



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

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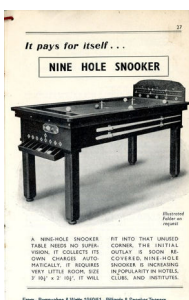
It's all in the name

It is generally agreed that bar billiards was imported into the UK after being seen in Northern Europe in the 1930's.

But in the early days Bar Billiards was not always the recognised name for the tables. A variety of names were used. **Russian Billiards** was a common name along with **Russian Bagatelle**. Bagatelle (pictured right) was a popular game in the 18th century and bar billiards does seem to be a descendant. However, Russia was probably not a good marketing name in the 1960's so it seems to have been dropped.



Snooker also has links to bar billiards and 'Snookerette' was another popular name but a particular favourite of mine is 'Nine hole snooker' as shown on this poster from 1950's



Burrough & Watts booklet.

But we know the game as **bar billiards** and this name as been around a long time. The NBBA or National Bar Billiards Association was formed before WWII and after the war the AEBBA was formed which still governs the game today.

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

The bar billiards year started with the Oxon Open brought forward from last year to its more traditional spot in February gave us a familiar winner in **Jim Millward**. Jim has been in good form winning the Sussex County singles which qualifies him for the All England Singles later this year. Jim is a master of tricky tables and this showed in the final where he built up a healthy lead in leg 1, and it was enough to beat **Curt Driver** who had to settle for another runners spot—he had 3 last year in individual events! Curt's captaincy skills will be put to the test over the next couple of months with two internationals against **Jersey** and **Guernsey** to look forward to. Curt will also be looking forward to Bournemouth where he will be hoping to go one better than last year (he was runner up there too!) which is a great weekend of bar billiards and a great social weekend too.



Oxon Open @ Didcot Con Club, Didcot, 13th February 2016

Jim Millward (pictured right) has his 8th national tournament by winning the 2016 Oxon Open at the Didcot Conservative Club. Jim beat **Curt Driver** in the final. Jim opened up a 13k lead on a tricky final table and Curt failed to chase it down and the final score was **16,330—3,820**.



Jim had been in good form in the run up to the first national event of the season having just won the Sussex Singles title in January. He started with reasonably comfortable wins over **Lee Radford**, **Pete Sainsbury** and **Phil Osborne** to take his place in the last 8. He then won a very close encounter against Sussex teammate **Gareth Lloyd** who missed a big chance at the end of the match. An even bigger chance to knock Jim out was had by the reigning champ **Gary Powell**, Jim's opponent in the semi final, as he was 6k up with his break to come, but Jim took advantage of an early miss to book his place in the final. Nonetheless a great title defence by Gary.

Curt was fairly untroubled in his route to the final. Wins over **Phil McFarland**, **Mal Spier**, **Tony Martin** took him to the quarters to face England number 2 **Mark Trafford**. A tougher game was expected here but Curt won through comfortably **13,300—3,710**. A 16k run out against **Ian Lelliott** in the semis was enough to see him through to the final.

Two England players contested the plate final—**Steven Sheard** beat **Gerry Fitzjohn**. **Kevin Tunstall** made a **19,950** break in round 2 to take the highest break prize. The ladies break was won by **Michelle Baden** with **6,820**. Her daughter **Sami Baden** along with **Ros Appleby** were the furthest ladies making the round 3.

Latest British Rankings (@ 29th February 2016)

MEN				LADIES			
Pos	Player	County	PTS	Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Nigel Senior	Sussex	248.0	1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	130.1
2	Mark Trafford	Oxon	246.5	2	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	88.3
3(+1)	Curt Driver	Kent	241.1	3	Denise Wills	Surrey	69.9
4(-1)	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	235.5	4	Jenny Florey	Oxon	59.2
5	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	209.7	5	Michelle Baden	Sussex	53.7
6	Dave Ingram	Sussex	189.6	6	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	44.0
7	Ian Lelliott	Sussex	167.8	7	Dawn Jordan	Bucks	43.4
8	Keith Sheard	Oxon	144.2	8	Ros Appleby	Sussex	42.5
9	Mark Brewster	Kent	135.1	9	Bella Stoner	Sussex	41.0
10	Steven Sheard	Oxon	116.7	10	Sandra Hall	Sussex	29.6

Bar Billiards Doppelgangers

I thought this was quite fun last time so here is a few more.....

- Jim Millward/ Carl Fredricksen (from the film UP)
- Geoff Jukes/ Richard O'Brien (from the Crystal Maze)
- Barry Holt/ Robin Williams
- Dawn Jordan/ Sarah Millican
- Marc 'the Charmer' Chipman/ Nigel 'the Charmer' Havers
- Curt Driver/ Andre Agassi
- Phil Osborne/ Mark 'the Beast' Labbatt

If anyone has any suggestions for others I will gladly put the on a future newsletter. No offence intended by the way!



Latest Grand Prix Standings @ 29th February 2016 (after 1 event of 10)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Jim Millward	15
2	Curt Driver	10
3	Ian Lelliott	6
=	Gary Powell	6
5	Mark Trafford	3
=	Dave Ingram	3
=	Gareth Lloyd	3
=	Tony Cross	3
9	Mark Brewster	1
10	Martin Cole	1
=	Phil Osborne	1
=	Matt Jones	1
=	Tony Willis	1
=	Jon Bamsey	1
=	Tony Martin	1
=	Keith Sheard	1

Upcoming Events in March & April

5th Mar - England v Jersey (Bournemouth) - The 34th meeting between the two sides will now take place on the Bournemouth weekend. Last year, in a memorable match, **England** won **17-15** on Jersey soil, it will be tough for **Jersey** this year on English tables, where they have only won once, back in 2002.

5/6th Mar - British Pairs (Bournemouth) - The 34th British Pairs will take place at the Queens Hotel, Bournemouth. **Leon Beer & Phil Collins** were the 2015 champs—they won the title for the second time together last year.

19th Mar - 4th East Anglian 4-pin Open - The 4th East Anglian 4-pin Open will take place at the Masonic Hall, Sudbury. There will be a contingent of 3 pin players and many local 4 pin players. Scoring should be much lower than we see in the 3 pin format of the game with pegs in front of the two 50 pockets, 100 pocket and 200 pocket. **Mal Spier** won the title last year.

10th Apr - Surrey Open - The 8th Surrey Open will take place at Salfords Club. **Mark Trafford** won the title last year beating **Paul Sainsbury** in the final.

30th Apr - Guernsey v England - The 12th meeting between the two sides will now take place on the Guernsey Open weekend. Last year **England** won **47-6** on home soil, so **Guernsey** will be looking to do better on Guernsey tables this year.

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

- 13th Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club) - **winner Jim Millward**
- 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 - Guernsey v England (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)
- 30th Apr/1st May - Guernsey Pairs/Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Gue)
- 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 (@ Cock Inn, Northampton)
- 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)

AEBBA Pairs Partnerships

Most of us have played pairs tournaments, and bar billiards partnerships can be as turbulent as marriages...although I am guessing as I have never been married! I have examined the AEBBA pairs records since 1991 (26 tournaments) and here are my findings...

3 pairs have played in the competition 20 times together—**Ernie Jordan & Terry Isard**, **Tony Willis & Jon Bamsey** and the lovely late **Dave Neilan & Jon Burch**. Indeed **Tony Willis** has just had the one partner in 20 years of AEBBA pairs—**Jon Bamsey** did play with **Harry Barbet** one year. Other players to have played in over 15 pairs with loyalty to one and only one partner - **Steve Biggs** (18 years with **Pete Farrelly**—don't you get less for murder!!!??), **Ray Jones** (17 with **Len Harton**), **Alan Oliver** (15 years with **Ian Moss** who he tamed after Ian had been with 6 different players in 8 years!). Other pairs who are still going strong are **Pete Phillips & Steven Sheard** (18 years), **Bernie McCluskey & Paul Sainsbury** (17 years) & **Dennis Atkins & Geoff Jukes** (16 years).

So on the other hand who has failed to hold on to a partnership for one reason or another, or for want for better words who plays the bar billiards field? Congratulations to **Sami Baden** who is engaged to be married but she cannot hold down a partner in bar billiards terms—7 years, 7 partners!—lets name and shame...**Jamie Byard**, **James Jeanne**, **Mal Spier**, **Matt Jones**, **Doug Dawson & James Pallot**—not a Sheard in sight! However there are looser players out there—**Pete Sainsbury** 8 partners in 15 years...you must be chewing their ears off Pete! And if **Bill Trinder** sped up a bit maybe he wouldn't have had 11 partners in 22 years. But top prize must go to **Paul Wing**, in 15 years he has had no fewer than 11 partners!