



National Championship Programmes Over the Years

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With tickets to the [PG Mutual Senior National Championships](#) going on general sale this Saturday, we take a look back at the artwork for the programmes – from 1960 to 2018.

Member Early Bird Discount

Members and newsletter subscribers of Table Tennis England can buy tickets to the event now in our priority access window. This includes a 20% early bird discount, which ends this Friday (7th) at 11.59pm. To redeem your discount, visit the [member benefit section](#) or read this week's Over the Net.

Programmes

January 1960

English Closed Table Tennis Championships 1960



to be held at

**GREENWICH BATHS
TRAFALGAR ROAD, GREENWICH, S.E.10**

on

JANUARY 7th, 8th and 9th, 1960

Finals :

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9th, at 7 p.m.

CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE :

Chairman : A. K. VINT, O.B.E.

Secretary : D. P. T. LOWEN Hon. Treasurer : T. BLUNN

Hon. Referee : G. JAMES (N.U.)

Asst. Referee : G. A. OWEN (N.U.)

Press & Publicity : C. JASCHKE Programme : F. G. MANNOOCH

Umpires & Stewards :

F. H. BATEMAN (N.U.) C. J. CLEMETT (N.U.)

Equipment & Lighting : G. W. DECKER

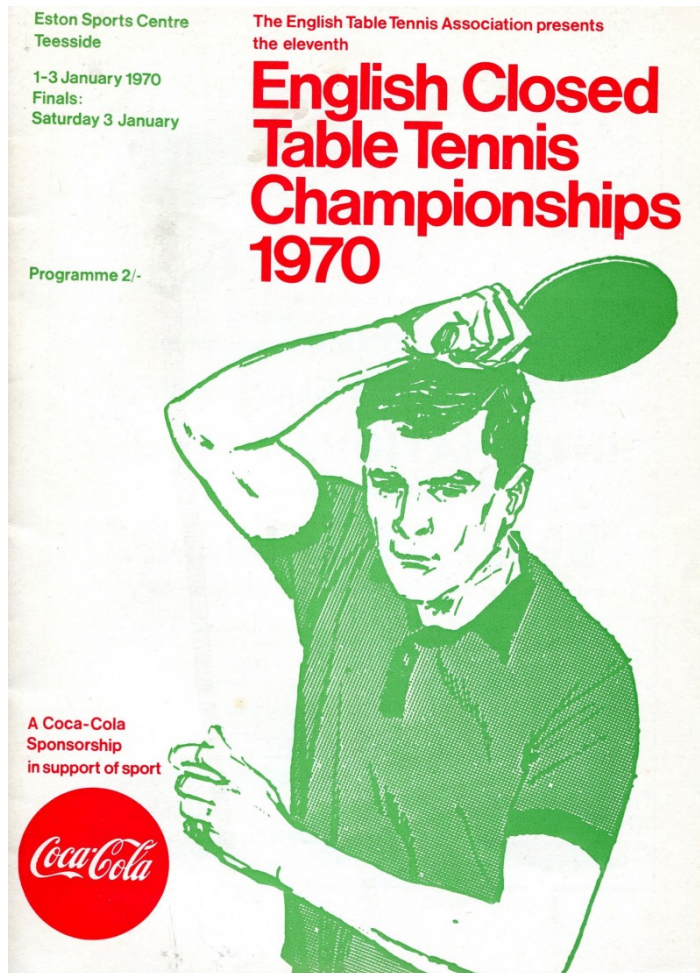
PROGRAMME 1/6

The first English National Championships took place in January 1960 and the programme for this was fairly basic, the front cover listed essential details of venue, date etc as well as the officials involved. The draw was a straight knockout with 81 entrants in the Men's Singles. Bryan Merrett won the first title, England ranked 2, defeating England's No 1 Ian Harrison in the final. Diane Rowe, No 1 in the Ladies' ranking beat the emerging Jean McCree, ranked sixth.

You may notice the name of Colin Clemett who was a member of the Championships Committee and jointly in charge of Umpires and Stewards. The Referee was Geoff James.

Price 1/6d

January 1970



A change in format and the first year a picture was on the front cover. The Championships this year were sponsored by Coca-Cola. The playing format for the five individual events was still a straight knockout. Denis Neale and Mary Wright were the victors in the two singles events and Tony Chatwin was the Referee.

Price 2/-

April 1975



NORWICH UNION
English Table Tennis
Championships 1975

APRIL 3rd - 5th 1975
NATIONAL SPORTS CENTRE,
CRYSTAL PALACE, LONDON

Times of Play:-
Thursday, April 3rd Men's Singles: 2.00pm and 6.30pm
Friday, April 4th Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles
 Women's Singles: 9.00am and 2.00pm
 Men's and Women's Singles - Quarter and Semi-finals
 Mixed Doubles Final: 6.30pm
Saturday, April 5th Men's and Women's Doubles: 9.00am
 FINALS: 1.30pm

Admission Prices: 50p Adults, 25p Children, each day
 Payable at the door

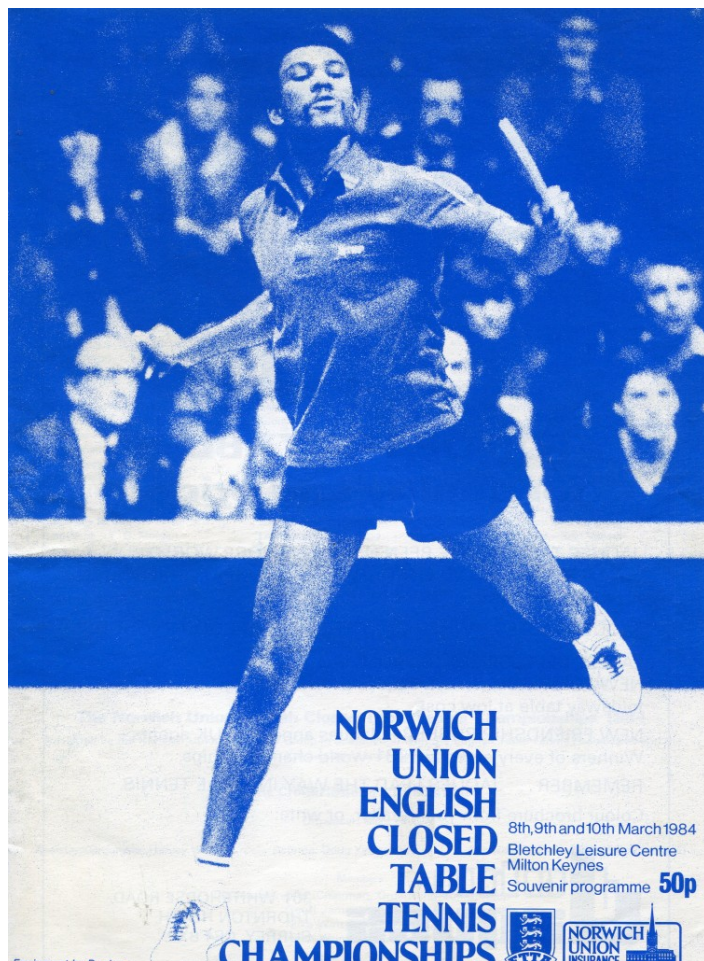
 

Norwich Union were the sponsors of the National Championships for over 10 years.

In 1975, 126 players entered the Men's Singles and 36 in the Women's Singles. The Champions were Denis Neale and Jill Hammersley (Parker) respectively. Len Pilditch was the Referee.

Price Entry 50p adults, children 25p

March 1984



Still being sponsored by Norwich Union this was the first time that a player was featured on the front cover. Desmond Douglas and Alison Gordon took the Singles titles. Veterans' Singles were also in the tournament and were won by husband and wife, Derek and Doreen Schofield. The Championships Committee was chaired by Doreen Stannard, a position she held for many years.

Programme 50p

May 1989



Another major sponsor in the form of the Leeds Building Society. Winners were Alan Cooke and Lisa Lomas in the Singles events.

Prize money was £1,000 for the Men's Singles winner, going down to £60 each for the losing Third Round players. Nearly £6,000 in total.

Added extras in the programme were a crossword puzzle and a space for autographs.

Referee was John Jermyn, Tournament Organiser Harvey Webb and Umpires Control Di Jermyn.

Programme 50p

March 1996



A full colour glossy programme featuring Matthew Syed on the front. Alan Cooke took the Men's Singles title from Carl Prean, Matthew Syed, seeded 1, did not play through injury. David Edwards was the umpire for the Men's Singles final. Alison Gordon (Broe) beat Andrea Holt in the Women's Singles. Prize money was £900 for the Men's Singles Champion and £575 for the Ladies Champion.

Programme £1.50

March 1997

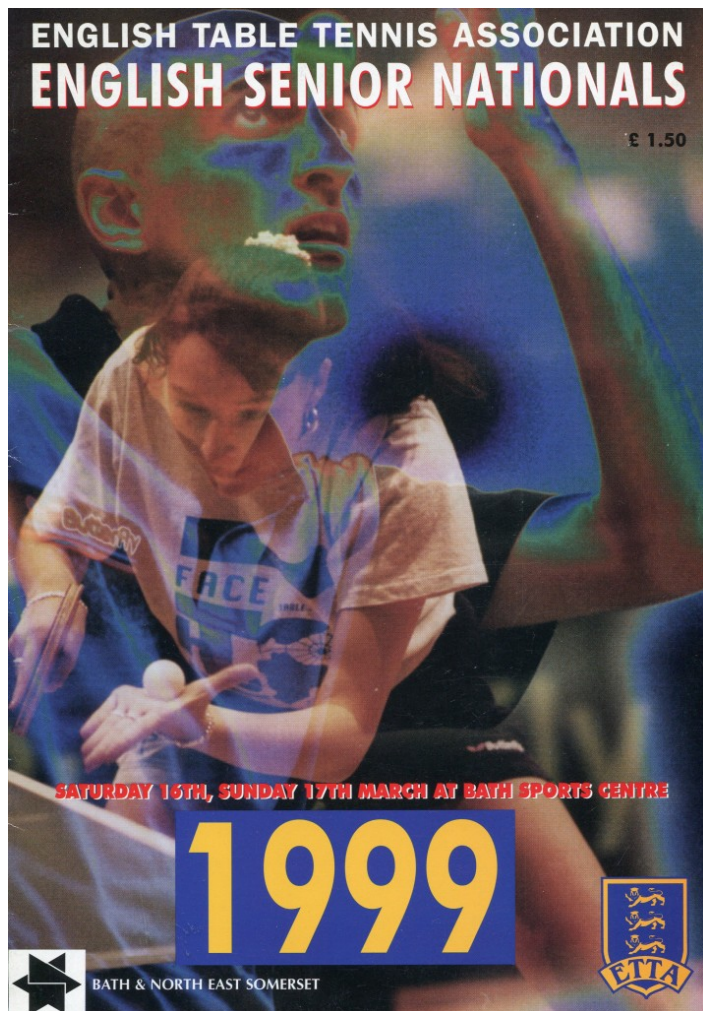


Alison Gordon is featured alongside Alan Cooke on the cover. Groups were introduced for the first time. There were 95 men in the group stages plus the 16 seeds who went straight through to the knockout stages. In the Women's Singles the numbers were significantly less with only 17 ladies in the group stage plus eight seeds. Winners were Matthew Syed and Nicola Deaton.

The Referee was Mick Strode and Organiser Jill Harris.

Programme £1.50

March 1999



A more creative cover this year which was a replica of the previous year. Nicola Deaton and Matthew Syed are the two competitors on the front cover. This was the last year that the National Championships were played in Bath before their 15-year run in Sheffield. U21 events were now part of the schedule. Men's and Women's Singles winners were Alex Perry and Nicola Deaton.

Mick Strobe was the Referee again with Harvey Webb as the Organiser. Doreen Stannard, as well as being National Championships Committee Chairman, was the Umpires Manager in charge of the 20 umpires.

Programme £1.50

March 2005

ENGLISH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

£1.50

4-6 March 2005
PONDS FORGE SHEFFIELD



WWW.TTEVENT.NET

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



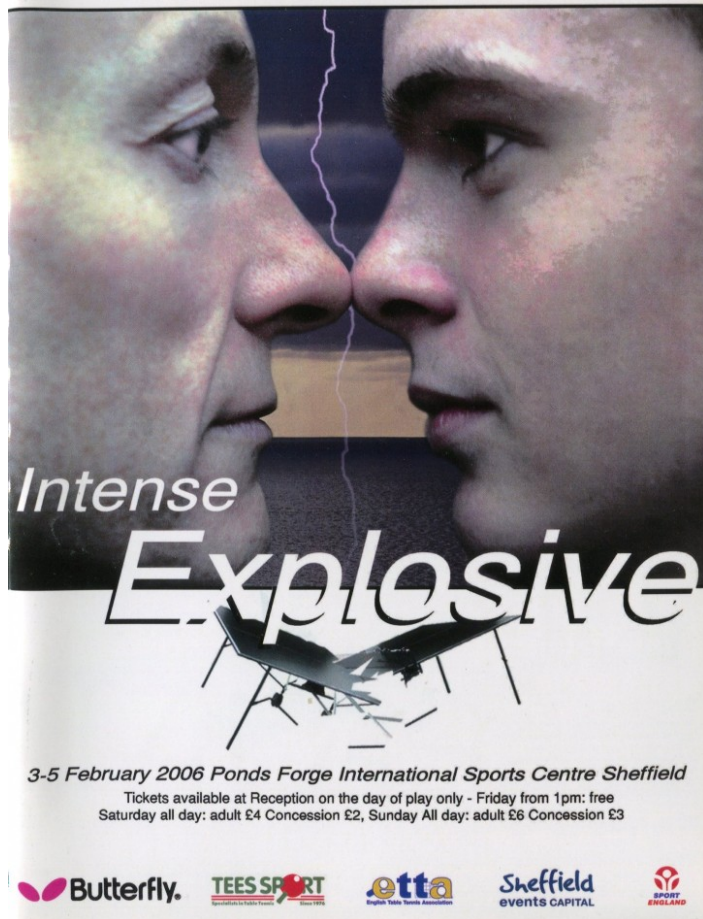
A change in style and size for the programme this year, it also had a loose leaf insert for the draw. Ponds Forge, Sheffield, which almost became the home of the National Championships and is synonymous with them over recent years, was the venue. The two youngsters, Paul Drinkhall and Darius Knight, graced the front cover. Singles Champions were Alan Cooke and Helen Lower.

Stuart Sherlock was the Referee with Graham Rogerson the Organiser and Liz Wilson the Umpires Manager.

Programme £1.50

February 2006

English National Table Tennis Championships



An explosive cover and perhaps my favourite. Alan Cooke and Paul Drinkhall face each other on the cover but never in the competition which was won by Alex Perry, who defeated Andrew Rushton in the final. In the semi-finals Andrew was the first Englishman to beat Alan Cooke in four years. Helen Lower again took the Women's title.

There were 114 male entries and 41 women in total.

Programme included in ticket price of £4.00 (£2.00 Concession) Saturday and £6.00 (£3.00 Concession) Sunday.

March 2007



Another change to the cover with our national flag on the front along with images of Paul Drinkhall, Darius Knight, Kelly Sibley and Alex Perry. Paul Drinkhall won the first of his, to date, four Men's Singles titles whilst Helen Lower was the Women's champion for the third time.

A full schedule, with the five main events, along with U21 and Veterans' events plus an invitation Disabled Singles.

Steve Welch was the Referee and Dave Evans the Organiser.

Programme £1.00.

March 2013



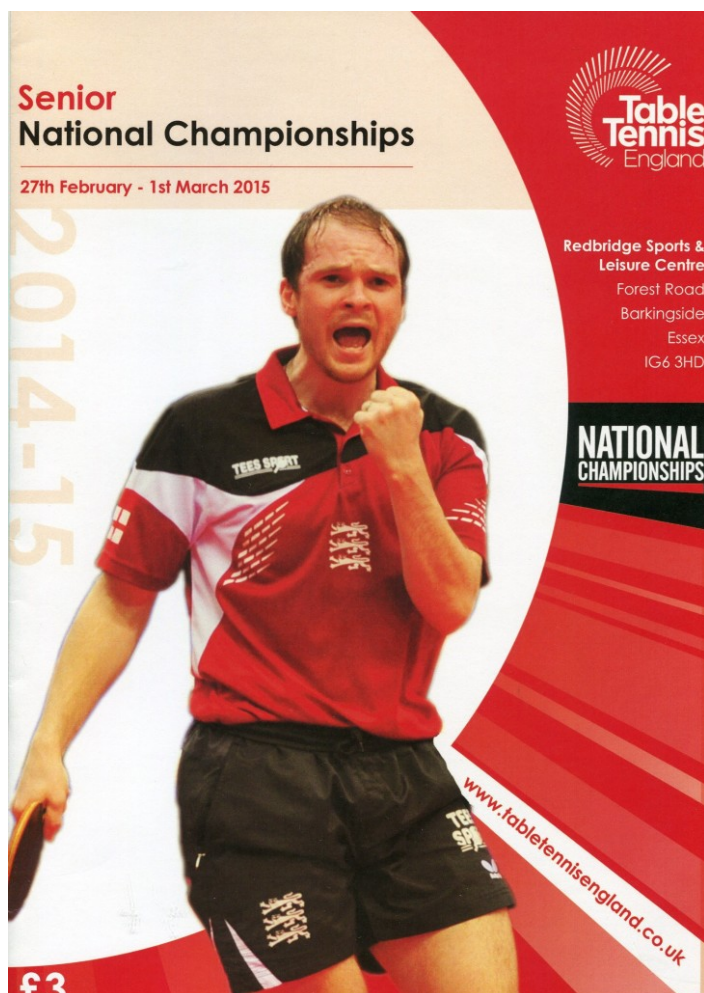
The sixth of seven years where the same background was used with an image of a leading player superimposed.

Winners of the two main events were Liam Pitchford and Kelly Sibley, the fourth of her titles.

Steve Welch again took the Referee's hot seat with Jim Kenny as the Organiser, Margaret Calver was the Umpires Manager.

Programme £2.00.

February/March 2015



A new era, a new image and a new venue. A sad farewell was said to Sheffield which had served the Association so well for 15 years.

126 men and 34 ladies entered. Liam Pitchford took his third Men's Singles title and Kelly Sibley her fifth Women's Singles.

Programme £3.00, the Draw if sold separately £1.00.

March 2016

The first year of PG Mutual's sponsorship as the Nationals moved to Hertfordshire Sports Village in Hatfield, and para events were incorporated, with four different categories.

A special presentation was made, in front of a standing ovation, to the England squad of Liam Pitchford, Paul Drinkhall, Sam Walker and coach Alan Cooke, who were fresh from winning the bronze medal at the World Team Championships in Kuala Lumpur a fortnight earlier.

With the final stages shown live on ITV4, Paul won his fifth singles title and Tin-Tin Ho her first senior women's singles crown.

The referee was Steve Smith and the programme, featuring Liam Pitchford as the main image on the cover, cost £3.



March 2017

The University of Nottingham's magnificent new David Ross Sports Village was the host for this year.

Again, the Nationals was filmed, but this time an hour-long highlights programme was shown on Sky Sports, while the last three finals were streamed live on the SPORTBible Facebook page.

The referee was Brian Jackson and the two main titles remained in the hands of Paul Drinkhall and Tin-Tin Ho. The programme cost £2.



March 2018

Another new venue as the PG Mutual Nationals moved to the Copper Box Arena on London's Olympic Park, the week after the venue had hosted the ITTF Team World Cup.

The draw for the event was carried out the day before the competition and streamed live in FA Cup-style format. The final day of the event was shown live on the BBC Sport website, which had also carried the Team World Cup.

The singles champions were Liam Pitchford and Tin-Tin Ho and the programme, reflecting the fact that the draw was not included, cost £1.



March 2019

This year's programme has gone on sale for £1.50 and for the first time, you can purchase a programme when you order your tickets online, and pick it up at the venue on the day.

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