



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

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AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

Four opens have been reported on in this newsletter. Kent gave us a classic final between the games top two players—**Nigel Senior's** 20k lead was chased down by **Mark Trafford**, proof that Mark is the top player, reflected in the rankings where he is number 1. Bucks gave **Curt Driver** his 2nd open win of the year, and it was great to see a new finalist in **Lee Radford** who beat KT on the way to the final. Speaking of **Kevin Tunstall**, he returned to form in some style winning the Northants & Berkshire Opens in quick succession. It was great to see the Northants Open back on the calendar after a 17 year absence—it was a great success. Congratulations to **Stephen Coleman, Simon Coleman & Lorin Clough** and others who got this event of the ground.



The Ladies game moved in July to the Hurst Club for it's biggest event of the year the British Ladies Open. Congratulations to **Pauline Withey**, who won her record **6th title**, moving her one clear of the great **Sue Mariner**. In the final she beat **Michelle Baden**, appearing in her first, long overdue for some, final. It was close but Pauline came through in the end.

Kent Classic @ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge, 1st July 2016

Mark Trafford (pictured right) won his 6th national title by winning the Kent Classic. Mark beat **Nigel Senior** in a classic final between the two players placed 1 and 2 in the national rankings. Nigel ran the first leg out for 20,050. Mark responded with a quick 5k but missed and despite a slow trip the the table and a 30 point break, Mark got another chance and he raced to another 16k break to win the title by **970** points, the final score being **21,050-20,080**. For Nigel a second successive loss in the Kent Classic final, small consolation was that his break in the final of **20,050** won the high break prize.



Mark had a bye to the last 32 when **Sid Ponting** did not show and made the final after convincing wins over **Matt Knight, Colin Southouse, Tony Webster & Bob Hall**.

Nigel also made smooth passage early on with wins over **Ian Lelliott, Martin Smith & Damien Coates** (who had a giant win over **Kevin Tunstall**). In the semis he met **Curt Driver** who couldn't chase down Nigel's 18k opener.

The plate was won by **Pete Sainsbury** who beat last year's plate winner **Dave Ingram** in the final. **Pauline Withey** took the ladies high break with **4,200**. Pauline and **Michelle Baden** were the furthest ladies, both making the last 32.

Latest British Rankings (@ 31st August 2016)

| MEN | | | |
|--------|----------------|--------|-------|
| Pos | Player | County | PTS |
| 1 | Mark Trafford | Oxon | 270.4 |
| 2(+1) | Curt Driver | Kent | 262.1 |
| 3(-1) | Nigel Senior | Sussex | 255.7 |
| 4 | Kevin Tunstall | Sussex | 247.5 |
| 5 | Paul Sainsbury | Berks | 202.2 |
| 6 | Dave Ingram | Sussex | 193.7 |
| 7 | Ian Lelliott | Sussex | 177.6 |
| 8 | Mark Brewster | Kent | 164.9 |
| 9(+1) | Martin Cole | Sussex | 128.6 |
| 10(+2) | Steven Sheard | Oxon | 122.8 |

| LADIES | | | |
|--------|-------------------|--------|-------|
| Pos | Player | County | PTS |
| 1 | Pauline Withey | Oxon | 120.4 |
| 2 | Jean Brackenridge | Sussex | 80.4 |
| 3 | Denise Wills | Surrey | 68.2 |
| 4(+1) | Michelle Baden | Sussex | 65.4 |
| 5(-1) | Jenny Florey | Oxon | 54.7 |
| 6(+3) | Bella Stoner | Sussex | 48.7 |
| 7(-1) | Lorraine Hall | Sussex | 44.1 |
| 8 | Ros Appleby | Sussex | 43.8 |
| 9(-2) | Dawn Jordan | Bucks | 43.6 |
| 10 | Sandra Hall | Sussex | 31.2 |

British Ladies @ Hurst Club, 24th July 2016

Pauline Withey

(pictured right) won the British Ladies title for the 6th time to set a new record she previously shared with Sue Mariner. Pauline beat **Michelle Baden** in her first major final. It was a close final but Pauline ran out the winner **8,770-7,320**. Pauline also had the highest break of **7,330**



20 ladies turned up to play—split into groups of 5. Top 2 in each group to progress to the quarter finals. Pauline found herself in the toughest group with 3 other former winners **Denise Wills, Lorraine Hall & Sandra Hall**. Lorraine went through unbeaten and Pauline was lucky to survive after losing her first two matches, but made it through after Denise lost her last match to Sandra. Michelle went through undefeated in her group and was joined by 2 time winner **Bella Stoner. Jean Brackenridge** won her group unbeaten, runner up was **Karen Bacchus. Mel Standbridge & Sheila King** completed the quarter final line up winning 3 games in their group.

In the quarters Pauline was pushed by Mel and only won by 370 points. Michelle beat Karen, Lorraine overcame Sheila and Bella beat Jean. The semis were more one sided as Pauline beat Bella and Michelle defeated Lorraine. The 2 champs from the group of death made the plate final - which was won by **Denise Wills**, beating **Sandra Hall**.

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

Email nigel senior05@googlegmail.co.uk with your suggestions

Berkshire Open @ Arborfield Club, Reading, 4th September 2016

Kevin Tunstall (pictured right) made it two opens in a row to take his **70th(!)** national title by winning the Berkshire Open. He beat **Simon Coleman** in the final. Simon, clearly the underdog made a brilliant **13,830** run out to take the game to Kevin, but Kev was not to be denied as he made **16,930** in reply.



Kev beat **Tony Cross, Tony Brown and Barry Radford** to face **James Whittle** in the quarter finals. James had just had a massive win over **Paul Sainsbury** but couldn't repeat the feat against Kevin. Old sparring partner **Ian Lelliott** was Kev's semi final victim.

Simon beat **John Kitson, Phil McFarland** and held off a great fightback from **Colin Robbins** in the last 16. He then met **Nigel Senior** and made a winning reply from 16k down. It didn't get easier but he pulled off a great win to beat **Curt Driver** in the semi final

Jim Millward in his 2nd plate final in 2 weeks won this time over **Tony Cross**. **Curt Driver** made the high break with **18,800** in round 2, **Pauline Withey** won the ladies high break with a relatively low **2,740** (but that was the only visit she got against **Paul Sainsbury**) **Ros Appleby** was the only lady to make round 2, making her the furthest lady.

Latest Grand Prix Standings @ 31st August 2016 (after 7 events of 10)

| Pos | Player | Pts |
|-----|----------------|-----|
| 1 | Curt Driver | 46 |
| 2 | Mark Trafford | 40 |
| 3 | Ian Lelliott | 21 |
| 4 | Dave Ingram | 20 |
| 5 | Nigel Senior | 19 |
| 6 | Martin Cole | 19 |
| 7 | Jim Millward | 19 |
| 8 | Kevin Tunstall | 18 |
| 9 | Steven Sheard | 18 |
| 10 | Gareth Lloyd | 17 |
| 11 | Mark Brewster | 17 |
| 12 | Paul Sainsbury | 13 |
| 13 | Phil Osborne | 11 |
| 14 | Gerry Fitzjohn | 10 |
| 15 | Lee Radford | 10 |
| 16 | Ian Champion | 10 |

Bucks Open @ Cressex Community Centre, 7th August 2016

Curt Driver (pictured right) won his **7th** national title with victory in the Bucks Open. He beat **Lee Radford** who made his ever national final. Curt seized control early in the final and ran out a comfortable winner **19,520-1,830**. Curt had another cause for celebration as this win helped him hit the **number 1** in the rankings for the first time, and he became the 6th man to do so after **Kevin Tunstall, Keith Sheard, Les Green, Nigel Senior & Mark Trafford**.



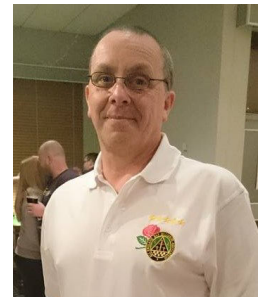
Curt made it to the quarter finals with wins over **Simon Coleman, Craig Mace & Ray Hussey**. There he met **Kev Hall**, and made Kev made Curt work hard for the win taking a 12k lead, Curt responded with a 16k 2nd leg score to go through. In the semi finals he played **Matt Jones**, Matt had his chances but a lost break cost him dearly and Curt progressed to the final.

Lee beat **Tony Jenner & James Whittle** before meeting **Kevin Tunstall** in the last 16. The match was close but Kevin made an uncharacteristic mistake at the death to hand the match to Lee. Lee then took out **Phil Osborne** before securing a terrific win against an in form **Mark Brewster** who was flying having made the day's high break of **20,630**.

The plate was won by **Matt Knight** who beat 'plate specialist' **Damien Coates** in the final. **Michelle Baden** got the ladies high break with **6,580**. **Sandra Hall** made the last 32 to be the furthest lady.

Northants Open @ Arborfield Club, Reading, 21st August 2016

Kevin Tunstall (pictured right) won the Northants Open beating **Mark Trafford** in the final. This was the 7th Northants Open but has been resurrected this year as it has not been held since 1999. A very early mistake from Mark let Kevin in and he won **19,150-940**. For Kevin this success ends a barren spell (for him anyway) as although he won the 2015 Alternative Rules, he has not won a major title since the 2014 All England Singles. He also made the days high break with **19,250**



Kevin firstly eased to a wins over girlfriend/boyfriend **Sophie Shambrook & Stephen Coleman**. However Stephen's dad **Simon Coleman** had him all but beat in the last 16, but he broke down around 1,000 short of safety and Kev recovered to win. This seemed to send Kev into overdrive as he hit big breaks against **Steven Sheard** and **Gareth Lloyd (17,010-17,000!)** to make the final.

Mark started with a win over **Dawn Jordan** before surviving a scare against **Colin Southouse**. **Clive Thompson** was dismissed and Mark then beat **Nigel Senior** in the quarter finals who couldn't convert a 1st leg deficit of just 3k. Mark then beat **Ian Lelliott** in the semi final,

Ian Street, now a Northants player!, beat **Jim Millward** in the plate final. **Pauline Withey** made the ladies high break of **3,670**. She and **Sami Baden** were furthest ladies making the last 32.

Thanks to the Northants boys (and girls) for running the event and resurrecting this open!

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) - winner Mark Trafford
- 24th July - British Ladies (@ Hurst Club, Hurstpierpoint) - winner Pauline Withey
- 7th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Cressex Con Centre, High Wycombe) - winner Curt Driver
- 21st Aug - Northants Open (@ Cock Inn, Northampton) - winner Kevin Tunstall
- 4th Sept - Berks Open (@ Arborfield Club, Reading) - winner Kevin Tunstall
- 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)

Upcoming Events in September & October

18th Sept - County Champs Div1/ Ladies AE Singles - Kent will be defending their title. The All England Ladies was won by **Pauline Withey** last year— for the 5th time.

25th Sept - Ladies County/AE Open Singles - Sussex ladies will be defending their title and they have won 13 of the last 15. Last year Sussex's **Nigel Senior** beat Hampshire's **Barry Radford** to win his 3rd AE singles

9th Oct - Alternative Rules - The unique event where the balls start in a triangle and reformed every time the balls are cleared. **Kevin Tunstall** won his 9th Alternative Rules title beating **Curt Driver**.

16th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies - Didcot Con Club from Oxon won the team title last year. **Pauline Withey** won her 9th Special Ladies title,

23rd Oct - National Off the Spot Open - Matt Jones won his first national title last year. He beat **Curt Driver** in last years final.