



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 AEB-BA would like to congratulate all the winners. The year's highlight was without doubt the World Championships in Jersey, where **Paul Sainsbury** won his first world title—after 31 years of trying!

Paul won two titles this year and finishes the year 5th in the rankings. Another double winner was **Mark Trafford** who won two opens with the Surrey and Berks titles and he briefly held the number 1 ranking. **Nigel Senior** took that spot off him in the last event in Jersey, and although he hasn't won an open this year (or since 2010....) he completed a double of winning the AE singles & Grand Prix. We had some previous national winners adding to their collections this year—**Steven Sheard** won his 7th with the Kent Classic, **Mark James** took his 5th winning the Bucks Open and **Ian Lelliott** won his 2nd in Guernsey.

However it is nice to see new winners and we had two this year. One player had been playing the game a long time, the other a very new player with a bright future. **Gary Powell** had a great day winning the Oxon Open in April, beating many top players along the way it was richly deserved. **Matt Jones** won the Off the Spot title in October, showing he is a star of the future. Both were great to see.

Kevin Tunstall had a lean year for him, only taking the Alternative Rules title in October. He should not be written off though, he still accumulated the most ranking points this year—and is set to take over the number 1 position again in 2016 if he makes a decent start. But a good year for **Nigel Senior**, **Curt Driver** or **Mark Trafford** could all see them take the top spot next year. Speaking of Curt—3 runners up this year in individuals but a great year as England captain winning against both Jersey and Guernsey

In the ladies game **Pauline Withey** continues to be a long way in front at number 1 and took two titles (Special Ladies & AE Ladies). **Jean Brackenridge** won the British Ladies and very well done to **Jenny Florey** who finally broke her duck winning the Ladies Grand Prix

World Championships @ Merton Hotel, Jersey, 6th/7th/8th Nov

Paul Sainsbury (pictured right) won his 1st World Championships title in Jersey. After 31 years of trying including 2 runners-up in recent years, Paul finally added the "big one" to his list of titles. Paul beat Jersey's **James Jeanne**, who was bidding to become the first Jersey player in 10 years to win the title, in a tense final. It was a nervy start to the final as Paul missed early, but he got the balls back and got himself 6k in front. James then got the balls back himself to go into leg 2 only 430 behind. James went into leg 2 needing around 8k for the title and was going well until about 5k when he got out of position with a ball at the back between the 20 and 30 holes. He hit it first time, but the second go whipped the 20 and unfortunately for James came back towards the peg just knocking it over. Paul was given the balls back but couldn't make many and now with time running out both players tried desperately to clear the table. It was Paul who eventually did and he finally clinched the title.



136 players entered the tournament and the first round was again played in groups of 4. There were some exciting groups, and there were big casualties - former winners **Graeme Le Monnier**, **Alan Le Blond**, **Phil Collins** & **Mark Trafford** all exited at this stage—making for a strong plate! Mark was particularly unlucky—losing his 2nd game with 7k when a win would have put him through. Still, many of the top players qualified from the groups and there was a live draw for the last 64. This seemed this year to keep top players apart initially, but there was one big name to go out here—4 time champion **Jim Millward** lost out to an in form **Alan Brackenridge**. **Chris Oakley** ran an eventual winner **Paul Sainsbury** very close with a big chance at the end of their game but lost by 850. Then the last 32 round was played, **James Jeanne** knocked out 2013 runner-up **Nigel Senior**, and 3 time champion **Trevor Gallienne** beat former champ **Graham Bisson** to set up a big clash with **Kevin Tunstall**.

By the time the field was whittled down to 16, 10 UK mainland, 3 Jersey, and 3 Guernsey players were left in, with only 3 past champions present. Some great matches here—**Dave Ingram** was defending his title brilliantly and beat **Alan Brackenridge** to progress.

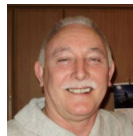
Paul Sainsbury beat a tough opponent in **Curt Driver**, but the match of the round was **Kevin Tunstall v Trevor Gallienne**. Trevor missed on 5k and never got another go. So to the quarter finals—**Dave Ingram's** defence was over as he lost to team-mate **Ian Lelliott**. **Paul Sainsbury** beat **Chris Saville**, who had a big chance as he was up with his break to come. **James Jeanne** made comfortable progress beating **Martin Cole**, and **Kevin Tunstall** beat last Guernsey player **Gary Naftal**. In the semis an early mistake by Ian let in Paul, Kevin missed early against James, which allowed James to dominate and take his place in the final.



The World Championship Doubles was retained by **Jim Millward & Trevor Gallienne** (pictured left) - they have not lost a match together yet! They beat **Phil Osborne & Colin Southouse** in the final as mentioned earlier the plate was strong—**Phil Collins** replied to **Mark Trafford** 14k with an 18k winning break. **Joshua Gardner** retained his junior title winning all 3 matches, runner-up was **Libby Hopwood**.

Over 50's @ Didcot Con Club, 22nd Nov 2015

The Over 50's title was won by **Dennis Atkins** (pictured right) for the first time beating reigning champ **Tony Martin** in the final. It was a good quality final—Tony amassing a 13k lead but missed early on his break game and had to watch Dennis come back with 16k.



29 players turned out for the competition (9 up from last year) and Dennis had wins over **Alan Messer**, **Pete Soanes** and **Ian Moss** before overcoming **Ian Lelliott** in the semi not long after Ian had knocked him out in the over 60's! Tony took out **Ian Moquet**, **Andy Burns** and **Dave Alder** before recording a fine win over **Jason Wadsworth** to make the final.

Dennis completed a good day with the high break prize taking it with **15,630**.

Over 60's @ Didcot Con Club, 22nd Nov 2015

The Over 60's title was won by **Geoff Pitt** (pictured right). He beat Oxon's **Alan Lacey** in the final. Geoff was favourite having won this title 2 years ago in 2013 and he won comfortably **20,840 -2,730**.



There were 22 entries, and Geoff beat **Paul Lovegrove**, **Keith Lewndon** and then **Ian Moquet** to make the final. Alan beat **Phil Hawkins**, **Jason Wadsworth**, **Tony Jenner** and then **Ian Lelliott** (playing his 8th match of the day!) in the semi final.

But Ian did make the days high break with **13,910**.

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

Latest British Rankings (@ 31st December 2015)

| MEN | | | | LADIES | | | |
|-------|----------------|--------|-------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Pos | Player | County | PTS | Pos | Player | County | PTS |
| 1 | Nigel Senior | Sussex | 248.0 | 1 | Pauline Withey | Oxon | 130.3 |
| 2 | Mark Trafford | Oxon | 246.7 | 2 | Jean Brackenridge | Sussex | 89.3 |
| 3 | Kevin Tunstall | Sussex | 238.2 | 3 | Denise Wills | Surrey | 69.9 |
| 4 | Curt Driver | Kent | 230.4 | 4 | Jenny Florey | Oxon | 59.7 |
| 5 | Paul Sainsbury | Berks | 216.3 | 5 | Michelle Baden | Sussex | 53.5 |
| 6 | Dave Ingram | Sussex | 184.2 | 6 | Lorraine Hall | Sussex | 44.2 |
| 7(+1) | Ian Lelliott | Sussex | 162.7 | 7 | Dawn Jordan | Bucks | 43.2 |
| 8(-1) | Keith Sheard | Oxon | 155.3 | 8(+1) | Ros Appleby | Sussex | 41.4 |
| 9 | Mark Brewster | Kent | 130.4 | 9(-1) | Bella Stoner | Sussex | 41.0 |
| 10 | Steven Sheard | Oxon | 114.7 | 10 | Sandra Hall | Sussex | 30.7 |

Ladies Grand Prix, 22nd Nov 2015

Jenny Florey (pictured right) won her 1st national ladies title by winning the Ladies Grand Prix. She beat **Jean Brackenridge** in a close final, the final score being **10,860-8,080**.



Jenny was seeded 3rd and won all her group games to qualify for the final. Wins over **Janet Burns** (seeded 6) and **Ros Appleby** (seeded 7) set her up for a shootout with **Pauline Withey** (seeded 2) to make the final. Jenny hung on to win the match **7,080-5,380**. Jean, the top seed, won her group comfortably average 7k+ with wins over **Mel Standbridge** (seeded 8), **Sandra Hall** (seeded 5) and last years

Group A

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Jean Brackenridge (Sus) (1) | 6 |
| 2 | Denise Wills (Sur) (4) | 4 |
| 3 | Mel Standbridge (Oxon) (8) | 2 |
| 4 | Sandra Hall (Sus) (5) | 0 |

Group B

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Jenny Florey (Oxon) (3) | 6 |
| 2 | Pauline Withey (Oxon) (2) | 4 |
| 3 | Janet Burns (Ber) (6) | 2 |
| 4 | Ros Appleby (Sus) (7) | 0 |

champ **Denise Wills** (seeded 4). Mel made the high break of **8,230**.

Final

| | |
|-------------------|--------|
| Jenny Florey | 10,860 |
| beat | |
| Jean Brackenridge | 8,080 |

Final Grand Prix Standings (after 9 events)

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|-----------------|-----|
| 1 | Paul Sainsbury | 50 |
| 2 | Kevin Tunstall | 38 |
| 3 | Mark Trafford | 35 |
| 4 | Nigel Senior | 31 |
| 5 | Mark James | 31 |
| 6 | Ian Lelliott | 29 |
| 7 | Steven Sheard | 21 |
| 8 | Curt Driver | 20 |
| 9 | Matt Jones | 18 |
| 10 | Martin Cole | 17 |
| 11 | Chris Saville | 17 |
| 12 | Dave Ingram | 16 |
| 13 | Gary Powell | 16 |
| 14 | James Jeanne | 15 |
| 15 | Colin Southouse | 14 |
| 16 | Keith Sheard | 14 |

Grand Prix @ Didcot Con Club, 22nd Nov 2015

Nigel Senior (pictured bottom row 2nd from the right) won his 1st Grand Prix title to add to the All England Singles title he won in September. He may not be able to win an open (not since 2010 anyway) but will be happy to take the big two titles in England this year. He beat **Martin Cole** (pictured top row 4th from right) in the final, who was appearing in his first major final. Nigel missed early in leg 1, but after Martin couldn't retrieve the balls back, Nigel did and settled to make a 16.7k lead. Martin looked assured in his reply but missed just under 4k down with 4 minutes left. The players had a go each, but Nigel got the balls back and made around 1,500 to get over the line. Close for Martin but surely it won't be long before he wins a big one.



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 and new world champion **Paul Sainsbury** had a shootout with the outgoing World Champion **Dave Ingram** (seeded 8) to see who progressed in Group A. Dave set a **21,000** target only to see Paul beat it by 420 (2 highest breaks of the day) in what was surely the game of the day. **Kevin Tunstall** (seeded 2) surprisingly lost to 15th seed **Tony Cross** in his first match and so got to his last match needing to beat teammate Martin Cole by over 5k. It was close at the end but Kev black pegged trying to overcome the deficit putting Martin through. Group C became a shoot out between **Mark Trafford** (seeded 3) and new Off the Spot Champ **Matt Jones** (seeded 6). Mark won after an early miss by Matt. Group D was won by eventual champ and 4th seed Nigel, but only after he lost to 14th Seed **Gerry Fitzjohn** after a miscalculation. This put **Curt Driver** (seeded 5) in pole position carrying an 11k lead into his match with Nigel, but an early miss let Nigel in to win by 21k.

Group A

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Paul Sainsbury (Ber) (1) | 6 |
| 2 | Dave Ingram (Sus) (8) | 4 |
| 3 | Gary Powell (Sur) (9) | 2 |
| 4 | Phil Osborne (Sus) (16) | 0 |

Group C

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Mark Trafford (Ox) (3) | 6 |
| 2 | Matt Jones (Bucks) (6) | 4 |
| 3 | Simon Coleman (Nor) (14) | 2 |
| 4 | Ricky Dewdney (Sus) (11) | 0 |

Group B

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Martin Cole (Sus) (7) | 6 |
| 2 | Tony Cross (Sur) (15) | 4 |
| 3 | Kevin Tunstall (Sus) (2) | 2 |
| 4 | Colin Southouse (Sus) (10) | 0 |

Group D

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Nigel Senior (Sus) (4) | 4 |
| 2 | Curt Driver (Kent) (5) | 4 |
| 3 | Colin Robbins (Sur) (12) | 2 |
| 4 | Gerry Fitzjohn (Kent) (13) | 2 |

In the semi finals Nigel's 20k was too much for Paul. Martin made a great 14,700 run-out on tricky table 5—too many for Mark.

Semi Finals

| | |
|----------------|--------|
| Martin Cole | 25,000 |
| Mark Trafford | 3,680 |
| Nigel Senior | 20,450 |
| Paul Sainsbury | 1,070 |

Final

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Nigel Senior | 18,690 |
| Martin Cole | 13,300 |

County Championships Division 2, @ Didcot Con Club, 15th Nov 2015

Northants (pictured right) have won the County Championships Division 2 to return to the top flight after an absence of 10 years. It was a convincing win as they took the title by 3 points from the runner-up **Hampshire**.



Six teams were present and it wasn't a great start for **Northants** as they lost their first match **4-3** to **Hampshire**. In series 1 all other matches went 4-3 so not much damage was done. In series 2 **Northants** made their intentions clear

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 |

Division 2

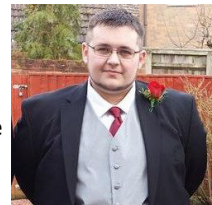
| Pos | Team | Pts |
|-----|------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Northants | 24 |
| 2 | Hants | 21 |
| 3 | Oxon B | 17 |
| 4 | Bucks | 15 |
| 5 | Kent B | 15 |
| 6 | Berks B | 13 |

with a **6-1** thumping of a good **Bucks** side. **Oxon B** joined them on 9 points with a 5-2 win over **Berks B**. After series 3 **Oxon B** moved into a one point lead with a **5-2** win over **Bucks**. Series 4 was key—**Northants** played **Oxon B** and they beat them **6-1**. A **5-2** win over **Berks B** finished the job in series 5.

Lorin Clough (9,690 top average) and **Simon Coleman** (9,340 top break) were unbeaten for Northants along with Hampshire's **Barry Radford**.

Under 25's @ Didcot Con Club, 22nd Nov 2015

Phil McFarland (pictured right) won the Under 25's title for the first time beating 2013 champion **Craig Mace** in the final. Craig had a decent 4,760 lead going into leg 2, but Phil fought back to win by a score of **9,970 - 8,780**



8 players entered (an increase on 3 from last year) and played in 2 groups, the top 2 went through to the semi finals. **Chris Oakley** joined Craig out from his group and **Adam Ingram** made it out of Phil's group. Phil beat Chris and Craig beat Adam in two one-sided semi finals. Phil also made the highest break of **8,090** to complete a great day.

Upcoming Events in January & February

25th Apr - Oxon Open - The 24th Oxon Open will take place at Didcot Con Club, Didcot. **Gary Powell** his first national title last year beating **Kevin Tunstall** in a memorable final.

Dates for your diary 2016—see <http://www.aebba.org/> for entry forms

- 13th Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club)
- 5th Mar - England v Jersey (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
- 5th/6th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
- 19th Mar— East Anglian 4-pin Open (@ Masonic Hall, Sudbury)
- 10th Apr—Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School, Merstham)
- 30th Apr/1st May - Guernsey Pairs/Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)
- 7th May - AEBBA Mixed Pairs (@ Salfords Club, Redhill)
- 12th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club, Horsham)
- 3rd July - Kent Classic (@ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge)
- 24th July - British Ladies (@ Hurst Club, Hurstpierpoint)
- 7th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Cressex Con Centre, High Wycombe)
- 21st Aug - Northants Open (@ TBC)
- 4th Sept - Berks Open (@ Arborfield Club, Reading)
- 18th Sept - County Div 1/ Ladies AE Singles (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 25th Sept - Ladies County/ AE Open Singles (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 9th Oct - Alternative Rules (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 16th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 23rd Oct - National Off the Spot Open (@ Salfords Club, Salford)
- 30th Oct - Under 25's/Over 50's/Over 60's (@ Didcot Con Club, Oxford)
- 6th Nov - County Div 2 (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 11th/12th/13th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles (Jersey)
- 27th Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies Grand Prix (@ Didcot Con Club, Oxford)
- 4th Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)