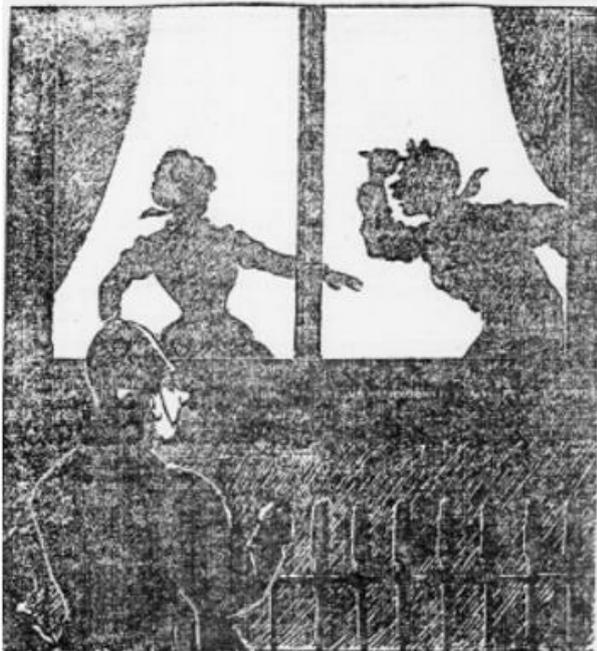


Postcard presented in TTH 92 by Martin Holland.

67. HIS FIRST TRAGEDY



HIS FIRST TRAGEDY.



The shadows on the blind revealed to Jorkins a fearful tragedy in progress.



Without a moment's hesitation the grave and intelligent officer forced his way in, and found Mr. and Mrs. Dovey practicing ping-pong.-Scraps

Above. A version of a cartoon, May, 1902. **Below:** Another version, from the St. Louis Republic, June 01, 1902. I think the above image is the original one.

UPDATES

I found several images of the pirated ones already presented. I am including some of them.

1. GOSSIMA 1898 AD.

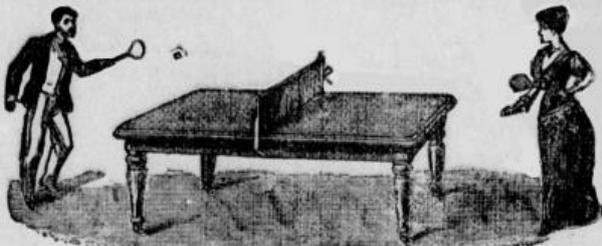


GOSSIMA.

Original ad.

The original image, presented in TTC 82.

PING PONG

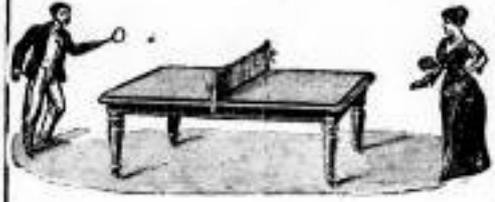


SETS \$3.00 \$5.00 \$2.00
 \$4.00 \$6.00 \$15.00
 \$4.50 \$10.00 \$20.00

BALLS
65 cents per dozen
post paid

These prices include freight prepaid to your nearest steamer landing.

THE MAIL ORDER **HOUSE** **PEARSON, & POTTER CO. LTD.**
Corner Union and Hotel Streets
P. O. Box 784, Honolulu, H. T.



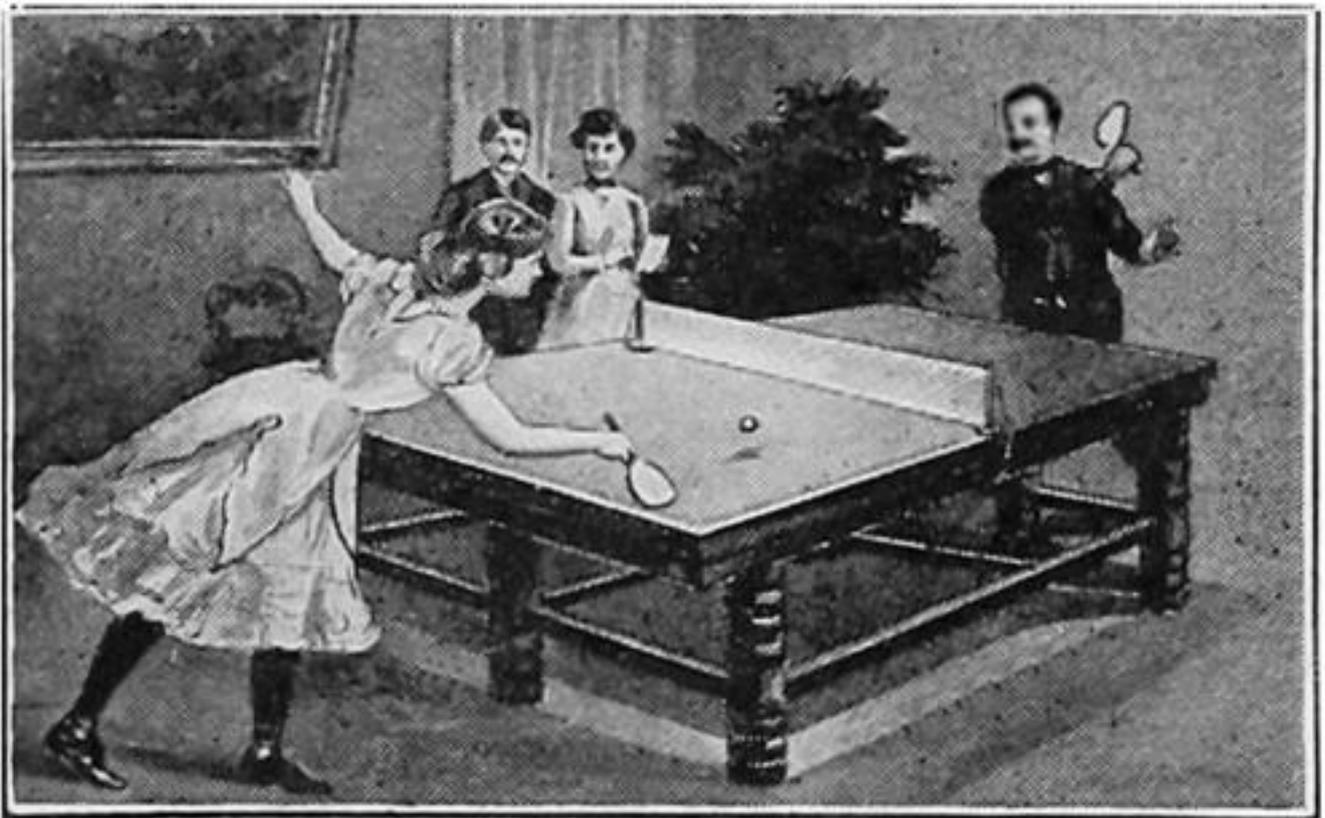
PING PONG
or table tennis

The game that has made such a furor the world over. We have just unpacked a new shipment.

Pearson & Potter Co., Ltd.
Union and Hotel Sts. Phone Main 827.

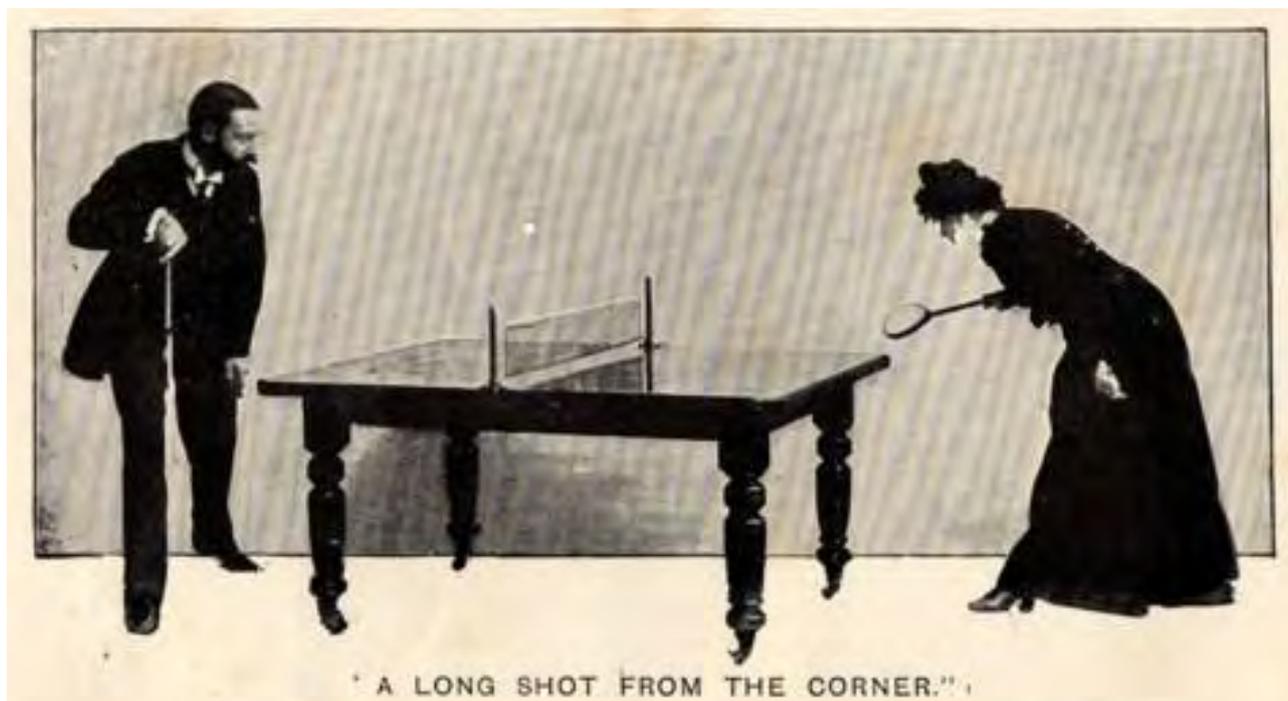
Below: Two more ads.

6. SPALDING'S PIRATED IMAGE

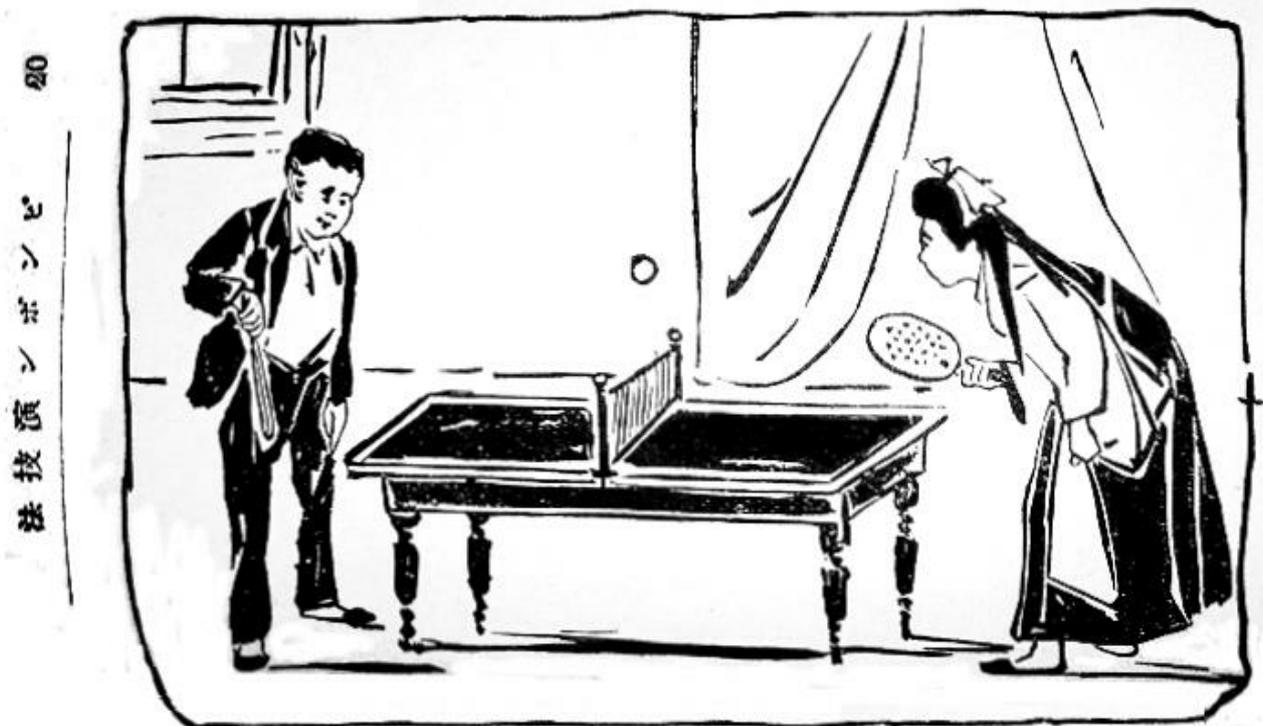


Above: An image from Internet. **Below:** Image presented in TTC 83. There are several differences between both images. Do you see why the Spalding's image is a pirated one?

4. STANLEY WHITE'S IMAGE

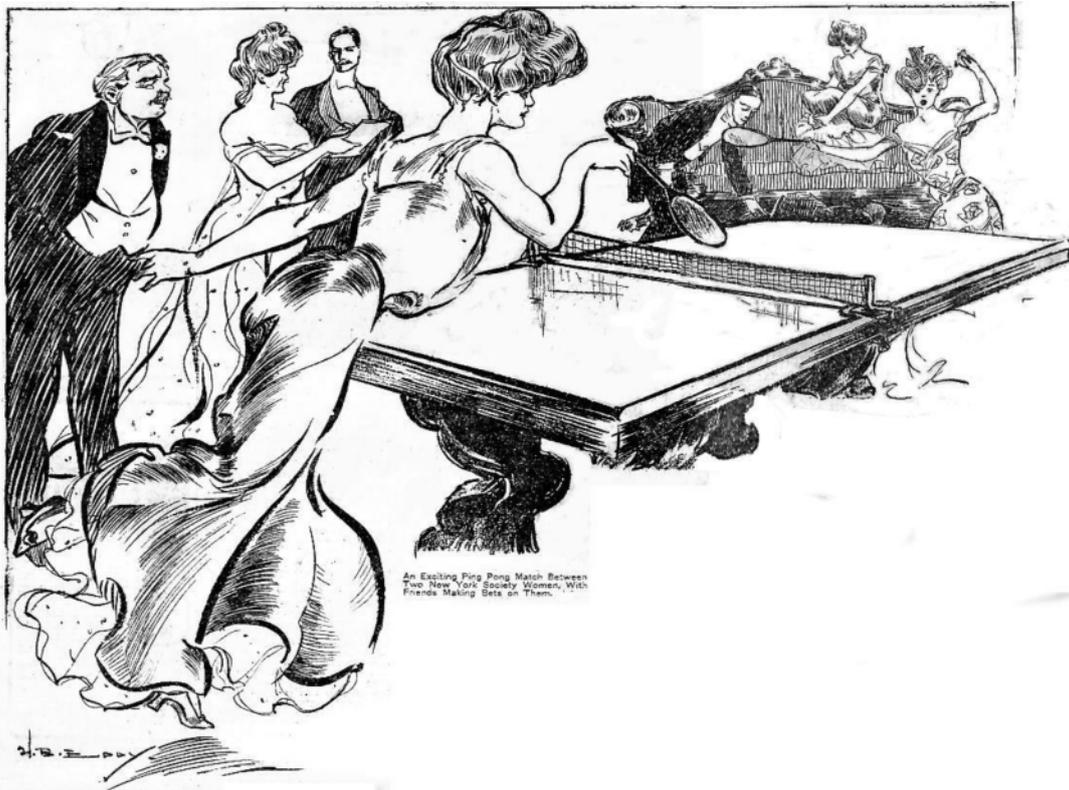


The original image, presented in TTC 82.



Below: Image from a Japanese book.

9. THE PREVAILING CRAZE



The original image, presented in TTC 83.

We Are Agents for "Ping Pong."

The greatest game of the century—every body is playing it. Not to play "Ping Pong" is to be socially ostracised. There is but one kind of "Ping Pong" and we alone have it. Securely boxed, with set of rules for playing, priced at per set from..... **\$2.50 to \$10.00**

The Hamburger Store

Below: Pirated Image from Steve Grant's book "Ping Pong Fever."

3. STANLEY WHITE'S IMAGES



BY STANLEY WHITE

The original image, presented in TTC 84.



The original image was many times pirated and modified. In other images the words "Ping Pong" were suppressed and the rackets and balls were changed.

5. LUCIEN DAVIS



The original image, presented in TTC 82.

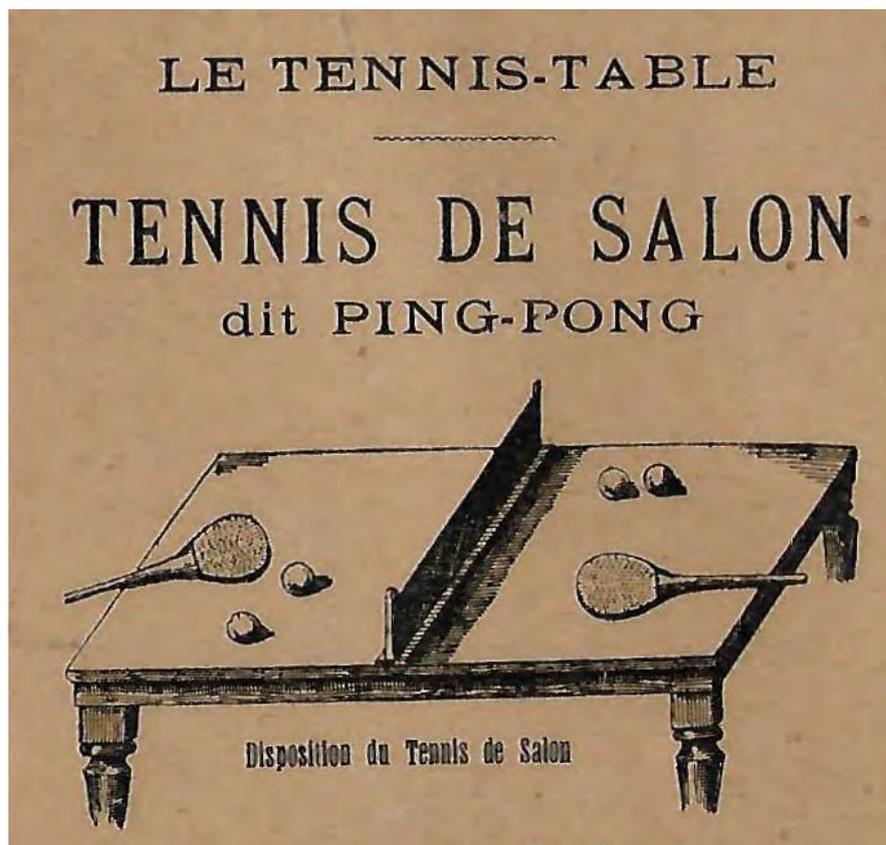
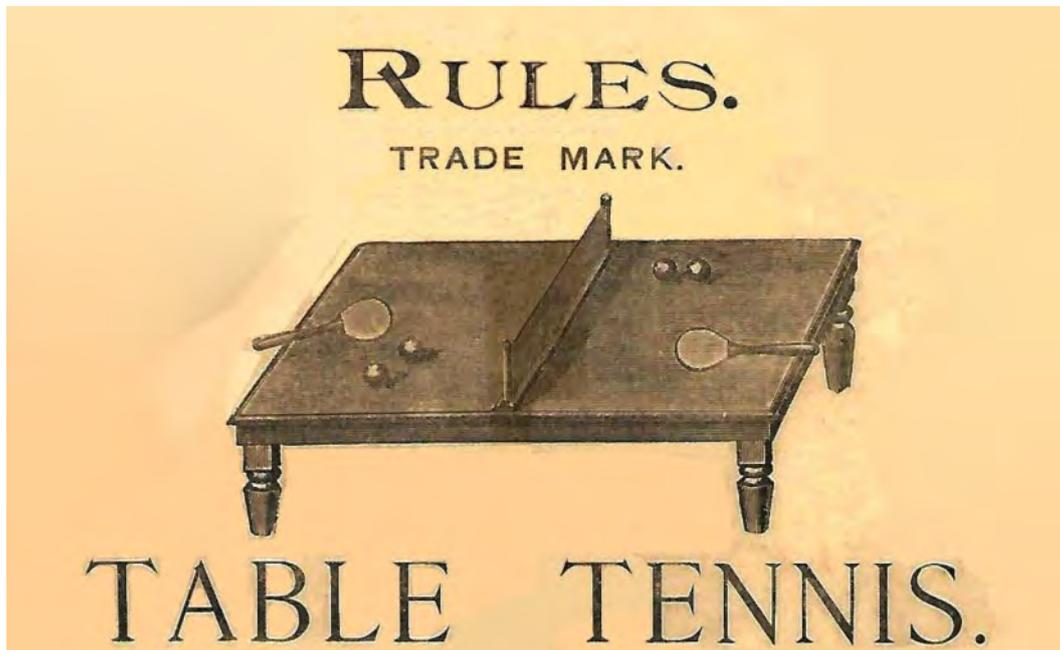
LONDON SOCIETY MAKES TABLE TENNIS



THE FASHIONABLE GAME

Below: Image presented by Steve Grant in TTC 84.

12. AYRES' IMAGE

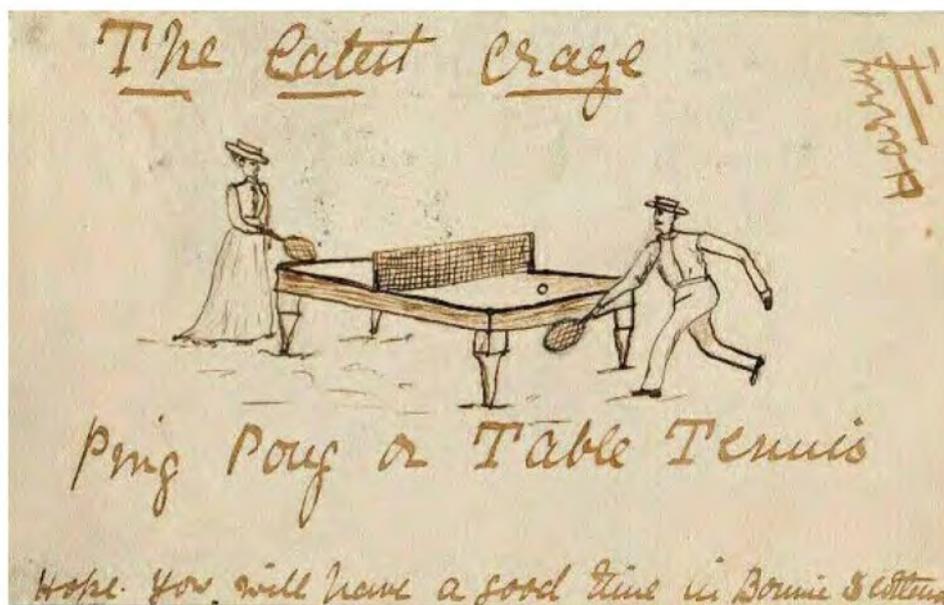


Two pirated images from Ayres' image, presented in TTC 85.

10. DAVENPORT'S PIRATED IMAGE



The original image, presented in TTC 84.



Below: Postcard presented in TTH 91 by Chuck Hoey. This postcard would be the earlier posted one!

Editors note: I am sure that I speak for all our readers in offering our congratulations to Jorge Arango - we are grateful for your fine research series about pirated images!

"Read All About It" – PART 10 (1914 to March 1922)

by Alan Duke

This part in the series continues the sections from the previous issue, this time looking at the war years, when 'ping-pong' provided a popular form of relief from the horrors of the time, up to the re-formation of the Ping-Pong Association and the All-England Club (including a Heath Robinson 'invention' along the way!). Meanwhile, domestic events and matches continued their popularity.

③ The War Years

1914

On 7th February, a match was played between Sunderland and Hartlepool.¹²⁹

A Ping-pong match was played on 11th February at St Ambrose' Club in Bournemouth against St Swithin's, ending in a win for the home team by 71 points.¹³⁰

On 20th February, Andrew Donaldson retained his Sunderland title by defeating R Rutter 50-45, with "splendid placing and deceptive hitting" coupled with a "stonewall defence". He suffered only 3 match defeats in 10 years (two in English Championships, one in the Sunderland League), and won the North of England Championships "for the last two years".¹³¹

In Coventry, on 24th March, Hillfields PSA Institute visited Cross Cheaping YMCA for an enjoyable evening of 'Inter-Club Matches', including Ping Pong (YMCA won 6-0), Billiards and Draughts.¹³²

At the Exeter YMCA in April it was reported that "ping pong is always in evidence", and the A team "have carried off the championship and have gone through the season without losing a single match".¹³⁴

17th April: At the Masonic Bazaar in the Linenhall Masonic Rooms, Ballymena, the "Ladies of No. 2 Stall will give a **PROGRESSIVE PING-PONG TOURNAMENT**". "Do not miss this Unique Entertainment."¹³⁵

23rd May: At Yarmouth YMCA "Indoor games had continued in popularity, particularly that of ping-pong, keen contests being held nightly and the table being in great demand".¹³⁷

At the Floral Bazaar and Garden Fete held in the Rectory Grounds, Coningsby, on 29th July "Among the games played on the lawn was ping-pong".¹³⁸

Newcastle Journal

14 August 1914

Newcastle YMCA erected a billiard table and ping-pong table "for the special use of the soldiers" located in the city following Lord Kitchener's Call to Arms.

A general meeting of the Sunderland & District Ping-Pong Union was called for 4th September at the YMCA to arrange fixtures for the season.¹³⁶

The Standard, London

1 October 1914

At their Ashtead, Surrey, HQ, troops of the 4th Battalion, Public Schools Brigade of the Royal Fusiliers, were billeted in houses, where "in one the game of "ping-pong" has been revived and is played with great gusto".

On 28th November, members of Wall Street Institute visited Warwick Lane Social Club, Coventry, for Inter-Club Games. [The home team won the ping-pong 9-7.]¹³⁹

1915

Belfast Evening Telegraph

12 January 1915

PING-PONG TOURNAMENT.

"Ping-pong, ping-pong," how the sound recalls the years ago when it first was played, and took our homes by storm; when everything was different when war was but a thing of history, or at most so remote a possibility as to be counted almost impossible, and our soldiers were—to most of us—but ornamental points of colour; when as we passed along any street of dwelling-houses of an evening, the rapid "plonk" of the play, and merry voices and laughter of the young people came through almost every lighted window, making one feel, if lonely, very lonely indeed; or, if happy, gladder still that so many people seemed also to be enjoying themselves. Now the lively little game comes up again, and is a very effective means of giving aid to some branch of war's great requirements. No one has time to be lonesome now or think very much about themselves; everyone is trying to help others, and those who plan and organise, thus giving to many more a chance of doing their share, deserve much praise.

The ping-pong tournament held in Fortwilliam Lecture Hall on Saturday afternoon and evening was a decided success, the ladies in charge ... mutually assisting each other to make it so.

The hall was prettily decorated with flags, bunting, and palms, with seats conveniently arranged for the spectators, and from the opening hour to the close there was no slackening of players or onlookers.... Amongst the players several were very skilful, and came from considerable distances to take part in the tournament ... and the proceeds of the entertainment are in aid of the Ulster Motor Ambulance and comforts for the North Belfast Division.

Folkestone Herald

30 January 1915

THE SOLDIER AT LEISURE.

The passer-by in the streets of Folkestone and neighbouring localities this winter frequently notices inscriptions on many buildings which were not to be seen a short twelve months ago.

The two words, "Soldiers' Club," the sign now so often displayed, reminds the observer that among other changes in the normal life of this country brought about by the present gigantic struggle in which the nation is engaged is the establishment of a new social institution, which has, although in existence but a few months, already come to be accepted as part of the ordinary features of the borough.

EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

The clubs are designed to meet the needs of the hosts of young men now training in Kitchener's Army during their leisure hours. ... A visitor to one of the chief and most representative of the soldiers' clubs in the town, the Woodward Club, on entering the large hall on a recent evening found it full of soldiers, all engaged in various pursuits. The room, brightly illuminated, well warmed, and gaily decorated, presented an animated and happy scene. There were miniature billiard tables, each with its quota of players, and the click of the balls mingled with the sounds from a neighbouring table, where a keenly contested game of table tennis—the erstwhile highly popular “ping-pong”—was in progress.

8th January: Referring to YMCA facilities provided for the troops, “All these halls or huts are well equipped with games of every possible kind, from the billiard table to ping-pong”.¹⁴⁰

22nd January: For the arrival of the military in Yeovil, arrangements for entertainment included the Wesleyan church rooms being “fitted out as a soldiers' institute, provision being made for reading and writing, bagatelle, ping pong and other table games”, “all ... well patronised by the Tommies”.¹⁴¹

6th February: The vast White City camp included a Recreation Room, run by the YMCA, with “a ping-pong table, at which a fierce fight is progressing”.¹⁴²

13th February: “St Martin's Church Room and Men's Club has been thrown open to H.M. Troops stationed in the locality.” In a room adjoining the Main Hall were two fine billiard tables and a ping-pong board.¹⁴³

19th February: A YMCA War Emergency Fund appeal was made for help for their 20 Huts in France and 600 Centres in this Country in order “To provide Games—Draughts, Dominoes, Ping-Pong, Bagatelle, Billiards”.¹⁴⁴

19th February: in the basement of the YMCA Cambridge HQ in Alexandra Street “the discovery was made that “ping-pong” is still popular, and the khaki-clad combatants had a critical, outspoken audience”.¹⁴⁵

London Evening News

31 March 1915

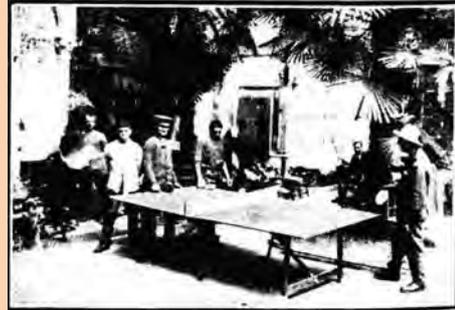
**THE SOLDIERS' CLUB
AT WOOLWICH.**
Hints for Other Garrison
Towns.

Following praise from numbers of soldiers and a request from a prominent sergeant drill instructor at Woolwich, a brief description of the Woolwich Soldiers' Club (“no old-established institution; it is a product of the war”) was given “in the hope that it may be taken as an example in other districts where large numbers of troops are stationed”. “The Borough Council offered the use every night of the public part of the Town Hall ... an appeal was made by the mayor for gifts of cash, games, ...”. Two full-sized ping-pong tables were part of the ready response and were installed in rooms adjoining the large hall.

23rd April: A letter from a soldier in the Warwickshire Regiment described their position in the trenches: “We have nice little dug-outs to sleep in, and we make them as comfortable as we can. I think a bagatelle and ping-pong table would improve the furniture a bit”.¹⁴⁶

23rd April: A letter from the C.O. of the Welsh National Hospital, Netley, made the plea: “A ping-pong table, a bagatelle table, and a miniature billiard-table are all much wanted for the patients' recreation-room” for the “wounded and sick soldiers from France”.¹⁴⁷

8th May: At the YMCA Hut at Cooden “Among the games there are ... ping-pong tournaments (each tournament keenly contested)”.¹⁴⁸



10th June: “Playing ping-pong in the greenhouses” (of “the late Mr. Chamberlain's residence given over to the wounded” as a Hospital).¹⁴⁹

June: A letter from a soldier of the Australian Expeditionary Force on life aboard the troopship whilst travelling via Colombo and Suez: “Parades were discontinued for the time being, and ping-pong became very popular, several sets being unearthed”.¹⁵⁰

3rd July: The YMCA recreation tent at Bowood Camp includes a billiard table, bagatelle, ping-pong, etc.”¹⁵¹

On the 3rd November, an Inter-Club match between the [Coventry] YMCA and Warwick Road Institute took place. Billiards, draughts, ping-pong and chess were contested, with the YMCA winning the ping-pong 10-1.¹⁵⁵

22nd December: One of the wholly unexpected consequences of the war is a revival of ping-pong. London dealers in games and toys agree that there has been a sudden and amazing spurt in ping-pong sets as Christmas presents.¹⁵²

27th December: An “At Home” was held at the West Teignmouth Parish Hall to all soldiers and sailors in Teignmouth. A ping-pong tournament was one of the many attractions.¹⁵³

31st December: A visitor reporting of an inspection of Church Army recreation huts in France, just after a German shell had landed and shattered a portion of the roof of the canteen, found in one of the huts, typical of the rest “a piano going at one end, boxing proceeding at the other, ‘ping-pong’ in the middle...”.¹⁵⁴

Illustrated War News

17 November 1915

OFFICERS AMUSING THEMSELVES AMIDST THE
ETERNAL SNOWS OF THE TRENCHES.



PING-PONG AT THE ITALIAN FRONT

EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

The Italian Army, officers and men alike, are noted for their coolness and courage under all conditions, and their happy temperament prompts them to lighten the stress of war by such mild diversions as are possible in the intervals of fighting. Our photograph shows a group of Italian officers indulging in a ping-pong tournament amidst the eternal snows of the Trentino, where Italy is carrying out her vigorous campaign with constantly increasing success. The high spirit and invincible good humour of the Armies of all the Entente Allies are persistently expressing themselves in those small things which count for much in keeping up the *moral* [*sic*] of troops in action; and such scenes as this are of good augury for their ultimate and complete success.—[Photo. by Brocherel.] [TTC 69/6]

1916

4th January: At the Church of England Men's Society Soldiers' Club, "Games of various descriptions are at the asking of ... the 'men in khaki' visiting Cardiff", including ping-pong.¹⁵⁶

10th January: A Church Army Recreation Club for soldiers, capable of accommodating 200 men at a time, has been started upon a canal boat plying upon the Flemish canals. A piano, a gramophone, "ping-pong" outfit, and boxing gloves, etc., are carried by this cheery club boat in Flanders.¹⁵⁷

13th January: At The Front. Catering for the Soldier. Letter from a Tommy in France: Where I am now we have a Y.M.C.A. tent, and it would do one good to see how they cater for we soldiers who are either wounded or sick. There are all sorts of games, including ping-pong, ...¹⁵⁸

15th January: A Students' Sale and Concert was held in the United College Hall, St Andrews, to help Belgian refugees. Side shows included a ping-pong tournament.¹⁵⁹

23rd February: "A very interesting Ping-Pong match between Diss Young Men's Friendly Society and the Lovat Scouts took place" in the Victoria Hall, with the YMFS victors 14-4 in the 6-a-side competition.¹⁶⁰

16th March: PING PONG BEHIND THE LINES.

A cropped version of the photo above, Ping-Pong at the Italian Front, was published, with the caption: "Though dead in England, it is a favourite game of the Italian soldier, and the picture shows a championship contest in the valley of —, behind the firing line."¹⁶¹

Yorkshire Evening Post

6 May 1916

With four days off duty in late April, one "Warrior's Relaxations in France" included, in the company of a French-speaking colleague who had lived in the area for two or three months, "an entree into many delightful houses unknown to the casual visitor. Under his guidance, then, I have even been enabled to renew my ancient skill at the ping-pong table! I feel certain that, whatever terrifying pictures you formed of my doings out here, you never for a minute thought of my smiting the nimble pilule up and down and—horrid thought!—being thoroughly well beaten by a fair daughter of France. Of course I haven't got my eye in yet—it must be three years since I last played, if not more—but I'll beat her before I've finished, though it will be some game when I do. Yesterday I foresook the ping-pong bat for the tea-cup, and paid a visit to our late mess...

8th June: **Ping-Pong Again.** A hostess to a large contingent of convalescent soldiers ... found in the billiard-room cupboard the other day a set of ping-pong and introduced the game to her

guests, many of them seeing it then for the first time. They are so delighted with it that now they toss pennies to know who shall play next.¹⁶²

Penrith Observer

26 September 1916

Report from a pastor engaged in the work of the Y.M.C.A. at a base in France. "Now there are over 2,000 Y.M.C.A. huts scattered over the various theatres of war where British soldiers are found. These huts are not only found at the bases, but many of them are right in the danger zone, immediately behind the trenches, amid shot and shell. ...

It may not be generally known, but it was the recreative side of our work that first paved the way to the great popularity enjoyed by the Y.M.C.A. in its work among soldiers. I think it was Mr. Yapp, the national secretary, who first hit upon the idea of having Y.M.C.A. huts and marquees in connection with the military training camps. But for some time the men fought shy of them and it was thought that the whole scheme was doomed for failure. This was in the days when the game of ping-pong was so popular, and for want of something better to do the men who were interested in the first Y.M.C.A. place erected were whiling away the time by playing a game. A soldier happened to pass that way, and being himself enthusiastic about the game, watched the players for a short time. He was soon asked to join in a game, and he was so surprised that he at once exclaimed, "Why, is it for us?" Being answered in the affirmative, he went to the door and shouted to his mates, "Come along, boys: there's ping-pong here, and it's for us." From that day to this the Y.M.C.A. has been a popular resort for soldiers in time of peace and time of war."

11th November: Roffey YMCA Camp at Horsham included "billiards, bagatelle, ping-pong (not out-of-date in Camp), table games, and heaps of good literature".¹⁶³

23rd December: An account of the work of the Church Army and the War reported that they "had had more than 80 huts under shell fire.... It cost £300 to build a hut and £100 to equip it ... ping-pong appeared to be a favourite game in the recreation huts."¹⁶⁴

1917

2nd January: A most successful ping-pong tournament was held in the Town Hall, Ballymoney, the proceeds being in aid of the local War Hospitals Supply Depot. Over one hundred entries were received, and many exciting finishes were witnessed.¹⁶⁵

16th January: "A very enjoyable evening was spent in the new "hut" adjoining the Bicester Red Cross hospital, the occasion being a games tournament between the patients and nurses of the hospital and the Bicester O.V.R." The billiard, ping pong, and other tables were well lit by gas, and at ping pong the nurses were often too skilful for their opponents.¹⁶⁶

19th January: Histon Institute: A new ping-pong club has been started and a trial handicap is already in full swing. Some 30 members have joined, and the game promises to exceed even its former popularity.¹⁶⁷

3rd July: The Sheffield Girls' Patriotic Club reported that "ping-pong is a favourite amusement".¹⁶⁸

26th May: The Yarmouth YMCA also reported that their "two ping-pong tables have been in constant demand during the long winter evenings".¹⁶⁹

26th July: A Garden Fete and Social at Cheshunt Congregational Church, Hitchin, included a ping-pong competition.¹⁷⁰

6th August: The Bank Holiday Grand Garden Fete and Dance at Stoke Rochford Hall included Modern Ping-Pong among the amusements.¹⁷¹

EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Sheffield Daily Telegraph

2 November 1917

When a battalion has completed its tour of duty in the trenches it goes either into rest billets some few miles behind the line, or into "support," only a short distance in the rear, where it is instantly available to meet any sudden exigency.

It was in this intermediate stage that I came across a Territorial battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. ... When so near the line, it is impossible to provide the men with so much room in their quarters as can be afforded when they get further back, but the best is made of such wrecked cottages and desolated farmsteads as the guns have left standing. ... There is a well-stocked reading room, and a games room, in which a large ping-pong table is conspicuous.

15th December: At the Congregational Canteen, Thanet, "Right in the centre of the room an exciting game of Ping-Pong was in progress. The game is in for a great revival at this canteen, and enjoyable tournaments are held from time to time."¹⁷²

1918

Yorkshire Evening Post

17 January 1918

PING-PONG AFTER BATTLE.

In France (writes Mr. Philip Gibbs) our men are making the most of their rest by every kind of game that goes into a back yard, or a billet, or a field behind the lines. Officers and men are reviving the parlour games of their boyhood—not a very ancient memory for some of them—and gallant fellows who assaulted German pill-boxes under machine-gun fire challenge each other to ferocious encounters of ping-pong and badminton...

Nottingham Evening Post

25 January 1918

THE SOCIAL SIDE OF LIFE AT THE FRONT.

The fighting men, thank heaven, are not always fighting, and from the coast to the lines even during great battles there are thousands of soldiers—infantry, engineers, cavalry, tank units, every branch of the service—billeted in French and Flemish villages, and making the best of life within narrow limits. ...

The war is long, so long that it is no more to be taken as an episode but as life itself, so that officers and men take what they can get out of it, put as much as they can into it, and adapt themselves to its social opportunities. ... There are great nights in the officers' messes ... four [officers] fought ferociously at ping-pong, which has come into its own again as a war game for heroic men.

London Evening News

26 March 1918

Sterling Silver engravers: Such is the closeness of work that these skilled workers of Harrods are equipped with a "ping-pong" table in an adjoining room so that they may occasionally "let up" in the kind of ding-dong battle that we were privileged to watch!

22nd June: A Garden Fete in St Mary's Vicarage grounds, Stony Stratford, in aid of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Comforts Fund, included a ping-pong stall.¹⁷³

5th August: At the South Norwood United Services Social Club, the August Bank Holiday "will not soon be forgotten by the members of the club. There was not a dull moment ... games too numerous to mention" (including ping-pong).¹⁷⁴

23rd August: A meeting of the Portsmouth Welfare Association discussed a suggestion to form an Indoor Games League, the suggested inter-club games being Billiards, Draughts, Ping-Pong, etc.¹⁷⁵

30th December: Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers: INDOOR GAMES, Draughts, Halma, Dominoes, Ping-Pong, &c, are urgently required to help the Men through the long winter evenings whilst waiting demobilisation.¹⁷⁶

④ The 'Revival' of the 1920s

1919

Edinburgh Evening News

18 January 1919

PING PONG SETS

This game is again being extensively taken up. Complete Sets, price 12/6. Spare Balls, 3d each. Bats, 2/- each. Tables. Regulation size, top only, £5, 5/-

THORNTON'S, 78 Princes St.

Sheffield Daily Telegraph

17 January 1919

Army Sports.

"As for indoor amusement, I hear that ping-pong is played extensively by officers in France." From a unit on the Somme: "The weather has been too bad lately for enjoyable football, so we have taken up ping-pong, which is quite a good game, and is very popular out here. We

have a fine large table in our mess, and spend most of our spare time playing."

Ping-pong was included in the programme at a successful soiree held on 21st March at the Grammar School in aid of the Camelford War Memorial Institute.¹⁷⁷

Dundee Evening Telegraph

30 May 1919

Cricketers at Ping-Pong.

How do county cricketers pass away the time in the intervals during which they are not actually engaged on the field of play? On some grounds the cards come out. The Surrey professionals, however, have succumbed to their pre-war craze for "ping-pong": and the player who has "got it" most badly is J. B. Hobbs, probably because he excels at "ping-pong" as much as he does as a batsman.

Hobbs so undercuts the little celluloid ball that it boomerangs to his own side of the net before his opponent can touch it.

EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Veteran “Bobby” Abel is another “ping-pong” enthusiast, and to see the little man squirming in pursuit of Hobbs’ elusive “service” is a joy to all onlookers.

On 31st May at St Peter’s Athletic Club, Yarmouth, “The large hall used for displays and lectures is provided with a big gallery and it is upon that floor the billiard and ping-pong tournaments are played”.¹⁷⁸

A fete at St Chad’s Church, South Norwood, on 2nd July included ping-pong as one of the side shows.¹⁷⁹

At the annual meeting of the Plymouth Boys’ Brigade on 1st October it was agreed that “the various competitions which have been held over during the war will be revived this session”, including ping-pong.¹⁸⁰

Daily Mail

22 September 1919

MONEY WAITING FOR A NEW PARLOUR GAME.

By JOAN SINCLAIR.

“Invent a first-class table game and your fortune is made. The coming winter promises to be the most sociable on record, and all kinds of indoor games are likely to be more popular than ever. Yet we toy merchants and manufacturers have not a single first-class new game ready to meet the demand.”

The speaker was one of the biggest of London’s dealers in toys and games, and when I had asked him for the name of the indoor game we shall all be playing this coming fireside season he had confessed that he could not give it to me. ...

“The recent widespread popularisation of lawn tennis points to the possibility of a big Ping-Pong revival; but the experience of the trade goes to show that a game which for a season or two attains to a craze of the first magnitude and then ‘slumps’ so completely as Ping-pong did stands very little chance of coming back on anything like a big scale.

... “In my opinion, the ideal parlour game must be one of movement ... it is the jolly game that will win the popularity which can make a fortune. ...

“The inventor should also bear in mind that the more people who can take an active part in the game each time it is played the bigger his royalties will be. Spectators need buy none of the implements for the game. Accordingly he must see to it that all are players.

“Above all, the inventor must remember that the competitive element must be strong in any game which is to appeal to the Englishman. The absence of this from Diabolo was the chief reason for its sudden demise.”

6th October: A meeting was held in the YMCA to re-form the old club, with the first Sunderland league match on the 10th.¹⁸¹

4th November: Sunderland Ping-Pong League tables published, listing 18 teams in two divisions.¹⁸²

8th November: First match of season in Yarmouth for YMCA team (v St. Peter’s Athletic). “Certainly it looks as if ping pong will come into its own again.”¹⁸³

Sheffield Independent

20 November 1919

There are signs of a coming revival of ping-pong. A shopman said that as many as half-a-dozen regulation tables and sets had been sold within a week.

The Globe

20 December 1919

Ping-Pong, which most of us thought was as dead as a coffin nail, is, it seems, enjoying quite a boom. An athletic outfitter declares he cannot supply the demand for the small celluloid ball. But then these light spheres are also much used in “blow football,” a popular parlour game these winter evenings.

20th December: Games that I do not remember seeing for a dozen years or more have re-appeared in brand new boxes, and in some cases with brand new names. One could not help smiling to find our old friend “Ping Pong” camouflaged under the title, “Parlour Tennis—the latest game.”¹⁸⁴ [TTH 84/37]

23rd December: In Sunderland, the All Saints C.I. team had problems, as “Few of their chosen players had been demobilised”.¹⁸⁵

Cambridge Daily News

24 December 1919

PING-PONG.

“In your note on the Christmas show of toys last Saturday,” says a reader, “you referred to ‘our old friend Ping-Pong camouflaged as Parlour Lawn Tennis—The Latest Game.’ But it differs in one respect, if I remember rightly, from Ping-Pong as first introduced. The bats today are of wood, whereas the original Ping-Pong bats were of parchment, such as one sees nowadays in the battledore and shuttlecock games.” I believe my correspondent is right. I have unpleasant recollections of the monotonous noise created by the dropping of the celluloid balls on the hollow bats. But they did not last long. They were soon replaced by the wooden bats, and then the game became really serious and some mighty deeds were done. I confess to having had rather a liking for Ping-Pong myself and regretted its passing. We English are a curious people. When a new game comes in we go crazy on it and do our level best to kill it as soon as possible. And killed it generally is. Whoever hears of Diabolo nowadays?

1920

Pall Mall Gazette

14 January 1920

LAWN TENNIS TOPICS.

“PING-PONG” AS A MEANS TO PROFICIENCY.

By F. W. LAST. [Well-known lawn tennis player and coach, and author of *The Science and Art of Table-Lawn-Tennis*]

It is safe to affirm that every nine people out of ten that one comes across in daily life, now play lawn tennis.

The advent of the wonderful Mlle. Lenglen to this country was no doubt responsible for the “boom” in the game last season, and stimulated interest all round.

If only these lawn tennis enthusiasts realised the important part the “one-time” popular game of ping-pong plays in the developing of lawn tennis skill, this game would quickly attain its past popularity, in fact, it is safe to say that the game would be even more popular than it once was.

Although ping-pong has become defunct in England, it is by no means the case with America.

Quick to “size up” a game’s advantages and to gauge “nice points,” the Americans have devoted considerable

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time, nay, study, to ping-pong, being quick to see the close relation to that game and lawn tennis.

Volleying Allowed.

The Americans have, however, made one important modification to the game as it was once played in this country, thus bringing the connection between the games into closer contact.

The Americans allow volleying, whereas, formerly, in this country, only half-volleys and “table” strokes (corresponding to “ground strokes” in lawn tennis) were permissible, and in this way they obtain excellent practice for “placing” and utilising strategy with regard to their lawn tennis, which is particularly of the “volleying” type in America.

In the event of this country again “taking to” ping-pong, following the excellent example of America, it would be advisable to make some alterations in the method of play.

In this connection it is suggested that the table should be marked out “in miniature” like a lawn tennis court. It is in the field of scientific tactics and “placing” that ping-pong offers the greatest scope from the point of view of proficiency in lawn tennis. ...

Delicacy of Touch.

It also develops delicacy of touch, which is so important for the execution of some of the most valuable strokes in lawn tennis. Ping-pong, besides the advantages enumerated above, plays an important part in the developing of muscle, suppleness, quickness, and energy, and is, therefore, to be specially recommended to quite young children. It is also essentially a healthy and active game, and is ideal for “wet” days and evenings.

Ping-pong develops certain mental attributes, namely, alertness, control of the senses, and “sureness” of hand.

20th January: Not only has badminton revived its popularity, but ping-pong is in full swing again.¹⁸⁶

13th February: Ping-pong has returned again, and threatens to become as popular as ever. This, of course, will mean a jump in celluloid. And the ping-pong spirit is so infectious that before long there'll be quite a lot of table-rapping. There is no doubt that the old game has been deliberately re-introduced to suit the wishes of the bouncing girl of the period.¹⁸⁷

Southwick Trinity (Sunderland League Champions) v Rest of League on 6th March resulted in a win for the Rest by 4 points (247-243). [A Donaldson beat D Woodward 40-27].¹⁸⁸

17th March: The winner of tonight's North of England individual championship match will now be known. [A Donaldson (Southwick Trinity, holder) 200 v D Woodward (Southwick Congers) 187.] He will have the pleasure of entertaining the English Champion, Tom Hollingsworth, of Birmingham, on Saturday, March 27th. This interesting match will likely be played at All Saints' Church Institute, Fulwell Road.¹⁸⁹ [TTC 67/25]

21st March: Ping-Pong: There is a revival in ping-pong, or table tennis, just now. A Scotsmen's club has two expert players, and both of them are blind ex-soldiers. They play by sound.¹⁹⁰

29th March: Report on the English Individual Championship, in which T Hollingsworth beat A Donaldson.¹⁹¹ [TTC 67/26]

12th May: “Jack” Hobbs has not taken long to remind cricketers that he is still our greatest batsman. He is a busy

man these days. When he is neither batting nor fielding, he plays ping-pong in the players' dressing-room at the Oval.¹⁹²

10th July: At a Garden Fete at Manor Farm, Ruislip, “ping-pong” was in high favour, “singles” and “doubles” taking their turns with lively interest!¹⁹³

13th August: Ping-Pong is expected to rival football during the winter months — if the bad weather continues.¹⁹⁴

13th October: Eight clubs were represented at the pre-season meeting of the Exeter Ping-Pong League.¹⁹⁵

1st December: Ping-pong is coming into fashion again, and sets can be had [at Barker's Bazaar, Kensington], as well as table-tennis.¹⁹⁶

Pall Mall Gazette

7 December 1920

REVIVAL OF PING-PONG

THE POPULARITY OF THE GAME.

(By F. W. LAST.)

It is very gratifying to see the sports' shops in London and the suburbs displaying in their windows ping-pong sets and tables. For these houses to do this there must, of course, be a distinct demand for ping-pong paraphernalia.

Besides this activity in the trade, quite a number of private people are taking to the game seriously, and I am told a club has been formed at Windsor. That interest is again being taken in this pastime is not at all surprising. It is an excellent game for winter evenings and wet nights. Moreover, it is a cheap game, sets being purchaseable at about 10s.

There is plenty of exercise attached to a hard and prolonged game of ping-pong. It is best played on a polished dining-room table, but I have had recently most excellent games on a full-sized billiard table, and an ordinary dining-room table covered with a white tablecloth. The fastest surface is the polished table, but a very true and medium-paced ball is obtainable through the billiard cloth and tablecloth surfaces. ...

Yarmouth Independent

11 December 1920

DOUGHTY'S,
THE VULCANIZING COMPANY,
80, REGENT ROAD,
PHONE 422. Great Yarmouth.
FOR MECHANICAL TOYS.
PING PONG
and a large selection of
INDOOR GAMES.

1921

Exeter & Plymouth Gazette

5 January 1921

PING PONG RENAISSANCE.

History will record 1914 as the year of the Great War, and 1921 as the approximate date of the great Ping Pong Renaissance. ... However, the point is that all London is once more playing the game with tremendous zest, the shops are being ransacked for new sets and the top attics for old ones, and suburban streets now once more resound

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at night, behind brightly-lit blinds, to a perfect barrage of volatile clicks. ...

EX-SERVICE ENTHUSIASTS.

Perhaps more remarkable than this revival of ping pong is the fact that it should ever have been dropped so completely. The only indoor game that is not purely sedentary to compare with it is billiards, and from the point of view of excitement and exercise ping pong has it all the time. Ex Service men are remarkably keen on it. Scores of thousands of the gallant Middlesex and Fusiliers, who shared the rigours of the big campaigning, are now devoting themselves in their leisure hours to patting a celluloid ball across a dining-room table. Which is one valuable piece of testimony against those psychologists who asserted that the war would change human nature. It is with mixed feelings that some of the ping pong stars of 19 years ago view this sudden and quite unexpected revival of their ancient pastime. They find a difficulty in getting back into training again. Their eyes are not quite as keen as they were two decades ago, and their waist expansion is fatally greater. Doubtless we shall have a revival of the Crystal Palace championships, and Mr. Punch will review the benevolent jokes, with illustrations, of 1902.

Yorkshire Evening Post

5 January 1921

Ping-Pong Again.

One of the surprises of the shopping season has been the demand for ping-pong sets. Hamley's, of London, the originators of ping-pong, say that the boom is as great as that of 20 years ago, when the parlour game first caught on. [TTH 89, page 14]

Dundee Evening Telegraph

5 January 1921

PING-PONG BOOMS ONCE MORE.

Stores Find It Difficult to Meet Demand.

... "The sales [of ping-pong sets] have been exceptional," a pressman learned from a member of the London firm which originated ping-pong.

"We have had a great difficulty," the speaker went on, "in supplying the demand, and there is no suggestion yet of its falling-off."

As a matter of fact, in addition to new sets from the manufacturers now in use, many households have recovered the remains of old sets from lumber-rooms, and ping-pong has been a very popular party pastime.

Confirmation of the return of ping-pong to its former glory was furnished by another dealer. "While the game has never completely died out," he said, "we have experienced a very decided run on our stocks lately. This is not surprising, as it is undoubtedly the best indoor game for the not too wealthy household."

The dealer suggests that the revival may be due to the call by ex-service men.

Ex-Soldiers Like It.

Finding the need this year for an exciting, interesting, and inexpensive indoor pastime, they turned to the game which had given them so much pleasure in more strenuous times.

When at the zenith of its popularity about twenty years ago ping-pong held sway for a couple of years in a manner never previously attained by any game. It extended beyond Great Britain to France, the Colonies, and America.

In London many of the restaurants provided sets for the use of clients.

Ping-pong leagues were formed in those days [of] the "Table-Tennis Association" and the "Ping-Pong Association."

The original tournament table was marked somewhat after lawn tennis fashion, but most people, of course, found that the dining-room table was quite good enough and more sporting.

There are quite a lot of ping-pong rules about somewhere, but the best people make their own. The chief are (1) to hit the table on the other side of the net and (2) to make the other man field his own mis-hits.

If your partner is of the other sex, of course, the rules vary slightly. Both players then field under the table.

Hull Daily Mail

6 January 1921

A correspondent queries "whether [ping pong] ever really died. ... I know that it has been going on more or less underground ever since the great boom, and it was played a lot in officers' and sergeants' messes during the war."

Birmingham Daily Gazette

21 March 1921

A RESURRECTION?

Ping-pong—that fast and skilful indoor game which took such a violent hold a few years ago—shows signs of attempting the boxer's trick of "coming back." At any rate, a number of famous tennis and rackets players are competing in a ping-pong tournament at Queen's Club, which is one of the centres of British amateur sport. The surprising thing is that a revival has been so long delayed, for the game has had no successor of anything like its merit.

London Evening News

26 March 1921

SPORTS GOSSIP

To Ping-pongists.

A "Ping-pongist of the strenuous type" is anxious to meet fellow-enthusiasts at the game through Sports Gossip. Presumably this reader is anxious to assist in the formation of a club to aid in the revival of this "scoffed at" but really fast and excellent game.

My correspondent remarks that he is unable to play winter lawn tennis, but finds that P.P. keeps his arm well in for the lawn tennis swing.

I believe that this article in the Sports Gossip column of the newspaper is the 'advertisement' referred to by Percy Bromfield in his article written for *Table Tennis World*, 5 December, 1931, and subsequently reprinted in the April 1953 issue of *Table Tennis*:

A bolt from the blue came along in the form of an advertisement in an evening paper in 1921 by a Mr. Davies asking if the game was played in London and were there any of the old players still playing. This brought answers from a Mr. Payne, of Luton, and myself among others. We met—we played—and the dormant spark burst into flame again. [TTC 35/13; TTC 59/4]

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Wiltshire Times

26 March 1921

Ping-pong is winning its way back into public favour.

March: PING-PONG TEAMS AT CARDIFF. Ping-pong is again catching on, and in Cardiff district alone there are fifteen teams. A league has been formed and is known as the Cardiff and District Ping-pong League.¹⁹⁷

Sunderland Daily Echo

2 April 1921

Ping-Pong.

ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIP.

At Wednesbury yesterday Andrew Donaldson (Sunderland) beat W. Hollingsworth (Wednesbury) by four points. [TTC 67/27]

London Evening News

11 May 1921

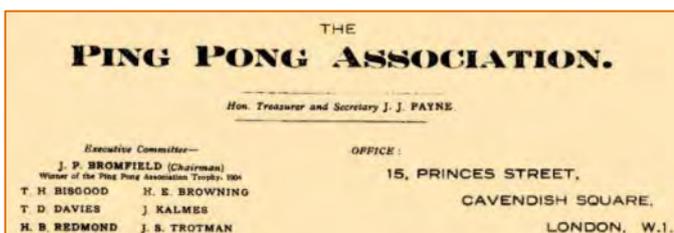
A Ping-Pong Association?

A FEW weeks back a number of ping-pong enthusiasts got into touch with one another through this column [Sports Gossip], and as a result of their deliberations a revived ping-pong association is now mooted.

“What we want to trace,” writes one of these gentlemen, “is the old ‘Ping-Pong Association.’ It was running during the last craze, 18 to 20 years ago. Surely there are some of the officials still alive and kicking. There seems no doubt that the game will come into general favour again next winter, and an association is badly needed again for all our clubs to look for guidance. My friends and I are quite ready to give any help we can if we can find the man that knows the ‘ropes’ of the old association. They used to run public open tournaments and championships, etc. This is what we want again.”

This article would appear to be the follow-up mentioned by Percy Bromfield in his 1931 article (this paragraph not reprinted in later versions):

Following the example of Mr. Davies we advertised asking all enthusiasts to meet at Slaters in the Strand on a specified date. The date came along as dates have a habit of doing and when we three arrived the place was packed. We addressed the meeting and arranged to meet again with the idea of forming another Association. So in 1921 I was elected President and Mr. Payne Secretary (positions which we both held for many years), and the new Association came into being.



[This letter-header from April 1922 confirms as committee members four names that feature elsewhere on this page (Bromfield, Payne, Redmond, and a T D Davies; the latter two for just the one season.) Although Davies is a fairly common name, it would seem quite likely that this was the Mr Davies who initiated the above correspondence.]

June: A specially balanced ping-pong table has been installed in the wardroom of the Japanese battleship which is to convey the Crown Prince of Japan back to Tokyo.¹⁹⁸

Norwood News

8 July 1921

BOOM IN PING-PONG.

PREPARATIONS FOR BIG WINTER REVIVAL.

The latest form of amusement to be revived is the old-fashioned game of ping pong, which enjoyed a great vogue some 12 or so years ago. One of the prime movers in its revival is Mr. Boden Redmond, of South Streatham.

In an interesting interview with a *News* representative, Mr. Redmond gave some interesting particulars regarding the resuscitation of the game.

“Ping pong went out of fashion some time about 1910, I think,” said Mr. Redmond, “and there is a real effort now being made for its revival.”

“With other enthusiasts I got into touch with the remnants of the old Ping Pong Association and the result is that clubs are being formed all over London and the country in general.

“I am endeavouring to get a large circle of good players together to form either a large club to represent Streatham and Norbury, or a series of clubs in the districts hereabouts in preparation for the coming season, which will start in September.

TOURNAMENTS AHEAD.

“Championships and open tournaments will be held, and I hope to get many more members for the Streatham and Norbury club, so that by September we will be able to send good teams to meet others in different districts in London and suburbs. ...

“Up to the present our efforts have met with every success, especially with lawn tennis players, for owing to its being practically a winter pastime, it enables them to keep their swing for the tennis season later on.

“I believe my name is being put forward as a representative of the committee of the old Ping Pong Association, which will be the parent body to which the various clubs will appeal for decisions.” [30-year-old Henry Boden Redmond could be contacted at “Torleigh,” 38 Glencairn Road, South Streatham. He was a member of the PPA Executive Committee for the 1921/22 season.]

Lancashire Evening Post

13 September 1921

RETURN OF PING-PONG. Ping-pong, which first raged 19 years ago, has come back. Ping-pong clubs are springing up in all parts of London and the country, with inter-district matches among affiliated clubs.

Leeds Mercury

14 September 1921

Ping Pong Redivivus.

All our old games and pastimes would seem to be coming into fashion again. Last night I chronicled a minor revival of “diabolo.” To-night I must mention a genuine return to popularity of ping-pong. Just as was the case nineteen years ago, when the game was first introduced, and by many called “table tennis,” ping-pong clubs are now

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springing into existence all over the Metropolis, and once more tournaments and inter-district matches are being everywhere arranged. Whether the revival will last as long as the original craze remains to be seen.

Yorkshire Evening Post 16 September 1921

“ PING-PONG ” COMES BACK.

“Ping-pong,” which was such a craze many years ago, is coming into favour once again. In London, it has already got a good hold. “There has been a fairly steady demand during the last two or three years for ping-pong sets,” said a Leeds sports outfitter to-day, “and that steady demand is one of the pleasing features of the revival. It indicates that the game has come to stay, whereas if there had been a rush for sets we should have thought it was only a passing craze.”

Ping-pong sets—two bats, three balls and a net with posts—may be had for as little as 3s. 6d., while the more elaborate sets go as high as a guinea or more.

Why this revival? Has it any connection with the tennis boom? Our informant thought not. Badminton, he said, was the winter tennis, but it required a considerable space, and that was one of the reasons why it was not so popular.

“Ping-pong has been revived,” he said, “because there are no new novelties to offer in the way of winter games that can be played by a small party. ...”

Norwood News 23 September 1921

As promised (*see above*), South Streatham Ping Pong Club ran a Ping Pong Tournament in St Andrew’s Hall on 20th September. H B Redmond lost 21-11 to A J Miller in the Gentlemen’s Singles Final. “The play of the lady members was of a high standard.”

Derby Daily Telegraph 20 October 1921

What’s in a Nickname?

Lawn tennis stands little chance of being a winter evening’s pastime on account of the difficulty of lighting a covered court sufficiently well to please expert players.

But its diminutive form, table tennis, is booming again, and would stand a good chance of popularity if blessed with a more serious name than ping-pong.

Probably the nickname will adhere, and kill the game, which seems a pity.—“Daily Chronicle.”

9th November: A Sale of Work in Warminster Town Hall included a Ping-Pong Tournament.¹⁹⁹

Evening Standard 14 November 1921

Ping-Pong Revival.

“Ping-Pong clubs are being formed all over London, and the old craze is coming back fast.” This is the assurance given us by the secretary of the Ping-Pong Association, which has just been revived after lapsing into a state of coma somewhere about 1903.

The meeting which decided to resuscitate the association was held recently in London, when Mr. J. P. Bromfield, of Shepherd’s Bush, was elected chairman, and Mr. J. J. Payne, of 55 Biscot-road, Luton, the honorary secretary and treasurer.

The association’s handsome silver challenge cup, open to teams of five from affiliated clubs, is to be put up for competition again, and Mr. Payne will be pleased to supply handbooks and books of official rules to secretaries and those thinking of forming clubs.

Whilst I have not yet found a newspaper report with the exact date of the meeting, this can fairly safely be assumed to be **7 November, 1921**, as shown in the 1922 Accounts of the Ping Pong Association:

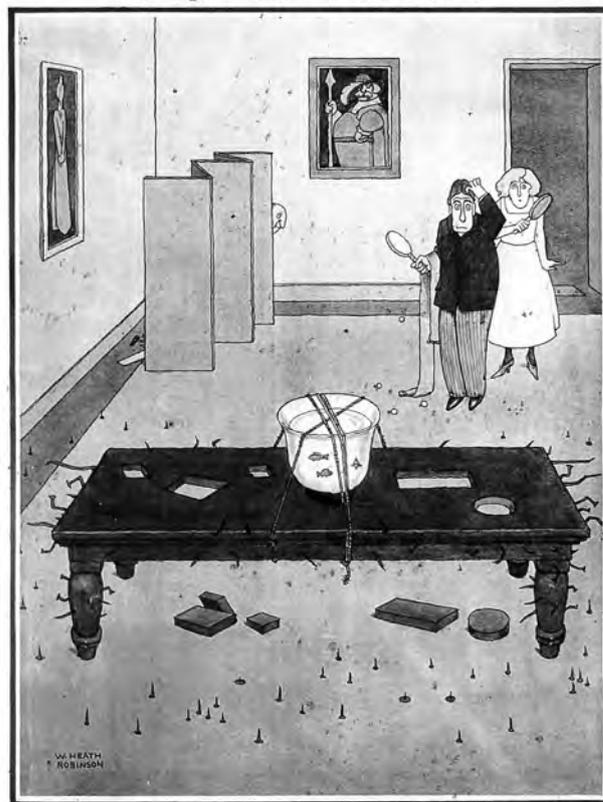
The All England Ping Pong Association.

Receipts and Payments Account from 7th November, 1921, to 20th April, 1922.

[With many thanks to Colin Clemett for this information.]

The Bystander 2 November 1921

Simple and Economical



THE PREVENTION OF PING-PONG
A few hints for checking the growing craze in its early stages

Leeds Mercury 16 November 1921

Not “ Ping Pong ” Please.

A tear of sympathy for a very fine body of sportsmen is surely evoked by the plea of the “Ping Pong” exponents for the use of the more dignified term, “Table Tennis.” So long as this most entrancing sport is known by the abhorred title which I will not repeat, it is impossible, they say, to get it taken seriously. It is their ambition, it seems, to elevate table tennis to the exalted status enjoyed by tennis proper, leading, no doubt, to the discovery of a Lenglen or a Tilden, with a Wimbledon Championship into the bargain.

Christmas: “Table games seem popular this year – improved shuttlecock and ping-pong, table tennis, ...”²⁰⁰ [TTC 56, page 7]

EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Lincolnshire Echo 23 November 1921

There are indications of a revival of ping-pong, which was a craze some fourteen years ago.

Manchester Evening News 24 November 1921

Boom in Table Tennis

Revival of Ping Pong.

PING-PONG, or as its new devotees prefer to call it, table tennis, is being seriously revived this winter, and clubs are rapidly springing up to further its popularity.

Many lawn tennis players find that it keeps their eye in during the close season of their favourite sport, and also supplies the exercise they miss so much, and so it finds adherents of both sexes.

Local tournaments are being arranged, and it is quite likely that public ones will follow in the same way as in the time of the first boom.

Grave Enthusiasts.

It is noticeable that in the sports emporiums all manner of different ping-pong racquets are being displayed, a sure sign that the game is no longer considered merely a pastime for children.

Enthusiasts gravely debate the rival merits of cork, sandpaper, or wooden surfaces, and their preference for light or heavy balls.

It remains to be seen whether there will be a craze for table tennis to equal that of years ago, but it is certain that this winter will find it very popular in the home.

Pall Mall Gazette 25 November 1921

Ping-Pong.

We used to laugh at ping-pong, but now we call it table tennis, and the fact that the Prince of Wales played it on the Renown has helped it a good deal. Yesterday at the Kensington Town Hall there were ping-pong competitions in connection with the Surgical Supply Depot bazaar, and Princess Louise, who opened it, was photographed at the table, bat in hand.

Northern Daily Mail 2 December 1921

PING-PONG	
Again Popular.	
Sets : 5/6, 7/6, 10/6, 15/-.	
Balls : 2/6 dozen.	
Bats :	
10½d. to 4/3 each.	
SAGE, 4 & 6, Lynn-street.	
Tel. 531.	WEST HARTLEPOOL, Tel. 531.

Pall Mall Gazette 30 December 1921

The Value of Ping-Pong.

When ping-pong first came into popularity there were many derogatory comments on the uselessness of what many described as a childish game. But table tennis deserves a much more flattering description.

Lawn tennis has long grown out of the stigma of being a game only fit for schoolgirls; Badminton is generally recognised as a particularly strenuous form of indoor winter sport; and ping-pong, when all is said and done, can be made a very vigorous game, and one which will quickly find out the weak spots in the physical condition of anyone.

Great efforts were made only recently to revive the game, and a society was formed to consider the many points that must inevitably arise before ping-pong is anything in the way of an organised sport.

Irish Society (Dublin) 31 December 1921

A DEFUNCT AMUSEMENT.

Did ever a Humpty Dumpty suffer such a veritable "great fall" as the once paramount Ping-Pong! A few years ago it was a fever—a disease,—every house was infected by it, and every individual had a touch of the malady, more or less severely. Fortunes were said to have been made by it, and lost over it, and now it is as dead as Queen Anne! It died for want of a netting. People got weary of continually grovelling on floors after balls, and nobody thought of contriving a nice little loose cord-netting, to be affixed to sides of tables. The public is decidedly fickle, nobody can possibly deny the fact, but it is wonderfully steadfast to its own comforts, and games that can be played without requiring a hinge in the backs of players will be extremely likely to "stay in."

1922

Sport (Dublin) 4 February 1922

ALL-ENGLAND PING PONG CLUB.

So great has been the support of those who have undertaken the task of reviving ping-pong that an All-England club is now proposed. Mr. Austin F. Carris, a member of the Ping-Pong Association Committee, writes asking for help in obtaining a large hall or room, as near the West End as possible, to take from 16 to 25 tables, for the formation of such a club. There is a large number of applications already for membership of such a club.

Nottingham Evening Post 16 February 1922

With the title of the All-England Ping-Pong Club, the revived Ping-Pong Association is opening its headquarters in London on Monday [20th].

Pall Mall Gazette 21 February 1922

ALL-ENGLAND PING PONG CLUB

Owing to the revival of ping pong, the necessity of a central club has been keenly felt. This has now been formed, with its title and headquarters as The All-England Ping Pong Club, Slater's Restaurant, 393, Strand, London, W.C.2. The lower dining-hall at Slater's Restaurant has been specially reserved for the use of the club each Tuesday and Friday evening, from 5 p.m. until 11 p.m.

The entrance fee and subscription combined, for either ladies or gentlemen, has been fixed at one guinea. If the demand warrants it the club will be open every night during the week. A competition will be inaugurated for the club members only, to be played at headquarters. Within the next week or two, an official announcement will probably

EARLY NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

be made regarding the competition for the individual championships.

Pall Mall Gazette

2 March 1922

JACK HOBBS PLAYS PING-PONG.

FILMED TO SHOW HOW IT IS DONE.

Hobbs and Ducat, the famous Surrey cricketers, have taken to ping-pong.

Together with B. I. C. Norton, the South African lawn tennis player, who was beaten by Tilden in the championship final at Wimbledon last year, and the two Kent amateur cricketers, the brothers Bryan, they are to form part of a team of ping-pong players to meet Cambridge University next Thursday.

Further, Hobbs and Ducat have gone on the films as ping-pong experts. They have been filmed in an exhibition match, which will shortly be shown in the cinemas in the weekly budget "Around Town." ...

Apart from its popularity in London, however, many people at Cambridge have taken up the game, and recently A. E. Evans, Christ College, defeated C. S. Ramaswami, Pembroke College, in the final of the ping-pong competition, for which there were nearly 150 entries. Mr. Ramaswami is the well-known lawn tennis player and cricketer.

Dundee Evening Telegraph

13 March 1922

PING-PONG COMES BACK TO FAVOUR.

A ping-pong craze is sweeping through the land, and growing rapidly. There are probably as many as fifty clubs in London formed to play the game.

In the roomy basement of a Strand restaurant (writes a London correspondent) I found members of the new All-England Ping-Pong Club at their devotions. There were a dozen green tables, with the little green nets.

With two exceptions the players were men in shirt-sleeves, but the club membership of about 100 includes many of the fair sex.

The men were of all ages—from white-haired veterans to young City clerks. Everyone was as serious as if he had been playing chess.

On the loungers that lined the walls sat other players resting.

There are athletes who are members of the club. Hobbs, the Surrey and England cricketer, is a ping-pong enthusiast. So, too, is Ducat, who, besides being an international cricketer, has represented his country in the football field.

The tables were never idle, and I was told that the club hopes next season to rent a hall that will accommodate from 30 to 40 tables, for its membership is growing fast.

In a talk with the president I learned that preparations are afoot for a big championship tournament in April that will take from four to six weeks to run.

Hull Daily Mail

15 March 1922



Reading Observer

24 March 1922

PING PONG AGAIN.—

Ping-Pong, or table-tennis, a game that suddenly became popular in 1901, is again coming into favour. The news will not be altogether welcome to housewives who remember the heavy wear and tear inflicted on dining-room carpets and furniture during the craze twenty years ago. It is better suited to basement rooms, or clubs, and as a "parlour" game, it is apt to become a nuisance to people naturally inclined for a quiet home life. Dozens of clubs are being formed in London for playing the game, but the season for indoor amusements is ending, instead of commencing, and this seems rather against the prospect of a new ping-pong craze.

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Philatelic Update

Not much to report due to lack of tournaments. With great help of the Chinese TTA, the ITTF re-started Table Tennis activity with the World Cups in Weihai, and the ITTF Finals (formerly Pro Tour Grand Finals) in Zhengzhou. But no philatelic items from these events!



Monaco issued November 3, 2020, for the Olympic Games 2020 in Tokyo 23. July – 8. August 2021.
 Face-value: 1,40 Euro.
 Print in small sheets with 10 stamps.
 The pictograms show sports disciplines in which athletes from Monaco take part in



China sheet/4 stamps from the 1961 World Championships, Beijing. This example features a very rare error. The red print is shifted down, so some of the text is missing. The shift is more extreme than a previous example. 10,000 Euros on Delcampe.net !



Two stellar pieces from the Jean Devys (FRA) collection



Gunther Angenendt (GER) sends images of the cover pages of early Tisch-Tennis magazines. Some great historic photos!



Photo from the 1931 World Championships in Budapest: Jensen (SWE) vs Kelen (HUN)

Nr. 4 / Jahrgang 1933

Heidelberg, 16. Februar



W. P. Baur

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

So begann das Spiel!



Blick in den Saal des Kurhauses in Baden bei Wien bei der Eröffnung der Weltmeisterschaften 1932/33



E. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Deutschlands Damen in Paris erfolgreich!



Die deutsche Damenmannschaft, die bei den Weltmeisterschaften den Corbillon-Pokal gewann; v. l. n. r.: Fr. Felguth, Fr. Müller-Rüster, H. Heim (Sportwart des D.T.T.B.), Fr. Krebsbach, Fr. Höhnisch. Es fehlt auf der Aufnahme Fr. Bussmann

Photo of the German women's team, winners of the inaugural Corbillon Cup in the 1934 World Championships, Paris. L-R: Felguth, Muller-Ruster, Heim, Krebsbach, Hohnsch. Not shown, Bussman. A talented team!

Nr. 1 / Jahrgang 1935

Heidelberg, 4. Januar



B. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Um die nationale deutsche Meisterschaft in Stettin



Die Endrundengegnerinnen im Dameneinzel

Fr. Felguth (links), die überraschend Fr. Bußmann geschlagen hatte; unterlag nur knapp Fr. Krebsbach (rechts), die damit wieder deutsche Meisterin wurde

Photo of the finalists of the German national championships. L: Felguth (who defeated Bussman), and the winner, Krebsbach

Nr. 14 / Jahrgang 1935

Heidelberg, 2. November



H. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Die beiden besten Spieler der Welt



Szabados (links) beglückwünscht seinen Landsmann Barna zum Sieg in den letzten Weltmeisterschaften, bei denen die beiden Ungarn die Schlußrunde bestritten.

Photo: Keystone

The two world's best players, photo of the finalists in the 1935 World Championship men's singles.
L: Szabados, and the winner for the 5th time, Victor Barna.



R. P. Boer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Werden sie wieder entscheidend eingreifen?



Bei den Weltmeisterschaften, deren nächster Austragungsort infolge der jetzt plötzlich erfolgten Absage Jugoslawiens noch nicht feststeht, werden sicher wieder Frä. Krebsbach (links) u. Frä. Kettnerova im Mittelpunkt der Ereignisse stehen.

Photo: Ass. Press

Photo from the 1935 World Championships in London. L: Krebsbach (GER), R: Kettnerova (TCH), who defeated Krebsbach in the 1934 World Championships final in Paris. Kettnerova went on to win the 1935 crown over Magda Gal (HUN).

Nr. 15 / Jahrgang 1936

Heidelberg, 16. November



H. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES



Ein Erfolgreicher:

Vom Tisch-Tennis-Weltmeister zum Tennis-Weltmeister und jetzt – zum Berufsspieler! So sah Perry als 19-jähriger Sieger in den Tisch-Tennis-Weltmeisterschaften aus!

Fred John Perry,

der 1928./1929 Tisch-Tennisweltmeister in Budapest gegen Szabados wurde, ist jetzt endgültig in das Professional-Lager der Tennisspieler übergetreten Bild: Schirmer

Photo of Fred Perry(ENG), who at age 19 won the World Singles title in Budapest 1929. Perry went on to a highly successful career in Tennis, as well as establishing a sports clothing empire.

Nr. 3 / Jahrgang 1937

Heidelberg, 30. Januar



S. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Von den Weltmeisterschaften 1933 in Baden bei Wien



Blick in einen Teil des Turniersaales, in dem wie im Jahre 1933 die Weltmeisterschaften in der kommenden Woche ausgetragen werden. Bild: Archiv

A repeat of the photo of the playing hall from the 1933 World Championships in Baden-bei-Wien, (No. 4, 1933 edition), shown in anticipation of the upcoming 1937 World Championships at the same venue.



H. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Sie kamen auf den zweiten Platz!



Unsere Damenmannschaft, die in den Spielen um den Corbillon-Pokal hinter Amerika den zweiten Platz belegte. V. l. n. r.: Bußmann, Schultz, Hobohm

Bild: Privat

The German women's team, who placed second in the Corbillon Cup at the 1937 World Championships. L-R: Bussman, Schultz, Hobohm

Nr. 6 / Jahrgang 1938

Heidelberg, 17. März



H. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES

Unser „Trio“ bei den Weltmeisterschaften in London



Von links nach rechts: Hoffmann, Mauritz, Münchow

Bild: Privat

The German 'Trio' at the 1938 World Championships in London. L-R: Hoffmann, Mauritz, Munchow

Nr. 7 / Jahrgang 1939

Heidelberg, 4. April



H. P. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES



Der Schauplatz der Weltmeisterschaften in Kairo

Der sch ne Bau der „Soci t  Royale d'Agriculture“, in welchem die Internationalen Tischtennis-Weltmeisterschaften ausgetragen wurden

Bild: Privat

The venue for the 1939 World Championships in Cairo, the first World Championships held outside of Europe

Nr. 7 / Jahrgang 1940

Heidelberg, 6. April



K. F. Bauer

TISCH-TENNIS

ALLEINIGES AMTLICHES ORGAN DES DEUTSCHEN TISCH-TENNIS-BUNDES



Trude Pritzi

errang drei Titel der Großdeutschen Tischtennismeisterschaften
und den einzigen Punkt im Länderspiel Deutschland – Ungarn
Bild: Schirmer

Trude Pritzi, who won the German Singles title 3 times and scored the only point in the team match between Germany and Hungary



Auction Action - Results & Trends



Set of 6 magic lantern glass slides with Ping Pong theme. Mr Peppercorn presents his family with a Ping Pong set (slide 1, then chaos ensues (slides 2-5)), and then Mr Peppercorn forms an Anti Ping Pong Club. Sold for a reasonable 65 GBP



Glass magic lantern slides, illustrating how the balls roll under the furniture. In the 3rd slide, someone's hand is caught in a mouse trap. 55 GBP



This lot of 2 early sets sold for \$368. Above: set by Williams of Paris. Below: Set by E.I. Horsman of New York. The rackets in the Horsman set are possibly not original to the set.





3 early wood bats from the Gurney Collection. 5.5 GBP



Jaques cork bat, 4.3GBP



Card 1 from the early Fairyland postcard set of 6. Excellent condition except for a small ding in the lower right corner. 85 GBP



Card 2 from the early Fairyland postcards set of 6, with 'Birthday Greetings'. \$10 for card 2 and card 5 below in one lot !



Card 5 of the early Fairyland set of 6, with 'Many Happy Returns' added. Sold with card 2 above for \$10



Clock trophy from a 1902 Ping Pong tournament at the Hotel Continental in Berlin. 3.5 inches tall, sold for \$88. Steve Grant reports that the clock is still working!



One of a 12-card series of advertising cards for
Globe Metal Polish, 1902 99 GBP



No. 2 size vellum battledore 22.51GBP



Two vellum drum rackets, 38cm and 36.5cm. Only 30 GBP winning bid!



Two hand-colored cartoon illustrations from Punch magazine: Ping Pong Diplomacy (8 GBP), and Ping Pong in the Kitchen (11.5 GBP)

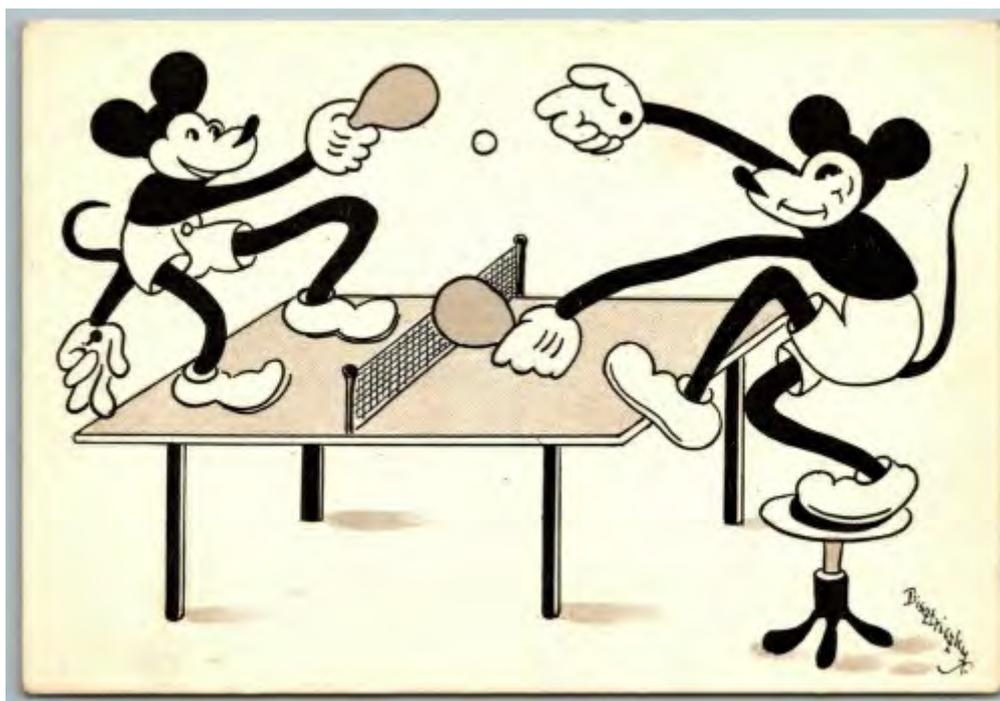




Sterling silver enameled medal for the 1928-29 Cardiff & District Division 2. \$74



Pair of Slazenger bats, one side pimpled rubber, the other, vellum. 30 GBP



Scarce early Disney postcard, c. 1930s \$44



Waseda University (JPN) Table Tennis team, c. 1920s. 8GBP



Pressman (US) boxed set with drawing of a woman on one of the wood bats. \$13.50



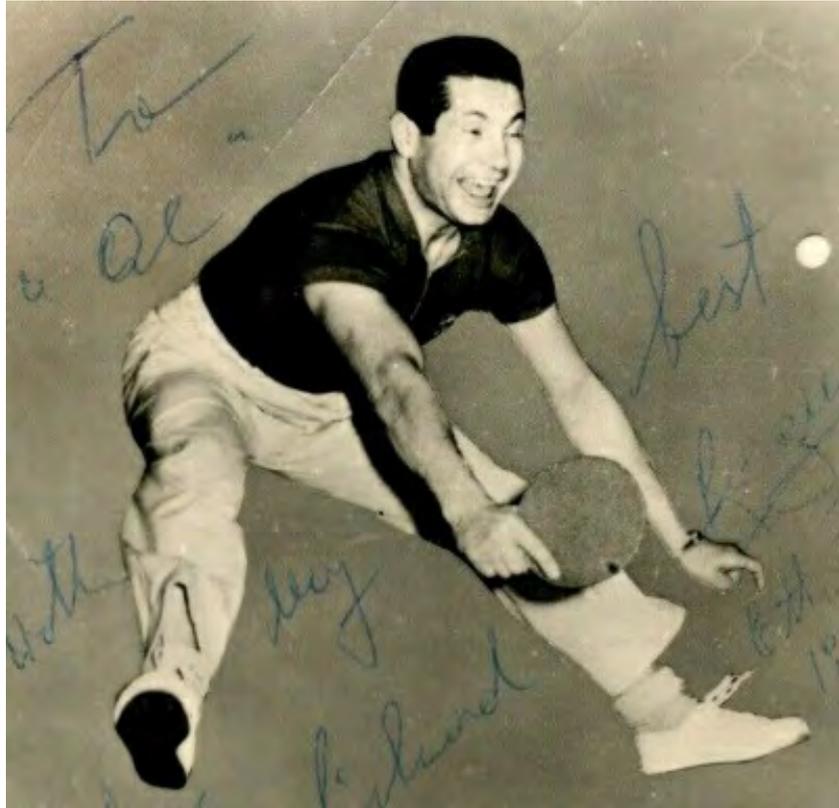
Jaques boxed set with both Table Tennis and Ping Pong names for the game. C.1930 11.5GBP



Marks Bros (US) set in fine wood box, sandpaper bats. \$152



Holiday greeting card \$1.25



Richard Bergman photo, inscribed. 42 GBP. A postcard with the same photo sold separately for \$20



Aubrey Simons (1921-2014) signature bat, 20GBP. Aubrey was an English international who won a Gold medal in the 1953 World Championship team event, and was subsequently ranked World number 4. He represented England in 165 events!



Seldom seen Spalding Ron Sharman signature bat. 5 GBP
Ron won a bronze medal in the 1949 World Championships team event, representing England, along with teammates Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach, Victor Barna and Aubrey Simons.

Foroma Wizard bat 100 GBP





The case was advertised, but the surprise inside was a classic Barna bat, the lot sold for a bargain 25GBP !



Spalding blade named after Eric Findon (1913-1941), who represented England in the 1934 Swaythling Cup. He was also an actor, appearing in two feature films. 5 GBP





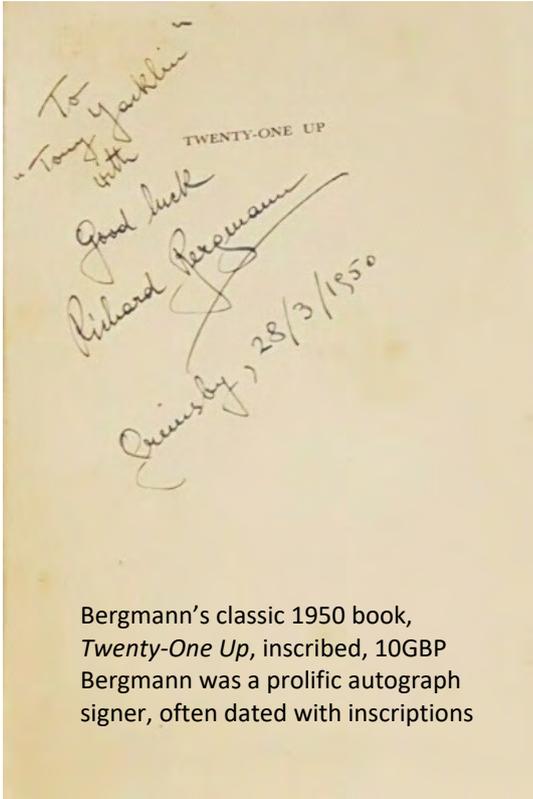
Royal Bayreuth porcelain shaped like dice, flags over table pattern. A holder for matches or toothpicks. \$750



Pair of Dunlop Barna bats with red teardrop logo. Sold for only 31 GBP



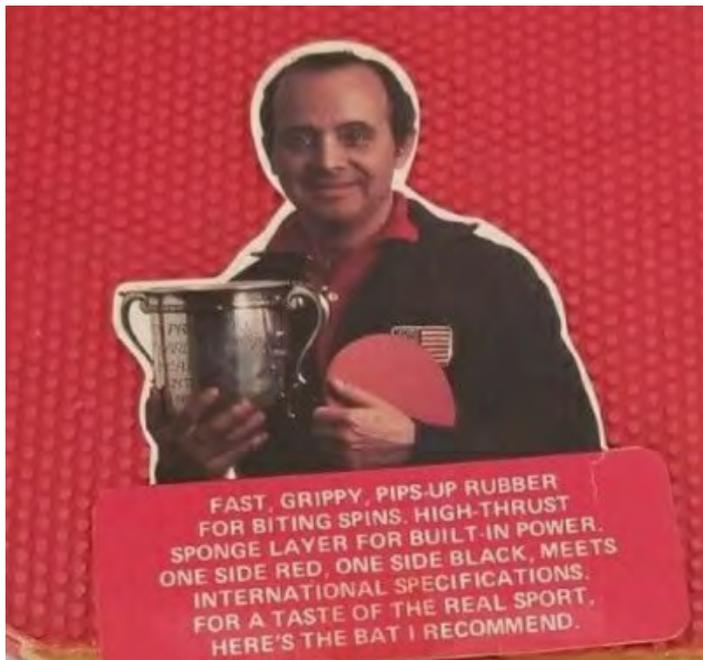
Photo of legendary pool hustler Minnesota Fats. \$100



Bergmann's classic 1950 book, *Twenty-One Up*, inscribed, 10GBP
 Bergmann was a prolific autograph signer, often dated with inscriptions



Japanese medallion, 1969 World Championships, Munich. 8.60 GBP



Dick Miles bat with promotional photo. Dick was 10-times US Singles Champion. \$5





Jaques 'Tema' hardbats 6GBP



Pair of Biriba bats. \$18 Ubiraci Podriguez da Costa, affectionately known as Biriba, was a young sensation in Brazil, scoring many great victories against top world class players.



Butterfly Surbek ST sponge bat, \$59. Surbek (YUG) won the World Men's Doubles Championships in 1979 (w/Stipancic) and 1983 (w/Kalinic).



Butterfly Secretin (1949-2020) bat \$26 The French star won the World Mixed Doubles with Claude Bergeret in 1977, and often staged entertaining exhibitions with Vincent Purkart (FRA, 1936-2015).



Stiga 'Flisan F' hardbat \$87 after 26 bids



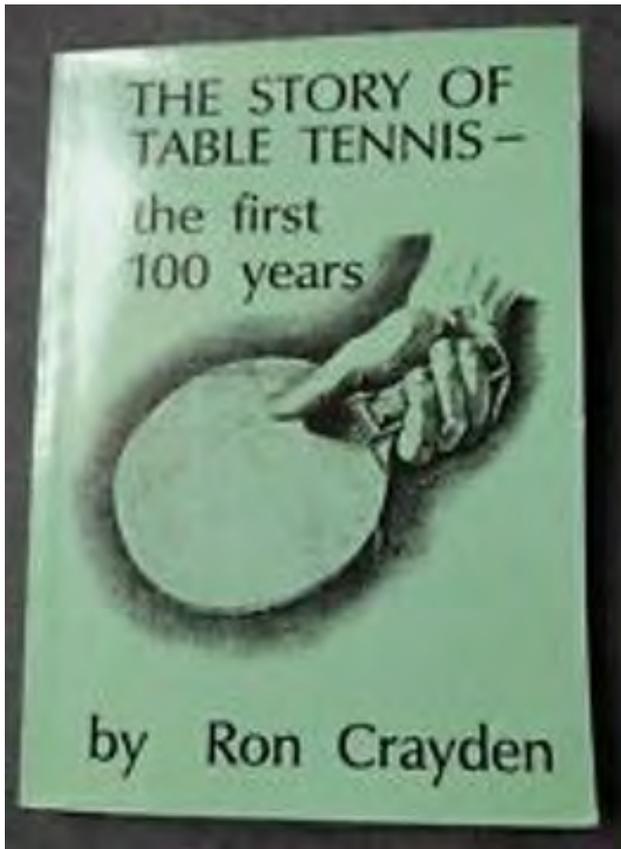
Stiga Alser \$157 after 46 bids!



Stiga Kjell Johansson \$159



Stiga Stellan Bengtsson bat in original box.
102 GBP after 31 bids!



Book by Ron Crayden, The Story of Table Tennis - the first 100 years.12 GBP



Poster Iran 1989 TT tournament Shiraz 120 Euros



Plaque from the 1956 World Club Championships, for D. Weeks, who won a Club Singles event.



Poster from the first European Championships in Budapest, 1958. 180 Euros



Poster for the 1962 European Championships in Budapest. 60 Euros.



Poster from the 1978 European Championships in Duisburg, 1978 40 Euros



Poster from the 1981 European Championships in Topolčany 70 Euros



Poster from the 1987 Balkan Championships, Constanta, Romania \$87



The many pins from Atlanta 1996 Olympic Table Tennis are plentiful and well known. This postcard featuring the mascot Izzy playing Table Tennis seldom surfaces. \$3

Collector Directory

Günther Angenendt

Langacker 10a 44869 Bochum, Germany
+49-2327-77117 ttanpp@gmx.de
Pre-war World Ch Programs; all Tt items
German boxed sets & bats; TT pins

Jorge Arango jharango@une.net.co

Cl. 10 No. 25-103 Ap.116 Medellin Columbia
Philatelic & general TT items

Michael L. Babuin, PhD USA

416 Charles Ct., Cary NC 27511
mikebabuin@aol.com
Pre-1905 books, old film copies, programs

Oliver Born Germany

born4TT@freenet.de www.old-butterfly.de
Old Butterfly rackets, especially Korpa

Keith Bowler In Memoriam**Fabrice Chantriaux** France

10 Rue des Chevreuilles F-45130 Saint-Ay
02.38.88.82.11 Fax: 02.38.45.94.29
F.chantriaux@wanadoo.fr Stamps, cancels,
Postcards, posters, old papers on TT

Colin Clemett colin.clemett@gmail.com

2 Watermill Court, 10 Springwell, Havant
PO9 1ED UK Historical documents

Fabio Colombo Italy drfabioc@gmail.com

www.colombofabio.com
Table Tennis books, World Rankings. Author
Seeking STIGA Stipancic rackets

Ron Crayden (ENG) in Memoriam**Andre Demeure** (BEL) in Memoriam

Jean Devys Residence La petite vigne,
20 rue Edgar Quinet, A16 F-59100 Roubaix
France 33.320828444 Fax: 33.320650849 TT
philately, cycling jean.devys@orange.fr

Axel Dickhaus Germany

Atzienbacherf Str. 88 D-51381 Leverkusen
+49 (0)2171 32108 Fax: 49 (0)2171.731478
axel.dickhaus@freenet.de TT balls, phone cards

Alan Duke alan-duke2@talktalk.net

2 Shapwick Close, Swindon WILTS. England
SN3 3RQ UK +44 (0) 1793 531234
History, music & photo record of TT items

Sergio Durazzano durazzano@aruba.it

Via Girardini 8, 33100 Udine, Italy
0432.21105 Stamps & historical books

Winfried Engelbrecht Germany

Virgiliastr.21 D-45131 Essen 49.201.78.6795
winfried.engelbrecht@imail.de Philately:
Stamps, FDCs, Sheets, Postmarks, books,
phonecards, tickets, stickers, W.C. Programs

Romualdas Franckaitis Lithuania

Rfranckaitis@gmail.com

Gao Yi-bin 15365036631@163.com

No.9 Xin Wen Road 21-905 Phoenix Tree Garden
Jiangning, Nanjing, Jiansu P.R.China 211100
+8625 5212 3334 TT stamps, FDC, postcards
phonecards, coins, medals, pins, cancels

Roman Gelman rgpinman@aol.com

24 Taverngreen Court, Baltimore, MD. USA
21209 410 602 0267 Pins,,badges,medals

David Good dgood42@yahoo.com

710 N.Waverly, Dearborn, MI 48128 USA
+1 313 278 5271 c.1900 sets, equipment,
ephemera, memorabilia

Scott Gordon USA sgordon@hardbat.com

5340 Shelato Way, Carmichael, CA 95608
+1 916 978 0117 www.hardbat.com films
Historic films,classic era hardbats, old books

Gordon Gotal mim-borovo@zg.htnet.hr

Meduliceva 23 Zagreb 10000 Croatia
+3851 4848 687 Exch: TT pins, medals, post-
cards Acquire: WC & EC official badges
(Guest, organizer, player, press, etc)

Steve Grant NY, NY USA author

Nyman455@yahoo.com
Ping Pong Diplomacy, Early 1900s TT

Esko Heikkinen esko.heikkinen@sptl.fi

Vainamoisenkatu 9 B 17 Helsinki 00100
Finland +358 50 62532 TT history, Stiga bats

Gerald Gurney In Memoriam**Rex Haggett** rex.haggett@ntworld.com

27 Meadow Close, Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire, CV37 9PJ England
+44 (0) 1789 269352 Philately

Russ Hamilton Arkansas, USA

J.russ.hamilton@gmail.com 214-673-6164
c1890-1902 vintage sets, books, unusual items

Barry Hayward UK

19 Little Hardwick Road, Streetly
West Midlands WS9 0SD TT books in English
barry_hayward@LHRstreetly.freeseerve.co.uk
Website: <https://tabletennislibrary.co.uk>

Chuck Hoey Honorary Curator, ITTF Museum

museum@ittf.com ittfmuseum@yahoo.com
Art bats, unusual bats, historic photos,
Important medals, museum quality items

Martin Holland mjh44now@yahoo.co.uk

44 Victoria Road, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria
England BA14 5JU TT postcards & trade cards

Rolf Jaeger USA In Memoriam**Dean Johnson** USA

3404 Holly Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23451
(757) 478 3605 djab2b@aol.com

Jean-Francois Kahn France

49 rue Leonardo da Vinci, 77330 Ozoir la
Ferriere jfkhan70@gmail.com
+33 1 40779762 TT philately: imperf stamps,
sheets, color proofs, minister/artist sheets,
errors, postmarks, meters, FDCs, specimens

Christian Klaus Möllersdorf, Austria

christianklaus59@gmail.com
TT stamps, cancels, postcards, autograph
cards, FDCs, historic photos, magazines,
Newspapers, score-lists, books, posters ...

Jan Kleeven sjangkleeven@planet.nl

Margrietstraat 63 6373 NN Landgraaf
Netherlands Pins, flags, pennants, stamps,
Phonecards, stickers

Matti Kolppanen Finland

Kollekannaksent 12E, FI-02720 Espoo
matti.kolppanen@kolumbus.fi
TT history, TT postcards

Randy Koo Netherlands

Torenwacht 37, 2353 DB Leiderdorp
+31 071 5417413 randykoo@gmail.com
Stamps mint, postmarks, red meters, FDC

Hans Kreisler +34965698195

Avenue les Comargues 21, Busot-Allicante
03111 Spain hanskreisler@hotmail.com
www.ttmuseum.nl

Kevin Lau USA kevtennis@yahoo.com

Philatelic, pins, coins, memorabilia, souvenir
& decorative items

FRANCESCO LUCESOLI Italy

VIA DEI FAGGI 16
I-60018 MARINA DI MONTEMARCIANO
Stamps, FDC, special postmarks, varieties

Caron Leff Ft. Myers, FL USA

csleff@aol.com Table Tennis pins

Collector Directory

Francis Leibenguth France +33951966614
1 résidence des Hauts de Villebon 91140
Villebon-sur-Yvette stanfl54-hardbat@yahoo.fr
Vintage bats (esp hardbats), vintage sets
<http://raquettes-collection.blog4ever.com>

Jorgen Lindh joli@mbox303.swipnet.se
Egnahemsgatan 13D S-43242 Varberg SWE

Steve Luck, 12 Liskey Hill, Perranporth,
Cornwall TR6 OET Phone: 07860 446209
steve@stevlucktennis.com racket sports,
rowing, billiards, croquet, archery ...

Fabio Marcotulli Venezuela
lailagalvez@yahoo.com
Barna rackets, TT items from all eras

Hubert Menand
hubert.menand@laposte.net
President, AFCTT (French TT Collectors)

Eldon Mohler eam2@ix.netcom.com
1820 E.Warm springs Rd.
Suite 112 Las Vegas. NV 89119 USA
Fax: +1-702-453-8472

Erik Kenneth Muhr England UK
2 Highgate Hill, Hawkhurst KENT TN18 4LB
01580 752676 History of Table Tennis
ken.muhr@btinternet.com

Rudolf Mueller Germany
Bahnhofstr. 58 D-57250 Netphen 02738-
1461 Stamps, cancels, letter, error, red
meters r-mueller-netphen@t-online.de

Jan Nusteley Netherlands
Weserstraat 21, 9406 VP Assen 0592-
356050 e-mail: nley@hotmai.com
Stamps, mint perforated FDCs red meters,
cancels WC, EC, EC-Youth, Top-12

Robert Op de Beek In Memoriam

Florian Pagel Germany flo.p@gmx.net
Older Banda, Stiga, Joola, Butterfly, Imperial

Park Jeong Kye fifaball@hanmail.net
PO Box 555 Busan 48931 KOREA South
Postmarks, stamps, postcards

Gregory Pinkhusovich
Apt.10, h.2 Sheshet Ha-Yamim Str
Ariel 40700 ISRAEL +972-54-3394739
gpinkhusovich@gmail.com
TTPins, badges, medals, coins

Laszlo Polgar Hungary
klpolgar@hotmail.com
Early World Ch items, Barna, Bergmann,
Bellak, Szabados, Anna Sipos, Rozeanu, Ehrlich
and Dolinar. Table Tennis plus chess.

Alberto Prieto USA
alberto@valortabletennis.com

Robin Radford rjradford@xtra.co.nz
16 St Edmund Cr TAWA, Wellington, NZ
+64 04 232 5672
TT cartoons, comic strips, clip art

Jose Ransome
"Conifers" Church Lane ORMESBY
Middleborough TS7 9AU ENGLAND
01642 322223 ajransome@aol.com

Geoff Reed In Memoriam

Helmut Reinhardt
Friedrich-Voss-Platz 19,
D-24768 Rendsburg, GERMANY
H.Reinhardt-Stral@kabelmail.de

Ortwin Schiessl Austria
Lascygasse 14-16, A-1170 WIEN
ortwin.schiessl@aon.at table tennis
philately: Stamps, sheets, FDC, postmarks

Lutz Schoenfeld Germany
selling Table Tennis items on ebay: pongiste
e-mail: rulusch@t-online.de

Luigi Simeoni In Memoriam

Harry Sintemaartensdijk Netherlands
Julianastraat 8, 2651 DP Berkel en Rodenrijs
0031 105114621 harry.smd@kpnmail.nl
Tischtennis Aufklebers/stickers

Tang Gan Xian P.R.China
tangganxian2013@163.com
Qin Hu 4-35-104, ChangShu 215500
+86-512-52722359 TT stamps, FDC, pins
postmarks, postcards, phonecards, tickets,

Marc Templereau France afctt@free.fr
16 Hameau des cerisiers 38150 Roussillon
Secretary, AFCTT (French TT Collectors
Assoc) <https://afctt.wordpress.com>
Collections : stamps, FDC, players postcards,
autographs, programs

Michael Thomson
1 Kinnoull Terrace, PERTH
PH2 7DJ SCOTLAND UK 01738 622052
thomsonfamily@blueyonder.co.uk
Jaques and history of Table Tennis

Solazzi Tonino solton66@virgilio.it
Via Millefonti 6 / 5 10126 Torino, Italy
0039 3668744426 Table Tennis pins
www.tabletennispins.weebly.com

Hans-Peter Trautmann Germany
Siegfriedstr. 17 64385 Reichelsheim
hpt@hptrautmann.de
Stamps mint, perf + imperf, sheets, color
proofs, minister/artist sheets, postmarks,
errors, red/blue meters

Graham Trimming 44(0)1628 529609
Rosemount Juniper Lane
Wooburn Green, Bucks HP10 0DE England
graham.trimming@virgin.net pre-1939 TT
items, esp c.1900s. Acquire: Gossima 1891;
early unusual items; early World Ch items.

Damir Uzorinac Croatia
Prilaz Gjure Dezelica 20 10000 Zagreb
Damir.Uzorinac@pliva.hr 38598474982
Books, pins, stamps, cancellations

Russ Walker e-mail = ?
4316 Irving Ave N, MPLS MN 55412 USA
+1-612-522-7905
Early 1900s equipment & boxed sets

Diane & Harvey Webb England
Dianek1414@hotmail.co.uk
+44 (0)1424 216342
English related photographs, programmes,
books, post cards. General - pin badges

Yao Zhenxu
Room 401 Unit 1 Building 2
No. 4 Dongsikuaiyu South Street
Chongwen District, Beijing 100061, China
+86-13911990508 cttayao@china.com
TT stamps, FDC, postcards, coins, pins,
phonecards, postal material, tickets etc

Jos Zinkstok Netherlands
Neckarstraat 8 NL9406 VN ASSEN
+31 592 350486 Fax: 0031 592 355861
j.zinkstok@poveia.nl www.poveia.nl
TT cancellations, stamps, vignettes, on real
used, letters/covers/cards, FDC

Anton Zwiebel In Memoriam

New Discoveries, Old Treasures

by Jorge Arango (COL)



'How to Play Ping Pong' (Table Tennis) by Torikai Eijiro, Tokyo. Ogawa Shoeido. 1903. 36pp[2]. 16.7 x 9.3cm. Japanese text.

Seller info:

Torikai also wrote books on lacrosse, hockey and baseball in 1902. This is a translation from a book in English as there are a list of numbers and expressions used with Japanese translations.

In Japan, table tennis started becoming popular in 1902 when Tsuboi Gendo, reportedly the first gymnastics instructor in Japan, brought a table tennis set back from his stay in England. No references found to this guide anywhere.

Our friend Jota Ito notes that a booklet entitled 'Ping Pong', by Takuo Ito, was published in November, 1902. It is possible this is a handbook that was included in a boxed set, as it has no price details

Please help find these books for the Museum !

An illustration from the book. Note the perforated wood bat. There have been a few boxed sets found with this type of bat.

See page 27 where Jorge shows that this image was adapted from another illustration.

