



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

Issue 45

May/June 2016

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AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

2 Opens have taken place over the last two months. **Martin Cole** took his first national title in Guernsey. I told him it was a matter of time after a near miss against me in the Grand Prix. He also completed a great double by taking the Guernsey doubles title with **Jim Millward** the day before.



Curt Driver won the Sussex title in June. He has been consistently making finals recently but not winning them, but he was very clinical this time.

The AEBBA Mixed Pairs was won by a Sussex/Surrey combo in **Ian Lelliott & Genette Nicholls**, on a great day at the Salfords Club.

With 4 opens coming up in quick succession, we will be very busy in the next couple of months. The highlight being the welcome return of the **Northants Open**, last played in 1999, we are looking forward to that one!

Guernsey Open @ Les Rocquettes Hotel, 1st May 2016

Martin Cole (pictured right) won the 9th Guernsey Open to bag his 1st national title. Martin beat local player **Ian Champion** in the final. After a close first leg where Ian held a 190 point lead, Martin took control to finally win by **10,960-5,130**. This also completed a great double for Martin winning the pairs with **Jim Millward** the previous day



Martin scored heavily in his early matches to beat **Paul Dyer** and **Chrissie Newson**. This took him to a last 16 match against the very experienced **Geoff Jukes** and it was a close affair which Martin held onto win by just **390** points. The quarter final against **Colin Robbins** was low scoring but he came through that to win an even lower scoring semi final (as can often be the way on Guernsey tables). This was against **Gerry Fitzjohn** and the final score was **4,040—1,080**.

Ian squeezed past **Chris Tupper** and 2014 champ **Bob Chapple** before recording a comfortable win in the last 16 over **Martin Smith**. In the quarter finals he had a tough match against **Dave Ingram** coming back from nearly 6k down. He then met the current World Champ **Paul Sainsbury** in the semi finals. Paul was in good form knocking in the highest break of **17,380** in the previous round. On a table far harder to split Ian built up a 6k lead. Paul looked to have got to grips finally with the table but crucially missed a ball when on a break that had just drawn him level with Ian.

Jean Brackenridge was the furthest lady reaching the last 32, and took the ladies high break prize with **2,540**.

There was Guernsey success in the plate as **Roy Le Page** won the final beating **Gary Powell**.

Latest British Rankings (@ 30th June 2016)

MEN			
Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Mark Trafford	Oxon	244.2
2	Nigel Senior	Sussex	243.2
3(+1)	Curt Driver	Kent	239.6
4(-1)	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	229.7
5	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	225.9
6	Dave Ingram	Sussex	192.3
7	Ian Lelliott	Sussex	168.5
8	Mark Brewster	Kent	154.3
9	Keith Sheard	Oxon	136.5
10(+2)	Martin Cole	Sussex	123.1

LADIES			
Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	117.4
2	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	88.9
3	Denise Wills	Surrey	67.9
4	Jenny Florey	Oxon	59.2
5	Michelle Baden	Sussex	52.2
6	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	44.1
7	Dawn Jordan	Bucks	43.7
8	Ros Appleby	Sussex	42.2
9	Bella Stoner	Sussex	40.9
10	Sandra Hall	Sussex	30.2

Guernsey Pairs, Les Rocquettes 30th April 2016

The day before the Guernsey Open, the 6th Guernsey Pairs took place. This was won by **Jim Millward & Martin Cole**



(pictured right) who beat **Dave Ingram & Matt Jones** in the final. The 1st leg was

low scoring but Martin showed good nerve in leg 2 to open with a winning break; the final score being **10,450-3,930**.

Jim & Martin won their first two games easily, but were pushed hard in the quarter finals by last year's World Champ runners up **Colin Southouse & Phil Osborne**—only **1,390** between them in the end. Dave & Matt had some tough pairs to beat but were never really run close en route to the final—their closest game was in round 1 against **Ian Lelliott & Martin Smith**.

Mark Brewster & Mark Trafford won the plate beating Guernsey's **Darren Ogier & Matt Wilcox**.

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

Email nigelsenior@hotmail.co.uk with your suggestions

Weeks at Number One

Is it the end of an era? 2016 will be the first year since the rankings started in 1991 that **Kevin Tunstall** has not spent at least one week at the top spot. As at the end of 2016, Kevin has spent **1,195 weeks** (the equivalent of 23 years!) at number 1 in the rankings. The other 5 players have only managed 157 weeks between them; **Nigel Senior** (63 weeks), **Keith Sheard** (31 weeks), **Les Green** (27 weeks), **Curt Driver** (19 weeks) & **Mark Trafford** (17 weeks).



So how does Kevin's record compare with other sports? Well tennis players get nowhere near Kevin— **Roger Federer** has 302 weeks at number 1, **Steffi Graf** 377 weeks. Snooker? **Stephen Hendry** managed 9 years at number 1, not close to Kevin's 23...Golf—**Tiger Woods** has a total of 683 weeks at number 1, over halfway to Kevin's total but seems unlikely to add to them. What about 16 time World Champ **Phil Taylor** in darts? Well in the darts rankings he never always held down the number one spot as he didn't play everything, overall he has 'only' spent around 500 weeks as the PDC number 1—so well short.

So what about a 'sport' that players can compete well into their later years....Chess? **Garry Kasparov** gets closer, over 1,000 weeks at number 1 spanning 19 years, so not quite. But what about the women? Hungary's **Judit Polgar** spell as the women's number 1 chess player recently ended but she was there since 1989, and for 24 years, and consecutive! So Kevin you have to get back to number 1 for another year at least to beat her!

Latest Grand Prix Standings @ 30th June 2016 (after 4 events of 10)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Curt Driver	25
2	Dave Ingram	19
3	Jim Millward	19
4	Martin Cole	16
5	Mark Trafford	15
6	Steven Sheard	15
7	Paul Sainsbury	13
8	Ian Lelliott	12
9	Mark Brewster	11
10	Gareth Lloyd	10
11	Ian Champion	10
12	Gerry Fitzjohn	9
13	Phil Osborne	7
14	Nigel Senior	6
15	Gary Powell	6
16	Tony Cross	3

Sussex Open @ Roffey Club, Horsham, 12th June 2016

Curt Driver (I have decided to put a picture of the trophy as we see a lot of Curt in 2016!) won the his 6th National title by winning the Sussex Open at the Roffey Club, Horsham. Curt beat **Dave Ingram** in the final, Dave missed on 4k and never got another chance as Curt ran out the winner by a scoreline of **18,670-4,000**. After a series of near misses in the last 18 months Curt will be happy to have got over the line this time.



Curt beat 4 Sussex players to make the last 4. These were all fairly one sided, as he beat **Ric Cunningham, Jim Greensted, Gareth Lloyd** and **Nigel Senior**. The semi final was much tougher as he played the World Champ **Paul Sainsbury**. There were two run outs in a great match but Curt edged it **17,810-16,690**.

In contrast Dave beat no Sussex players until the last 4. Wins over **Pete Sainsbury, Lee Radford & Lorin Clough** set him up to play **Mark Trafford** in the quarter finals. Dave beat Mark in a close match, the consolation for Mark is that he regained the number 1 ranking. In the semi finals Dave faced an old foe in **Ian Lelliott**, Dave was a comfortable winner on this occasion.

Gerry Fitzjohn made the high break in round 2 with **18,910**. **Michelle Baden** made the ladies high break with **3,620** and **Sandra Hall** was the furthest lady making the last 32. **Colin Southouse** won the plate final beating **Pete Sainsbury 16,490-12,320**.

AEBBA Mixed Pairs @ Salfords Club, Surrey, 7th May 2016

Ian Lelliott & Genette Nicholls (pictured with trophy right) won the AEBBA Mixed Pairs for the 1st time. They beat 2014 champs **Dave Ingram & Colleen Park** in the final



18 pairs showed up to play and they pairs were split into 4 groups of 5 or 4, with the top two progressing into the quarter finals. In group 1, **Mark Fraser & Anita Blackman** made it through unbeaten along with **Colin Robbins & Jean Brackenridge**. In group 2 Ian & Genette got though along with **Matt Knight & Chrissie Newson**. Group 3 was won by Dave & Colleen, runners-up were **Dave Constable & Tracy Guy**. **Nigel Senior & Michelle Baden** won group 4 and were joined by **Tom & Debz Pearce** in the last 8.

In the quarter finals all group winners progressed at the expense of group runners up. Mark & Anita beat Matt & Chrissie, Dave & Colleen overcame Colin & Jean, Ian & Genette defeated Tom & Debz and Nigel & Michelle beat Dave & Tracy.

In the semis Dave & Colleen beat Mark & Anita, and Ian & Genette saw off Nigel & Michelle.

Curt Driver & Pauline Withey (surprise casualties of the group stages) won the plate final beating **Keith Sheard & Sami Baden**.

Upcoming Events in July & August

3rd July - Kent Classic - The 20th Kent Classic will take place in July at the SixinOne Club, Tonbridge. **Steven Sheard** won here last year. In the final he beat **Nigel Senior**.

24th July - British Ladies Open - The 23rd British Ladies Open will take place at the Hurst Club, in Sussex. **Jean Brackenridge** is defending champ, she beat **Denise Wills** in the final last year.

7th August - Bucks Open - the 7th August sees the 16th running of the Bucks Open at the Cressex Centre, High Wycombe. Last year **Mark James** beat **Kevin Tunstall** in the final.

21st Aug - Northants Open - The Northants Open makes a welcome return to the calendar and will be held at the Cock Inn. It will be the 7th Northants Open, the last one was way back in 1999, where **Mark Turner** won the title beating **Bernie McCluskey**.

4th Sept - Berkshire Open - The Arborfield Club in Reading will host the 21st Berkshire Open. In last years final **Mark Trafford** won the title for the second year running beating **Mark James**.

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) - Eng 22 Jer 11
- 5th/6th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth) - winners Marc Chipman & **Nigel Senior**
- 19th Mar— East Anglian 4-pin Open (@ Masonic Hall, Sudbury)- winner **Chris Saville**
- 10th Apr—Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School, Merstham)- winner **Steven Sheard**
- 30th Apr - Guernsey v England (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)- Gue 29 Eng 37
- 30th Apr/1st May - Guernsey Pairs/Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Gue) - winners Gue Pairs **Jim Millward & Martin Cole**, Gue Open **Martin Cole**
- 7th May - AEBBA Mixed Pairs (@ Salfords Club, Redhill)- winner **Ian Lelliott & Genette Nicholls**
- 12th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club, Horsham) - winner **Curt Driver**
- 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)