



All England Bar Billiards



The bi-monthly newsletter of the All England Bar Billiards Association

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AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

We have come to the end of the bar billiards year and it has again been a great year for bar billiards and the AEBBA would like to congratulate all the winners. The year's highlight was without doubt the World Championships in Jersey, where **Paul Sainsbury** won his second world title. Hard luck to **Phil Osborne**, who had a great run to the final—but a good year for him which included a first England call up against Guernsey in May.



Paul also won the Surrey Open in April to put him on 17 national titles. Arguably though it was the outgoing World Champion's year—**Mark Trafford** won three opens plus the All England Singles and became the England number 1 to boot. Outgoing number 1 and new number 2 **Curt Driver**, was consistent over the year but was disappointed not to win a title in 2018. Number 3 ranked **Nigel Senior** had also not won an individual tournament (although he did win the AEBBA pairs in Bournemouth with **Marc Chipman**) but ended their year on a high by winning his 3rd Grand Prix in 4 years.

Matt Jones will be disappointed to have lost 4 major finals this year (running out the table in two of them) but his consistency has got him up to 4 in the rankings. **Kevin Tunstall** may have dropped out of the top 4 for now, but won the Sussex Open in June—only his 72nd national title (he is still number one in that list!). Three other players added to their open tally—**Mark James** won Kent, **Mark Brewster** triumphed in Northants and **Trevor Gallienne** proved he is so tough to beat on home soil by winning Guernsey. Also we had a new player to join the winner's circle—AEBBA secretary, **Lorin Clough** won the National Off the Spot title. Talking of new winners—**Sussex B** shocked at the county championships by taking the title—all 7 players having never won a national individual title before—it is good to see young players like **Joe Oakley, Jack Baden & Chris Cox** excelling on the national stage.

The minor opens saw some new winners as well, **David Lloyd** won the EA 4 pin title on the narrow titles. **Chris Saville** won the AEBBA 4 pin event on the wider tables. **Gerry Fitzjohn** won the Alternative rules, (plus the over 50's and 60's) - his biggest title to date.

This year the ladies game was seen by 4 different players. **Jean Brackenridge**, won her 4th British Ladies title. **Pauline Withey** won her 5th Ladies Grand Prix. **Denise Wills** won her 3rd All England title. The Special Ladies was won by Oxon's **Jenny Florey**. Jean has also narrowly taken the number one spot from Pauline, but it's close only 0.2 points separating them!

Another great year! The AEBBA would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

World Championships @ Merton Hotel, Jersey, 9th/10th/11th Nov 2018

Paul Sainsbury (pictured right on the left) won his 2nd World Championship title in Jersey. This adds to his 2014 success and is his 17th national title. Paul beat **Phil Osborne**, (pictured right on the right) from Sussex, in the final. Paul was asked to play first after Phil won the toss, and proceeded to play the table out for 14,640. A tough ask for Phil but wasn't far off target when he unfortunately broke down on around 7k.



140 players entered the tournament (8 up on last year) and the first round was again played in groups of 4. There were some exciting groups, but it's fair to say most of the top players made it through. However former champ **Graeme Le Monnier** failed to get out of group 5 and he was probably the biggest casualty of the group stages. Then followed the live draw for the last 64, which, seemed to keep most of the top players apart, for now at least... The pick of the ties was probably where two former champions met **Graham Bisson** and **Jim Millward**. Jim will be disappointed as spurned chances cost him victory and Graham progressed to the last 32. It was into this next round we had some real big match ups. No more so than 2 former champs in **Kevin Tunstall v Matt Jones**. Kevin punished Matt after missing on around 4,500. **Mark Trafford** smashed former champ **Alan Le Blond 22,450-270** and **Phil Osborne** beat Jim's conqueror **Graham Bisson**. **Paul Sainsbury** beat 2 time runner up **Nigel Ryall**. Previous runners up **Nigel Senior** and **James Jeanne** made it through comfortably. **Curt Driver** had a good comeback 12k down against **Jim Greensted**. **Richard Wooton**, a previous doubles winner made it through a tough match against **Mark Brewster**. So by the time the field was whittled down to 16, 12 UK mainland, 1 Jersey, and 3 Guernsey players were left in, with 5 past champions present. Some great matches here—**Curt Driver's** opening 18k too much for **Richard Wooton**. Two former champs ran the table out in the match between **Paul Sainsbury** and **Trevor Gallienne**, Paul's extra speed telling in a 17,800-15,380 win. **Martin Cole** and **Nigel Senior** ended the rest of Guernsey's hopes beating **Matt Ogier** and **Ian Champion** respectively. Onto the quarter finals and we saw the highest ever scoring match in the World Championships. **Kevin Tunstall** set a tournament record break of 21,640 only to see **Nigel Senior** take it from him some 20 minutes later with a 22,220 break. **Phil Osborne** ended **Mark Trafford's** fine title defence. **Paul Sainsbury** finally ended Jersey's hopes defeating **James Jeanne**, and **Martin Cole** made a brilliant 17,240 break to defeat **Curt Driver** who had set 16,310. The semi finals had tense finishes. Martin will rue missed chances against Paul, and I can assure you that Nigel is rueing a big missed chance against Phil coming back from 11k down with 10 minutes to go only to peg his break when almost level with a couple of minutes left. So it was Phil who was to join Paul in the final.



The World Championship Doubles was won by **Matt Jones & Cliff Slade** (pictured left). They beat **Matt Knight & Joe Oakley** in a cracking final. I am wondering if that makes Cliff the oldest World Champion in any sport let alone Bar Billiards! The plate was won by the evergreen **Chris Tupper** beating **Stuart Caruthers**. The best news of the weekend though was **Graeme Le Monnier** confirming the future of the event after some worrying rumours of it not continuing. We thank him and also **Sean Le Beuvan** (who is retiring this year from running the tournament) for all their efforts over the years...and long may the event continue, in Jersey, on Jersey tables!

Latest British Rankings (@ 31st December 2018)

MEN				LADIES			
Pos	Player	County	PTS	Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Mark Trafford	Oxon	339.3	1(+1)	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	122.5
2	Curt Driver	Kent	323.7	2(-1)	Pauline Withey	Oxon	122.3
3	Nigel Senior	Sussex	288.8	3	Michelle Baden	Sussex	57.2
4(+1)	Matt Jones	Bucks	245.0	4	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	55.3
5(-1)	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	234.8	5	Dawn Jordan	Sussex	52.4
6	Paul Sainsbury	Kent	205.2	6	Ros Appleby	Sussex	47.2
7	Mark Brewster	Kent	180.1	7	Jenny Florey	Oxon	43.0
8	Ian Lelliott	Sussex	157.6	8	Denise Wills	Surrey	43.0
9	Dave Ingram	Sussex	147.5	9	Mel Standbridge	Oxon	38.5
10	Phil Osborne	Sussex	146.5	10	Colleen Park	Sussex	20.1

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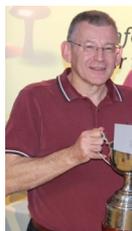
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Over 50's @ Arborfield Club, 18th Nov 2018



The Over 50's title was won by **Gerry Fitzjohn** (pictured left) adding to the title he won in 2013. Gerry beat two-time winner **Ernie Jordan** in the final. Gerry's opening break of 17,980 in the final was the highest of the day and proved too much for Ernie to chase.

After last year's disappointing entry of only 8 players, we had a brilliant 24 for this year's event. Players were split into groups of

3 with the winners progressing to the quarter finals. Gerry won his group unbeaten and encountered **Ian Lelliott** in the quarter finals beating him 17,310 -11,070. Awaiting him in the semi final was 3 time winner **Tony Martin**, Tony having just beaten **Dave Constable** by just 230 points. Gerry ran out a comfortable winner 10,180-930. Ernie only got through on aggregate in his group beating **Denise Wills** but losing to **Paul Lovegrove**. But comfortable wins over **John Slee** and **Terry Molloy** saw him into the final.

Over 60's @ Arborfield Club, 18th Nov 2018

The Over 60's title was won by **Gerry Fitzjohn** (pictured above) completing the 50/60's double on the same day. He beat 2 time winner **Ian Lelliott** (for the 2nd time that day) in the final. Ian pegged an early break and Gerry ran out a comfortable winner in the end by 10,300-0.

22 players entered and the completion was run as a straight knockout. Gerry was rarely troubled en route to the final as he beat Buck's **John Miller** and then Oxon's **Allan Lacey** in the last 8. In the semi finals he beat **John Slee** who had just knocked in the days high break of 13,180. A 12k 1st leg lead was enough here for Gerry. Ian had good wins over **Tony Cross** and **Ernie Jordan** to make the semi finals. There he met Hampshire's **Tony Woolvin** and beat him 14,330-4,160.

Have any ideas of what you want to see in the Newsletter, or wish to contribute stories or pictures?

Email nigelsenior05@googlemail.com with your suggestions

Ladies Grand Prix, 25th Nov 2018



Pauline Withey (pictured left) won her 5th Ladies Grand Prix title, to equal **Jean Brackenridge's** record in this competition. In the final she beat Sussex's **Michelle Baden**. Pauline built up a handy 8k lead in the 1st leg, and when Michelle broke down early in leg 2 the game was conceded shortly after. Pauline was seeded 4th and went into her last match against **Jean Brackenridge** needing to beat her to qualify plus score enough to make sure she had more score than **Janet Burns** (seeded 8) if she beat **Ros Appleby** (seeded 5). In the event Pauline beat Jean **11,540-5,950** and Ros beat Janet to ensure Pauline's berth in the final. Michelle was seeded 3 and was in a very similar position to Pauline where she needed to beat **Jenny Florey** (seeded 2) and hope that **Mel Standbridge** (seeded 7) didn't score big if she beat **Lorraine Hall** (seeded 6). Michelle beat Jenny **6,920-3,910** and although Mel got 10k in beating Lorraine it was not enough to deny

Michelle a place in the final. Michelle also made the day's high break of **5,440** to give her some consolation for losing the final.

Group A		
Pos	Player	Pts
1	Pauline Withey (Oxon) (4)	4
2	Jean Brackenridge (Sus) (1)	4
3	Janet Burns (Berks) (8)	2
4	Ros Appleby (Sus) (4)	2

Group B		
Pos	Player	Pts
1	Michelle Baden (Sus) (3)	4
2	Jenny Florey (Oxon) (2)	4
3	Mel Standbridge (Oxon) (7)	2
4	Lorraine Hall (Sus) (6)	2

Final		
Pauline Withey	14,050	
beat		
Michelle Baden	270	

Final Grand Prix Standings (after 10 events)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Mark Trafford	77
2	Paul Sainsbury	50
3	Kevin Tunstall	44
4	Matt Jones	37
5	Curt Driver	27
6	Mark Brewster	26
7	Martin Cole	24
8	Phil Osborne	20
9	Nigel Senior	20
10	Lorin Clough	20
11	Steven Sheard	19
12	Mark James	18
13	Trevor Gallienne	18
14	Simon Coleman	15
15	Martin Smith	13
16	Ian Lelliott	12

Grand Prix @ Arborfield Club, Reading, 25th Nov 2018

Nigel Senior (pictured right) won the Grand Prix title for the 3rd time in the last 4 years. He beat last year's champion, **Matt Jones**, in the final. The final was top quality with Matt scoring a run out of **19,200** (no missed splits to the 100) but Nigel made **20,000** exactly in reply (one missed split to the 100 but got away with it).



The top 16 performers on the open circuit this year were seeded and placed into 4 groups— winners progressing to the semi finals. It was not just the final that was top quality, through the day there were big breaks. **Three** over 20k and a total of **24** over 10k. Top seed **Mark Trafford** was grouped with **Nigel Senior** and many were probably expecting a shoot out between the 2. This didn't quite happen as Mark lost a 16k break whilst trying to increase his score against **Matt Knight** (seeded 16) but the lost break cost him the match. This meant Nigel's (after beating Matt and for the first time in 4 attempts this year, **Lorin Clough**, (seeded 9)) opening break of 9k against Mark was enough to win the group, despite Mark coming back with the days highest break of **22,230**. World Champ **Paul Sainsbury** (seeded 2) came through Group B, all players went into the last game on one win each. **Mark James** (seeded 10) won his last match against **Doug Carswell** (seeded 15) but was 4k shy of Pauls aggregate as he beat **Phil Osborne** (seeded 7) in a rematch of the World Final. In Group C, again all players went into their final matches on one win each. **Matt Jones** (seeded 3) beat **Martin Cole** (seeded 6) whilst **Simon Coleman** (seeded 11) beat debutant **Joe Oakley** (seeded 14). Matts aggregate of **60,670** over Simon's **48,920** being decisive sending Matt through. Curiously all 12 matches in groups B & C were won by the player going second – who says it makes no difference going first or second! In the final group **Curt Driver** (seeded 4) and **Mark Brewster** (seeded 5) faced off in the last match after they both beat **Martin Smith** (seeded 12) and **Gerry Fitzjohn** (Seeded 13). Curt capitalizing on an early Mark error to progress.

In the semis Curt never recovered from missing the first split against Nigel. The other semi was a classic though as Matt played the table out for **18,100**. All looked lost for Paul after missing on 9k, but he retrieved the balls and got to the last ball 90 behind. Paul's attempt at the 100 didn't reach – if it doesn't get there it won't go in...and Matt thumped the 100 home to win by **190** points overall.

Group A		
Pos	Player	Pts
1	Nigel Senior (Sus) (8)	4
2	Mark Trafford (Ox) (1)	4
3	Lorin Clough (Nor) (9)	2
4	Matt Knight (Sus) (16)	2

Group B		
Pos	Player	Pts
1	Paul Sainsbury (Ken) (2)	4
2	Mark James (Sus) (10)	4
3	Doug Carswell (Buc) (15)	2
4	Phil Osborne (Sus) (8)	2

Semi Finals	
Nigel Senior	20,930
Curt Driver	670
Matt Jones	18,200
Paul Sainsbury	18,010

Group C		
Pos	Player	Pts
1	Matt Jones (Bucks) (3)	4
2	Simon Coleman (Nor) (11)	4
3	Martin Cole (Sus) (15)	2
4	Joe Oakley (Sus) (14)	2

Group D		
Pos	Player	Pts
1	Curt Driver (Kent) (4)	6
2	Mark Brewster (Kent) (5)	4
3	Martin Smith (Sus) (12)	2
4	Gerry Fitzjohn (Ken) (13)	0

Final	
Nigel Senior	20,000
Matt Jones	19,200

All England Ladies @ Arborfield Club, 18th Nov 2018



Denise Wills (pictured left) won the All England Ladies title for the 3rd time. Five ladies entered this year's event and it was played in a double leg round robin. The usual suspects entered along with Denise, **Pauline Withey** (Oxon), **Jean Brackenridge** (Sussex) **Dawn Jordan** (Bucks). However, it was also good to see **Leanne Tyson** representing Northants who have not had a lady player in this competition since two time runner up **Penny Burch** played in **2006**. Denise started with a narrow win over Dawn, but then she won very decisively over Pauline **14,400-5,200**. She followed that with a win over Leanne. The title was pretty much assured by then but she finished the day unbeaten with a narrow win over Jean **7,780-7,540**. Pauline won her other matches after losing to Denise to secure the runner-up spot. Denise capped a great day for her by also getting the highest break with **6,630**.

Final Standings

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Denise Wills (Surrey)	8
2	Pauline Withey (Oxon)	6
3	Dawn Jordan (Bucks)	4
4	Jean Brackenridge (Sus)	2
5	Leanne Tyson (Northants)	0

Under 30's @ Arborfield Club, 25th Nov 2018



Joe Oakley (pictured left) from Sussex won the Under 30's title for the first time. In a repeat of last years final, Joe faced **Daniel Wheal** from Sussex. The result was reversed this time though with Joe building up a handy 6k lead on a tricky table and Daniel never really got going and the final score was **10,760-6,670**. 8 players entered, they were split into two groups, top 2 progressing into the semi finals. Daniel & Joe were in the same group and by the time they met they had both won 2 games guaranteeing their spots in the semi finals. 2014 winner, **Stephen Coleman** and the 2016 runner up **Kyle Ingram** both successfully got through the other group. So Joe met **Stephen Coleman** in the semi final – Joe was a convincing winner with the aid of the day's high break of **21,000** – the highest break in this event recorded since records have been kept since 1991. Daniel got through against Kyle reasonably comfortably by a score of **15,520-5,780**.

Upcoming Events in January & February

2nd Feb - Oxon Open - The 26th Oxon Open will take in February, at the Didcot Con Club. In a repeat of the 2016 final **Mark Trafford** reversed the result beating **Keith Sheard** in the final.

Dates for your diary 2019—see <http://www.aebba.org/> for entry forms

- 2nd Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Con Club)
- 2nd/3rd Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
- 23rd Mar— East Anglian 4-pin Open (@ Masonic Hall, Sudbury)
- 7th Apr—Surrey Open (@ Salfords Club)
- 13/14th Apr—AEBBA Challenger Event (@ Nottingham) [Entry open to players outside 250 in rankings]
- 4th/5th May - Guernsey Pairs/Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)
- 18th May - AEBBA Northants 4 pin Open (@ Cock Inn, Northampton)
- 19th May - Northants Open (@ Cock Inn, Northampton)
- 1st June - England v Guernsey (@ Roffey Club, Horsham)
- 2nd June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club, Horsham)
- 16th June - Alternative Rules (@ Totteridge Club, High Wycombe)
- 30th June - National Off the Spot Open (@ Totteridge Club, High Wycombe)
- 21st July - Kent Classic (@ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge)
- 28th July - British Ladies (@ Burgess Hill Con Club)
- 4th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Totteridge Club, High Wycombe)
- 8th Sept - Berks Open (@ Arborfield Club, Reading)
- 15th Sept - County Div 1 (@ Arborfield Club, Reading)
- 22nd Sept - County Div 2 (@ Arborfield Club, Reading)
- 6th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies/ AEBBA Mixed Pairs (@ Totteridge Club)
- 20th Oct— AE Open Singles/AE Ladies Singles/Over 50's/Over 60's (@ Totteridge Club)
- 8th/9th/10th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles/ Jersey v England (Jersey)
- 24th Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies Grand Prix/Under 30's (@ Arborfield Club, Reading)
- ??? Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ TBC)