



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

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3rd National Off the Spot Open @ Salfords Club, Surrey, 25th Oct 2015

Matt Jones (pictured right) won the 3rd National Off the Spot title beating **Curt Driver**.

This is Matt's first national title and this is more remarkable as he only first appeared at the end of 2014 on the national scene. He was also impressive in the final as he ran the table out—off the spot remember for 15,200. Curt was off early in reply to make it his 3rd runners up in individual events this year.



Matt's run to the final was also impressive—he made swift progress to the quarter finals where he beat **Geoff Jukes**, but it was in the semi he really came of age beating current World Champion, **Dave Ingram** from 11k down. Curt was untroubled to the quarter finals where he only overcame **Matt Knight** by 1,550 at the end—a 16,860 target was too much for **Mark James** in the semis.

Mark Brewster made a 20,100 break—a great break off the spot. **Martin Cole** beat **Stephen Coleman** in the plate final.

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

Email nigelsenior05@googlemail.co.uk with your suggestions

AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

A very busy couple of months in the Bar Billiards calendar has seen **Kent A** winning the county championship, 16 years after their last—I think Curt had hair then! Not the best team on paper but they won all their matches and the whole team contributed for a great win.

This month's highlight was **Matt Jones** winning the Off the Spot. For someone who has not been playing very long, he showed remarkable composure in his first big final—playing the table out (off the spot). There can be no doubt he will be a very top player in the coming years. **Nigel Senior** won the All England Singles for the 3rd time to make up for his disappointment in losing the crucial leg for Sussex the week before. **Kevin Tunstall** took the Alternative Rules title, amazingly his first title of 2015!

In the ladies game, **Sussex A** won the county champs again. **Pauline Withey** took her 9th Special Ladies title and won her 5th All England Ladies title, proving, as if it needed proving, she is the ladies number 1.

Didcot Conservative Club won the team event, congrats to them, but very disappointing to see only 5 counties represented



County Champs Div 1 @ Didcot Con Club, 20th Sept 2015

Kent A won the county championship title—their 5th win but the first since 1999! The winning side was **Curt Driver (capt)**, **Jon Sainsbury**, **Richard Corbould**, **Pete Sainsbury**, **Gerry Fitzjohn**, **Mark Brewster** & **Ian Wright**.

In series 1 favourites **Sussex A** started strongly with a 6-1 win over their B side who were sadly missing one player for the day. **Kent A** and **Surrey** also started well with 4-3 wins over **Oxon A** and **Berks A** respectively. In series 2 **Sussex A** extended their lead to 3 points with a good 5-2 win over **Oxon A**. **Kent A** kept themselves in contention with a 4-3 win over **Surrey A**.

In series 3 **Sussex A** let an opportunity slip as they lost to **Kent A** 4-3 with 4 breaks. This left **Kent A** two points behind **Sussex A** at this stage with **Oxon A** a further two points behind. The penultimate series 4 tightened things up at the top as **Kent A** beat **Sussex B** 5-2 and **Sussex A** slipped to their second 4-3 defeat against reigning champs **Berks A**. So with one match to go it would be either **Kent A** or **Sussex A** who would take the title tied on 17 points with one match to go. Advantage to **Kent A** though as they had the extra match win. It all went to the wire—**Kent A** took 4 points against **Surrey A**. This left **Sussex A** needing the last 3 legs against **Surrey A**. **Kevin Tunstall** & **Martin Cole** recorded wins, but **Nigel Senior** was making things exciting on table 1 playing **Tony Cross**—needing around 700 with the bar dropped—he made one shot of the cushion into the 200—but pegged the next one to give **Kent A** the title.

Division 1

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Kent A	21
2	Sussex A	21
3	Surrey	16
4	Berks A	16
5	Oxon A	16
6	Sussex B	15

Sussex B were relegated but will be disappointed as they gave away 5 games and were only one point short of **Surrey**, **Berks A** and **Oxon A**. **Leon Beer** (Oxon) (top average of 13,090), **Kevin Tunstall** (Sussex A) and **Henry Brooks** (Sussex B) won 5 matches out of 5. **Curt Driver** had the days high break of 11,010.



Special Ladies @ Didcot Con Club, 18th October 2015

Pauline Withey

(pictured right) won the Special Ladies for the 9th time.

Pauline beat **Sami Baden**

making her first appearance in a major ladies final. Pauline's experience was probably a big factor in the final as she made the days high break of 6,430 and she won 15,900-2,740.

Only 7 entries turned out and instead of the usual knockout format the players were drawn into groups of 4 and 3. Pauline went through unbeaten in her group as did Sami who had good wins over Oxon players **Jenny Florey** and **Mel Standbridge**. Group runners up contested the plate final—**Jenny Florey** beating **Janet Burns**.



Latest British Rankings (@ 31st October 2015)

<u>MEN</u>			
Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Nigel Senior	Sussex	260.9
2(+1)	Mark Trafford	Oxon	248.8
3(-1)	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	246.3
4	Curt Driver	Kent	232.2
5	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	210.6
6(+1)	Dave Ingram	Sussex	175.1
7(+1)	Keith Sheard	Oxon	164.7
8(-2)	Ian Lelliott	Sussex	156.7
9	Mark Brewster	Kent	125.1
10(+1)	Steven Sheard	Oxon	118.4

<u>LADIES</u>			
Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	130.3
2	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	89.1
3	Denise Wills	Surrey	69.9
4	Jenny Florey	Oxon	59.7
5	Michelle Baden	Sussex	52.6
6	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	45.0
7(+1)	Dawn Jordan	Bucks	43.4
8(-1)	Bella Stoner	Sussex	41.0
9	Ros Appleby	Sussex	40.6
10	Sandra Hall	Sussex	31.5

All England Ladies, 20th Sept 2015

Pauline Withey (pictured right) won the All England Ladies title for the 5th time. Only five county champions showed up, but it was a strong field. Three former champions were present Pauline, **Denise Wills** and reigning champ **Jean Brackenridge**. Denise met Jean first and it was Denise who came out on top **18,580-5,450**. Pauline narrowly beat **Dawn Jordan** and then met Jean in her 2nd match. Pauline was 8k up but Jean fought back but lost by only **760**. This put Jean out of the running and Denise and Pauline had both won their opening 2 matches before they met. Denise was only 700 behind with her break to come, but Pauline came back in leg 2 to win **14,120-10,020**. Pauline still had to beat **Carla Jolly** to clinch the title and she



made sure of this with a comfortable win. Denise could console herself with runners-up and the high break of **7,990**.

Final Standings

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Pauline Withey (Oxon)	8
2	Denise Wills (Sur)	6
3	Dawn Jordan (Bucks)	4
4	Jean Brackenridge (Sus)	2
5	Carla Jolly (Berks)	2

Latest Grand Prix Standings @ 31st October 2015 (after 8 events of 9)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Mark Trafford	35
2	Mark James	31
3	Nigel Senior	30
4	Paul Sainsbury	30
5	Kevin Tunstall	29
6	Steven Sheard	21
7	Ian Lelliott	20
8	Matt Jones	18
9	Curt Driver	17
10	Gary Powell	16
11	Keith Sheard	14
12	Colin Southouse	13
13	Martin Cole	11
14	Chris Saville	11
15	Dave Ingram	10
16	Rick Dewdney	10

Ladies County Champs @ Didcot Con Club, 27th September 2015

Sussex A retained the ladies county championship. It was their **13th** win out of the last 15 years. A great win for them as they were missing their number 1 **Jean Brackenridge** who was on holiday! Only five teams showed for the event—2 from **Sussex & Oxon** and one from **Surrey**, so sadly only 3 counties represented. Everyone played everyone, 2 leg matches and there was no division 2 again this year. **Sussex A** led from the start with a **8-2** win over their B side. **Oxon A** beat **Oxon B 7-3**. In series 2 **Sussex A** thumped **Oxon B 9-1** to make it 17 points out of 20. **Surrey** entered the fray here and started with a very good **7-3** win over **Oxon A**. In series 3 **Sussex A** played **Surrey**, a match that would probably determine the destination of the title. **Sussex A** led **4-1** at halftime and then took 3



Division 1

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Sussex A	31
2	Surrey	25
3	Oxon A	21
4	Oxon B	12
5	Sussex B	11

of the last 5 legs to win **7-3**. **Sussex A** then went into their last match against **Oxon A** needing 6 points to make sure of the title. They won **7-3**. **Surrey** finished off with 2 big wins—**7-3** and **8-2** against **Sussex B** and **Oxon B** respectively to take the runners up spot. It was a big team effort from **Sussex A** with all players taking at least 5 wins from their 8 games. The winning team was **Lorraine Hall (capt)**, **Ros Appleby**, **Michelle Baden**, **Bella Stoner & Jan Bithell**. **Surrey Ladies** did take some consolation with the high break prize for **Denise Wills (10,300)** and she also had the top average of **6,471**. Also **Genette Nicholls** had a maximum 8 out of 8 wins for Surrey.

All England Individuals @ Didcot Con Club, 27th September 2015

Nigel Senior (pictured far right) won his 3rd All England title beating Hampshire's **Barry Radford**. Nigel joins a elite group of players with at least 3 All England titles—**Kevin Tunstall (8)**, **Bernie McCluskey (4)**, **John Burrows (3)** and **Paul Sainsbury (3)** are the groups other members. Barry put himself in but missed early and Nigel also missed early with the break back. 2 breaks later and Barry had a 1k lead, but Nigel broke off with enough in leg 2 to take the title. Nigel won his group, winning all 3 matches. Barry's group was more interesting with 3 players in contention—**Simon Coleman** was in prime position but Barry scored 26k without reply to book his place in the final. Top break was Nigel's **19,040**.



Group 1

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Nigel Senior (Sussex)	6
2	Paul Sainsbury (Berks)	4
3	Gary Powell (Surrey)	2
4	Pete Sainsbury (Kent)	0

Group 2

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Barry Radford (Hants)	4
2	Simon Coleman (N'hants)	4
3	Mark Trafford (Oxon)	4
4	Steve Allard (Bucks)	0

Final

Nigel Senior 21,430
Barry Radford 9,010

All England Team Championships @ Didcot Con Club, 18th Oct 2015



Didcot Conservative Club (Oxon) won AEBBA team champs title. This year there were only 5 teams and a round robin was played, 2 leg matches, most legs won being decisive. **Didcot** hit the ground running with a 10-0 win over the **RAFA Club (Bucks)**. After 2 rounds four time winners **Caversham Working Mens Club (Berks)** led after beating **Langstone Harbour Fishing Club (Hants) 7-3** and drawing **5-5** with the much fancied **Albion Fishersgate (Sussex)** - but **Didcot** had a game in hand. **Caversham** sat out series 3 and were overtaken by **Didcot (7-3** win against **LHFA**) and the **Albion (8-2** win against **RAFA**). In series 4 **Didcot** faced the **Albion** in the crucial match. **Didcot** came out **7-3** winners and with **Caversham** only taking 6 points against **RAFA** this meant **Didcot** were 6

points clear with one match to go. This was against **Caversham** and although they lost **6-4** it was enough for the title. **Caversham** would have to be content with runners-up for the 2nd year running. **Bernie McCluskey (Berks)** was the only player to win all **8 matches**—winning his last **13 games** in this competition! He also topped the averages with **9,315** and got the highest break **15.5k**—he doesn't play much these days but is still top class! The winning team was **Pete Burton, Dave Tooke, Ian Moquet, Dennis Atkins & Paul Lawson**.

Final Standing

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Didcot Con Club (Oxon)	28
2	Caversham WMC (Berks)	24
3	Albion Fishersgate (Sussex)	21
4	LHFA (Hants)	15
5	RAFA Club (Bucks)	12

Alternative Rules, Didcot Con Club, 11th Oct 2015

Kevin Tunstall (pictured right) captured the Alternative Rules title for the 9th time (and the 7th time under the triangle format) Kevin beat **Curt Driver** in a repeat of the 2008 final. Kevin was always in control of the final winning **4,780 -2,930**.



This is a unique event where 6 white balls are placed in a triangle at the back of the table to start the game. Everytime the balls are cleared the triangle is reformed. A great entry (probably due to **Keith Sheard's** 60th the night before!) of 39 were split into groups of 5 (with one of 4), with top in each group progressing.

Kevin made it through his group, despite a loss to wife Hayley. Curt also made it through despite losing a game. This was to last years champ **Nigel Senior** who topped scored in the groups with 10k+ in his 4 legs. Nigel made it to the semis where he lost out to Kevin. Another Kevin—**Kevin Hall** also made it to the semi finals. He lost by just 30 points to Curt—a great effort as he was on debut in this tournament.

Curt made the highest break—**3,540**, the highest break ever in this format I believe.

Upcoming Events in November & December

6th/7th/8th Nov - World Championship Pairs/ World Championship Singles (Jersey) - the BIG one. Reigning champs are **Dave Ingram**, (singles) & **Jim Millward & Trevor Gallienne** (pairs)

15th Nov - County Championships Division 2 - Last year **Sussex B** won Division 2 to earn promotion.

22nd Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies Grand Prix/ Over 50's/Over 60's/Under 25's - **Phil Collins** won last years Grand Prix title. **Denise Wills** won the Ladies Grand Prix title. Other reigning champs are **Tony Martin** (over 50's), **Dennis Atkins** (over 60's) and **Stephen Coleman** (under 25's).

Dates for your diary 2015—see <http://www.aebba.org/> for entry forms

- 7th Feb - Jersey v England (Sarum Hotel @ Jersey) - Jer 15 Eng 17
- 7th Mar - England v Guernsey (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth) - Eng 47 Gue 6
- 7th/8th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth) - winners Leon Beer & Phil Collins
- 21st Mar— East Anglian 4-pin Open (@ Grover & Allen Pub) - winner Mal Spier
- 12th Apr—Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School) - winner Mark Trafford
- 25th Apr - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club) - winner Gary Powell
- 2nd May/3rd May - Guernsey Pairs/Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey) - winners pairs Curt Driver & Gerry Fitzjohn, singles Ian Lelliott
- 10th May - AEBBA Mixed Pairs (@ Salfords Club, Redhill) - winners Jim Greensted & Ros Appleby
- 14th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club, Horsham) - winner Paul Sainsbury
- 5th July - Kent Classic (@ Six in One Club, Tonbridge) - winner Steven Sheard
- 26th July - British Ladies (@ Hurst Club, Hurstpierpoint) - winner Jean Brackenridge
- 9th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Cressex Con Centre, High Wycombe) - winner Mark James
- 6th Sept - Berks Open (@ Arborfield Club, Reading) - winner Mark Trafford
- 20th Sept - County Div 1/ Ladies AE Singles (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot) - winners county Kent, ladies Pauline Withey
- 27th Sept - Ladies County/ AE Open Singles (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot) - winners county Sussex, singles Nigel Senior
- 11th Oct - Alternative Rules (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot) - winner Kevin Tunstall
- 18th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot) - winner team Didcot Con Club, Sp Ladies Pauline Withey
- 25th Oct - National Off the Spot Open (@ Salfords Club, Salford) - winner Matt Jones
- 6/7/8th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles (Jersey)
- 15th Nov - County Div 2 (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 22nd Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies GP/ Under 25's/Over 50's/Over 60's (@ Didcot Con Club, Oxford)
- 6th Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)