



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

Issue 18

Nov/Dec 2011



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## Plate Specialists

There is often talk of plate specialists at opens, but I thought it may be interesting to find the definitive plate specialist by seeing who had won most of the 121 plates that have taken place in individual opens. That person is Keith Sheard who has won no less than 7 plates—the 1999 & 2010 Oxon, 2000 Bucks, 2003 Berks, 2006 Alt Rules, 2008 Ports & 2008 Kent. Only one person has ever retained a plate—Dave Ingram won the 2009 & 2010 Bucks. Our numbers 1 & 2 have only won 1 plate each—Kevin Tunstall won the 2005 Sussex, Nigel Senior won the 2010 Guernsey. The most successful lady is Sue Mariner with 2 plate wins—the 2002 Jersey and 2008 Guernsey.

	W	R-UP
1 Keith Sheard	7	1
2 Paul Wing	5	1
3 Ray Sturgess	4	3
4 Tony Woolvin	3	4
5 Steven Sheard	3	3
6 Chris Saville	3	2
= Gary Johnson	3	2
8 Dennis Atkins	3	1
= Phil Collins	3	1
10 Gareth Lloyd	3	0
= Mark Turner	3	0

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

## AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

We have come to the end of the bar billiards year and it has 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 Kevin Tunstall won his 4th title to move level with Jim Millward.

It has been an amazing year for Kevin, probably his best yet even at this high standards. He won 7 of the 12 individual titles on offer this year plus the county champs, plus the All England Team champs. He has moved over 60 points clear in the rankings showing clearly he is the games number 1 at the moment. Other players though have made their mark this year. Steven Sheard won the Oxon Open and the British Pairs and was runner up in four more finals. Curt Driver was also outstanding this year and the highlight for him was a win in the All England Singles in October. Leon Beer won his 2nd open and Tony Woolvin won his first. Special mention must also go to Phil Collins who despite battling illness won this years Grand Prix in magnificent style. So plenty of players to challenge KT next year!!!

The ladies game has been far more open, with 4 different winners of the four ladies events. Ladies number 1 Pauline Withey finished the year on a high by winning the ladies Grand Prix. Chris Newson took her incredible 7th All England Ladies title. Myra Hawkins showed she was still a top player with a win in the Special Ladies and Sandra Race won her first big title winning the British Ladies.

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

## World Championships @ Merton Hotel, Jersey, 4th/5th/6th Nov 2011

Kevin Tunstall won his 4th title at the World Championships in Jersey to equal Jim Millward's record. It caps off a magnificent year for Kevin as it was his 7th individual title of the year. Kevin beat Steven Sheard in the final. Steven has been Kevin's main rival this year, meeting four times and although Steven beat him in their classic 23k v 22k match in Kent, Kevin has beaten him the other three—all in finals. Kevin won the "lag" - a new way to decide the break in Jersey this year where both players roll up to the white peg—and put Steven in. Steven broke down on 9k but still led by 7,010 with Kev's break to come. Kevin made an early miss on around 2k, but left the balls awkward. Both were desperate to get the break back and it was Kevin who did after a couple of visits each, and he made 8k to seal the title.



167 players entered the tournament and the first round was played in groups of 4 which was a new format for the championships. There were some exciting groups, and the big casualty was two time winner Bernie McCluskey, who lost a 14k break in one game, and he only ended with one win out of three to be eliminated. Also interestingly the 2 eventual finalists both lost a game in their group matches, but won through as a best runner up. Many of the top players qualified from the groups and there was a live draw for the last 64. This threw up a some big matches, perhaps the biggest Trevor Gallienne v James Jeanne, and they had already met in the group stage, but James reversed his defeat. Sunday morning saw the last 32 round played, and a couple past winners went out here—Jim Millward and Terry Race. By the time the field was whittled down to 16, 10 UK mainland, 5 Jersey, and 1 Guernsey player were left in. No Jersey player made it through to the last 4 as James Jeanne and Nigel Ryall went out at the quarter final stage. Two Sussex players were also eliminated in the quarter finals—Nigel Senior and Paul Barnett. In the semi final Kevin beat Curt Driver in a very close encounter—Curt missing on the break when level with only a couple of minutes left. Steven beat Steve Mariner in the other equally absorbing semi final, Steve missing just 2k short in a 15k chase, his 4th semi final defeat in this competition.

The World Championship Doubles was won by Bernie McCluskey & Paul Sainsbury they beat Sussex's Paul Barnett & Neil Higgins in the final. Bernie completed his weekend with the plate title beating Sue Mariner. Jersey did have some success—Kimberly Gallichan retained the junior title beating Amber Hopwood

Most agreed a fabulous new format for the biggest event of the year—come on have a go next year!

## Latest British Rankings (@ 31st December 2011)

MEN				LADIES			
Pos	Player	County	PTS	Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	306.7	1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	97.5
2	Nigel Senior	Sussex	240.3	2	Chris Newson	Hants	68.4
3	Steven Sheard	Oxon	239.4	3	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	60.1
4(+2)	Curt Driver	Kent	212.9	4(+1)	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	51.0
5	Keith Sheard	Oxon	203.3	5(-1)	Denise Wills	Surrey	50.4
6(-2)	Phil Collins	Oxon	201.1	6	Jenny Florey	Oxon	43.6
7	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	156.1	7	Sandra Race	Sussex	43.3
8	Mark Trafford	Oxon	119.5	8	Alison Norman	Surrey	39.4
9(+1)	Leon Beer	Oxon	112.6	9	Myra Hawkins	Berks	37.2
10(+1)	Mark Brewster	Kent	109.4	10	Hayley Tunstall	Sussex	35.0

## Ladies Grand Prix, 27th Nov 2011

### Pauline Withey

(pictured middle bottom row) won her 3rd Ladies Grand Prix title beating **Denise Wills** in the final. Pauline was seeded 5, but came through her group despite losing her first game to **Genette Nicholls**. Wins against **Sandra Race** and **Debz Pearce** saw her through. Group 2 was tight with 3 players on 2 wins each, but Denise made it through after a big win in her last game from **Myra Hawkins** and **Jenny Florey**.



Denise took some consolation with the high break of **6,220**.

### Final

Pauline Withey 16,120  
beat  
Denise Wills 3,410

### Group A

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Pauline Withey (Ox) (5)	4
2	Debz Pearce (Sur) (8)	4
3	Genette Nicholls (Sur) (4)	2
4	Sabdra Race (Sus) (1)	2

### Group B

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Denise Wills (Sur) (6)	4
2	Myra Hawkins (Ber) (3)	4
3	Jenny Florey (Ox) (2)	4
4	Alison Norman (Sur) (7)	0

## Final Grand Prix Standings @ 6th Nov 2011

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Kevin Tunstall	99
2	Steven Sheard	55
3	Curt Driver	40
4	Keith Sheard	22
5	Tony Woolvin	22
6	Rick Dewdney	17
7	Lorin Clough	16
8	Leon Beer	16
9	Ian Lelliott	15
10	Nigel Senior	14
11	Dave Ingram	13
12	Martin Smith	13
13	Phil Collins	13
14	Dennis Atkins	12
15	Paul Barnett	12
16	Gerry Fitzjohn	10

## Grand Prix @ Post Office Club, Reading, 27th Nov 2011



Phil Collins (pictured left) completed a tough personal year battling illness with a great first Grand Prix title. Phil was back to his best form running out table after table. He beat **Kevin Tunstall** in the semi final the days highest break of **21,080** and a 18,070 break was enough to see of **Steven Sheard** in the final.



The top 16 performers (pictured right) on the open circuit this year were seeded and placed into 4 groups—winners progressing to the semi finals. Top seed **Kevin Tunstall** won a tough Group A beating **Leon Beer** (seeded 8), **Nigel Senior** (seeded 9) and **Tony Webster** (seeded 16). **Steven Sheard** (seeded 2) & **Curt Driver** (seeded 3) won Groups B and C unbeaten, Steven hitting an incredible **13,655** per leg in his 3 matches. Group D was very tight, but Phil was the pick of the players. He was only seeded 12, but would have surely been higher if he had played in more tournaments this year. After wins against **Tony Woolvin** (seeded 5) and **Keith Sheard** (seeded 4), he did enough on score to qualify over **Dennis Atkins** (seeded 13), even though Dennis beat him on aggregate.

### Group A

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Kevin Tunstall (Sus) (1)	6
2	Leon Beer (Ox) (8)	4
3	Nigel Senior (Sus) (9)	2
4	Tony Webster (Hants) (16)	0

### Group B

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Steven Sheard (Ox) (2)	6
2	Dave Ingram (Sus) (10)	4
3	Lorin Clough (Nor) (7)	2
4	Gerry Fitzjohn (Kent) (15)	0

### Semi Finals

Phil Collins 21,180  
Kevin Tunstall 1,400  
Steven Sheard 18,950  
Curt Driver 240

### Group C

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Curt Driver (Kent) (3)	6
2	Paul Barnett (Sus) (14)	4
3	Rick Dewdney (Sus) (6)	2
4	Martin Smith (Sus) (11)	0

### Group D

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Phil Collins (Ox) (12)	4
2	Dennis Atkins (Ox) (13)	4
3	Tony Woolvin (Hants) (5)	2
4	Keith Sheard (Ox) (4)	2

### Final

Phil Collins 18,070  
Steven Sheard 5,070

## County Championships Division 2 @ Post Office Club, Reading, 20th Nov 2011

**Sussex B** have won the County Championships Division 2 after an extremely close competition held at the PO Club, Reading. Six teams were present and four challengers emerged for the title **Sussex B, Surrey B, Bucks and Berks B**. Surrey B took an early lead opening with a 5-2 win over Kent, Sussex B made a poor start with a 4-3 loss to Berks B. After 2 series Surrey B led by 2 legs, after beating Bucks 4-3, from Sussex B, Bucks, Berks B and Northants who were all on 7 legs. Surrey slipped up in their 3rd match and lost the overall lead with a 4-3 loss to Berks B. Sussex B and Bucks took over the lead as they both recorded 6-1 wins over Northants and Kent B respectively. Sussex B and Bucks met in series 4, and Sussex B took a big 5-2 win. This put Sussex B 2 legs clear going into their last game from Surrey B, with Bucks and Berks B 1 leg further adrift.

The championship was decided by the last match between Sussex B and Surrey B, Surrey needed 5 legs to take the title, but could only manage 4, but it ensured them the runners up spot, as the Bucks v Berks B match was a close 4-3 win for Bucks, so neither team overtook the top 2. Kent lost to Northants B to ensure they finished at the bottom of the table. Sussex B's **Ricky Dewdney** (pictured below) topped the averages with **9,790** and 5 wins from 5, a feat achieved by both Surrey's **Gary Powell** and Buck's **Andy Godden**. **Lorin Clough** from Northants made the days high break of **14,540**. The results for both divisions are below.

### Division 1

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Sussex A	24
2	Berks A	20
3	Oxon A	16
4	Kent A	16
5	Hants	15
6	Oxon B	14

### Division 2

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Sussex B	21
2	Surrey	20
3	Bucks	19
4	Berks B	18
5	Northants	15
6	Kent B	11



## Upcoming Events in January & February

**4th Feb - Jersey v England** - The men's international will take place this year at the Ardington Hotel in Worthing. The Jersey men will look to avenge a 17-16 defeat by the England men last year. Sadly there will be no ladies match.

**18th Feb - Oxon Open** - The open season starts off at the Cowley Conservative Club for the Oxon Open. Last year Steven Sheard won his 1st Oxon open title beating Phil Collins in the final.

### Dates for your diary 2012—see <http://www.aebba.org/> for entry forms

- 4th Feb - Jersey v England (@ Ardington Hotel Worthing)
- 18th Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club)
- 10/11th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
- 15th Apr—British Ladies Open (@ Salfords Club, nr Horley)
- 5th May/6th May - Guernsey v England/Guernsey Pairs/ Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)
- 13th May - Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School, Merstham)
- 10th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club)
- 15th July - Kent Classic (@ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge)
- TBC Aug - Bucks Open (@ Princes Riseborough Golf Club)
- 9th Sept - Berks Open (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 23rd Sept - County Div 1/ Ladies AE Singles (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 30th Sept - Ladies County/ AE Open Singles (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 14th Oct - Alternative Rules (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 21st Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 28th Oct - Mixed Pairs/Over 50's/ Over 60's (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 9/10/11th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles (Jersey)
- 18th Nov- County Div 2 (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 25th Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies GP/ Under 25's (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 9th Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ PO Club, Reading)