



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

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AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

We have had two opens in the last two months. Congratulations to Paul Sainsbury who won his 11th National title by retaining the Kent Classic in July.

Mark James won the other open with the Bucks in July. This is his 4th national title. Spare a thought for Keith Sheard who was the losing finalist in both these opens plus the Oxon Open in February—surely his time will come soon.

We enter the busy part of the year with the open and ladies county championships and the open and ladies individuals to be held in Reading. We also have the Berkshire Open, Alternative Rules, Special Ladies and the National Team Championships over the next 2 months.



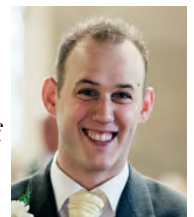
Kent Classic @ Suburban Club, Chatham, 7th July 2013

This years Kent Classic was held at the Suburban Club in Chatham to celebrate the Medway league's 70th anniversary. It was a great venue to hold the open and the tables produced lots of high scoring matches. **Paul Sainsbury** (pictured right) won the Kent Classic for the 4th time and retained the title he won last year. He beat **Keith Sheard** in the final. Keith was only 2.7k up after game 1 and Paul made an 11k opener to seal the title. It is Paul's 11th national title.



Paul was in magnificent form and started the day with a 31k aggregate score over **Ernie Jordan**. **Simon Coleman** gave him a 18k target in his 2nd match but Paul responded with a **20,090** break. In the last 16 he beat **Curt Driver** from 17k down with a **19,250** break. It didn't get any easier from there as he defeated **Kevin Tunstall** in the quarter finals and then **Phil Collins** in the semi final. Keith was also in fine form as he beat **Neale Chamberlin, Lorin Clough, Jason Wadsworth & Alan Brackenridge** to make the last 8. There he had a terrific match with **Nigel Senior**. Keith scored **21,860** and Nigel fell short making **20,880**—the two biggest breaks of the day! Keith then beat **Mark James** in the semi final after setting him a target of **19,660**.

The plate was won by **Martin Cole** (pictured right) who beat **Geoff Powell** in a close final **13,140-10,240**. As mentioned the tables were of high standard and there were **five 20k** breaks. **Colleen Park** made the high ladies break of **3,950**. Thanks to the Medway League for providing us a new venue for the open this year, maybe it could be used for the Off the Spot in 2014??



National Finals

Another bit of trivia—I thought it would be interesting to see what pairs players have met in national finals the most times. Not surprisingly the two players that have met in the most finals in total have played each other the most times. **Kevin Tunstall** (87 finals) & **Keith Sheard** (38 finals) have played each **14** times in finals. Kevin leads **8-6**. Kevin appears the most times on this list—there are 5 players he has met 4 times or more. He has winning records against them all except one—**Mark Turner** who actually leads him **4-1**. The two players that have met the most times in a final that didn't involve Kevin Tunstall are **Steven Sheard & Phil Collins**. Phil leads 3-2 in finals that have all taken place in the last 4 years. A sidenote to that is that **Steven Sheard** has met **Chris Reeves** in **5** consecutive under 25 finals between 2003-07, Steven winning three, Chris two. Here is the list of players that have met 4 times or more.

Players	Finals Played	Score
Kevin Tunstall v Keith Sheard	14	8-6
Kevin Tunstall v Paul Sainsbury	8	5-3
Kevin Tunstall v Tony Walsh	6	6-0
Mark Turner v Kevin Tunstall	5	4-1
Kevin Tunstall v Steven Sheard	5	5-0
Steven Sheard v Chris Reeves	5	3-2
Steven Sheard v Phil Collins	5	3-2
Keith Sheard v Paul Sainsbury	4	3-1

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

Email nigelcollins07@bt.com or eric.hill@bt.com with

Latest British Rankings (@ 31st August 2013)

<u>MEN</u>			
Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	274.8
2(+1)	Curt Driver	Kent	210.8
3(-1)	Steven Sheard	Oxon	207.8
4(+1)	Nigel Senior	Sussex	191.8
5(+1)	Keith Sheard	Oxon	187.7
6(+1)	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	180.2
7(-3)	Phil Collins	Oxon	177.0
8	Mark Trafford	Oxon	136.2
9(+1)	Dave Ingram	Sussex	125.3
10(-1)	Leon Beer	Oxon	119.2

<u>LADIES</u>			
Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	140.5
2	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	58.8
3	Sandra Hall	Sussex	57.5
4	Denise Wills	Surrey	55.1
5	Jenny Florey	Oxon	49.0
6	Myra Hawkins	Berks	40.2
7	Colleen Park	Sussex	37.1
8	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	35.5
9	Mrs Chris Newson	Hants	29.4
10	Genette Nicholls	Surrey	26.4

Ladies National Finals

A continuation on the piece on national finals on the front page, I thought we best not forget the ladies!

Again it is the 2 players that have appeared in the most finals that have met the most times.

Pauline Withey (27 finals) & **Jean Brackenridge** (16 finals) have played each **7** times in finals. Pauline leads **4-3**.

These 2 ladies are involved in the other 3 pairings that have met in 3 finals. Jean is down **2-1** in finals to **Chris Newson**. Pauline leads **Janet Burns 3-0** and also leads **Jane Wood 2-1**. Here is the list of lady players that have met 3 times or more in finals.

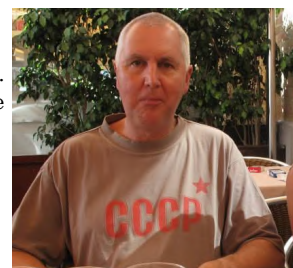
Players	Finals Played	Score
Pauline Withey v Jean Brackenridge	7	4-3
Chris Newson v Jean Brackenridge	3	2-1
Pauline Withey v Jane Wood	3	2-1
Pauline Withey v Janet Burns	3	3-0

Latest Grand Prix Standings @ 31st August 2013 (after 7 events of 9)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Keith Sheard	34
2	Mark Trafford	29
3	Paul Sainsbury	27
4	Mark James	24
5	Leon Beer	21
6	Phil Collins	21
7	Curt Driver	17
8	Stephen Coleman	16
9	Dave Ingram	12
10	Tony Martin	12
11	Pete Sainsbury	11
12	Tony Cross	10
13	Chris Tupper	10
14	Simon Coleman	9
15	Nigel Senior	9
16	Bill Kerr	7

Bucks Open @ Riseborough Golf Club, 11th August 2013

The lovely setting of the Riseborough Golf Club was the scene of **Mark James'** (pictured right) fourth national open title win. He beat **Keith Sheard**, appearing in his 3rd national final this year. Mark was 9k up from the 1st leg and an uncharacteristic mistake from Keith let Mark in and Keith was resigned to his 3rd final defeat this year.



Mark had solid wins against **Chris Bateman**, **Bob Hall** & last years plate winner **Colin Martin** to see him through to the last 8. A **17,410** play out against **Leon Beer** was enough to win his quarter final where he met local player **Ernie Jordan**. He beat Ernie comfortably **17,980-1,530** to make the final. Keith was again in great form beating **Eric Hill**, **Steve Allard** & **Curt Driver** in his first 3 matches. A great comeback against **Dave Ingram** from 13k down saw him book a place against **Paul Sainsbury** to repeat the Kent final of a month ago. Here Keith prevailed, but it was cracking match as Paul opened with **20,250** and Keith replied with **21,680**—the two biggest breaks of the day. **Tony Martin** ran him very close in the semi final. Keith only winning **9,620-8,930**.



The plate was won by **Simon Coleman** (pictured left) over local player **Andy Godden**. **Michelle Baden**, now back in Sussex, took the ladies high break with **4,060**. Not sure I liked her prize though—a rather sharp looking letter opener!

Lowest Ranked National tournament winners

Stephen Coleman was a surprise winner of this years Sussex Open and was **ranked 86** before the tournament began and his win should put him just inside the top 50. In fact his opponent in the final, **Tony Cross**, was ranked only **139**!

Tony Woolvin may be considered as the most recent low ranked winner but he was **ranked 43** when he won the Kent Classic. He played the final against **Lorin Clough** who was only **ranked 133** at the time.

Jersey winners can be low ranked if they are Jersey players, **Graeme Le Monnier** was ranked 78 when he won in 2005, **Peter Noel** was ranked 40 in 1999, and **Terry Oakley** (Surrey) was ranked 43 in 1996.

There are other low ranked winners however, and I found four that were outside the top 100 when they won. **Brian Daniels** won the 2006 Alternative Rules **ranked 138**, but the different rules do throw up some surprise results. The Kent and Oxon opens have thrown up the other lower ranked winners. The 1995 Kent Open was won by **Andy Harcourt** who was only **ranked 132**, but **Mick Nichol** who won the 1993 Kent Open was only **ranked 243** with 0.5 ranking points to his name at that point, but perhaps the anomaly there is that the ranking system only started in 1991 and it was yet to complete a 3 year cycle. **Ian Moquet** was only **ranked 217** when he won the 2000 Oxon open against **Mark Sawyer** - a win that moved him up to 61st.

Upcoming Events in September & October

8th Sept - Berkshire Open - The Post Office Club in Reading will host the 18th Berkshire Open, In last years final **Ian Lelliott** won his first title beating **Mark Brewster**.

22nd Sept - County Champs Div1/ Ladies AE Singles - Oxfordshire will be defending their title—which they won for a record 13th time last year. The All England Ladies was won for the 4th time by **Pauline Withey** last year.

29th Sept - Ladies County/AE Open Singles - Sussex ladies will be defending their title and they have won 10 of the last 12. Last year Oxon's **Phil Collins** beat Northants' **Simon Coleman** to win his 2nd AE singles

13th Oct - Alternative Rules - The unique event where the balls start in a triangle and reformed every time the balls are cleared. **Ian Moss** won his first title beating **Chris Newson**.

20th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies - The **Caversham WMC** from Berkshire won the title for the 4th time. **Pauline Withey** won her 7th Special Ladies title beating **Denise Wills** in the final.

Dates for your diary 2013

—see <http://www.aebba.org/> for entry forms

- 2nd Feb - Jersey v England (TBC @ Jersey) - Jer Men 14 Eng Men 19
- 9th Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club) - winner Phil Collins
- 9th/10th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth) - winners Richard Wooton & Nigel Senior
- 23rd Mar—1st East Anglian 4-pin Open (Norwich)- winner Curt Driver
- 14th Apr—Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School, Merstham)- winner Curt Driver
- 4th May/5th May - Guernsey Pairs & Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey) - pairs winners Roy Le Page & Terry Kenny, singles winner Mark Trafford
- 12th May - British Ladies Open (@ Salfords Club, Redhill) - winner Pauline Withey
- 19th May - 1st National Off the Spot Open (@ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge)- winner Leon Beer
- 8th June—England v Guernsey (@ Roffey Club) - Eng Men 44 Gue Men 16
- 9th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club)) - winner Stephen Coleman
- 7th July - Kent Classic (@ Suburban Club, Chatham) - winner Paul Sainsbury
- 11th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Princes Riseborough Golf Club)- winner Mark James
- 8th Sept - Berks Open (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 22nd Sept - County Div 1/ Ladies AE Singles (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 29th Sept - Ladies County/ AE Open Singles (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 13th Oct - Alternative Rules (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 20th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 27th Oct - Mixed Pairs/Over 50's (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 8/9/10th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles (Jersey)
- 17th Nov- County Div 2 (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 24th Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies GP/ Under 25's/Over 60's (@ PO Club, Reading)
- 8th Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ PO Club, Reading)