

Shaun strikes gold again

Following his triple success at Stoke Mandeville in September, New Milton Table Tennis Club's wheelchair player Shaun Newcomb once again triumphed in the fourth of this year's National Grand Prix Series for table tennis players with a disability.

Held in Crewe and hosted by Mencap Sport, Shaun took top honours in the Open singles, Doubles and in his own disability class singles event.

Winning his class singles event without dropping a set, Shaun was then tested in the semi-final of the Open, dropping an end to Lee Hammill from Manchester but coming out the eventual winner to set up the second consecutive Open final meeting with 17-year-old Jack Pegram. Shaun who coaches Jack, said the youngster from Watford continues to impress as he beat a former GB squad player in his own semi final. "Jack's rate of improvement is astounding and reflects his enthusiasm and the effort he has put into his training".

In the doubles, Shaun teamed up with Lee Hammill and beat Jack and his partner John Welsh to win the group.

The last of this year's Great Britain ranking tournaments is to be held in Liverpool in December and both Shaun and Jack plan to be there.

Shaun, who turned 50 last month, practices his table tennis locally at the New Milton Club nights in Sway Village Hall on Sunday evenings where all are welcome. Anyone interested can contact club secretary Bev Scott-Johns on 01425 619552 for further details.