

THE DREAM CONTINUES...

Recently, I took part in the British Table Tennis for the Disabled (BTTAD) Tournament, held over the weekend in Grantham. This event proved to be my best yet, since I started a year ago.

I gained Runner-up in Class 12 (Deaf) category, after just losing out on Gold medal by 'count back' of games won/lost, as three of us were on the same number of points after our round robin matches.

I was losing Semi-Finalist in the Men's Open Standing Doubles (with Martin Strutt) and so got joint Bronze. Then, I finished off the weekend by reaching the main Men's Open Standing Singles Final and lost 3-1 to David Wetherill. I managed to beat some creditable players en-route to the final but felt that my epic Semi-Final match took too much out of me and so did not perform as well as I would have liked in the Final.

Never the less, it was an excellent performance and it was one step better than last time and now hope to clinch Gold at the Mencap Tournament in two weeks time. I actually finished the weekend with podium finishes for all 3 events, collecting 2 Silver and 1 Bronze medals.

Official Disability ranking lists were showing me at 15th place before these games, due to my only starting last year, but after this success I am sure I shall be swiftly moving up the ranks!

It has also been announced that Great Britain are sending a squad to the World Deaf Championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, next June and I very much hope to be part of this squad.

