



All England Bar Billiards



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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 AEBBA would like to congratulate all the winners. The year's highlight was without doubt the World Championships in Jersey, where **Matt Jones** won his first world title.

Matt achievement is more the remarkable as he has just been playing 2 and a half years, in 2014 he was ranked 164, he moved up to 40 last year and is now up to 11 in the 2016 end of year rankings. Speaking of rankings this year saw a record three number 1's. **Nigel Senior** had the spot at the start of the year but again failed to win an open in 2016 but again ended the year by winning the prestigious Grand Prix. **Mark Trafford** took over the spot in May and won his 6th national title after a classic Kent final against Nigel. But our end of year number 1 was the man who dominated 2016- **Curt Driver** won 5 national titles to bring his overall haul to 10—he won the All England Singles, Sussex, Off the Spot, Bucks & Alternative Rules. He also captained England to 2 wins over Jersey & Guernsey—a great year for him!

But there were other winners—**Jim Millward** won the Oxon, his 8th title and **Steven Sheard** won the Surrey—also his 8th title. **Kevin Tunstall** was having a quiet year but came on strong with consecutive wins at the Berks and the resurrected Northants Open to bring him to **70** national individual titles! And we had 2 new winners—**Martin Cole** completed a Guernsey singles/pairs double and **Chris Saville** took the 4 pin title in Sudbury.

In the ladies game **Pauline Withey** continues to be a long way in front at number 1 and took two titles (British Ladies & Special Ladies). **Jean Brackenridge** won the Ladies Grand Prix and very well done to **Denise Wills** won the All England Ladies

Another great year! The AEBBA would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

World Championships @ Merton Hotel, Jersey, 11th/12th/13th Nov 2016

Matt Jones (pictured far right) won his 1st World Championships title in Jersey. Compared to last years winner **Paul Sainsbury** who was successful after 31 years, Matt only took **THREE!** Matt beat **Mark Brewster**, who was runner up in 1995 to **Tony Walsh** in the final. Matt looked nerveless as he hit an **18,780** break in the opening leg. Mark went in pursuit of the score at a brisk pace, but after getting to about 10k he popped a break out and that ultimately saw him off the table as he lost the break and therefore the match immediately



144 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 - the most notable was former winner **Graeme Le Monnier**, but most of the favourites made it through to the live draw for the last 64. This threw up some big clashes. In fact the very first match pulled out was 5 time winner **Kevin Tunstall** to play 3 time winner **Trevor Gallienne**. This was the match of the round—Kevin set a target of **17,370** which was too much for Trevor. Reigning champion **Paul Sainsbury** exited at the last 64 stage to wily old fox **Chris Tupper**. 2014 Champ **Dave Ingram** also went out here to the 5 time semi finalist **Steve Mariner**. There were some big match-ups in the last 32, **Mark Brewster** ended **Kevin Tunstall's** campaign for a 6th title, 4 time winner **Jim Millward** went out to **Chris Saville**.

By the time the field was whittled down to **16, 11 UK mainland, 2 Jersey, and 3 Guernsey** players were left in, with only 2 past champions present. Some great matches here—**Mark Brewster** knocked out Guernsey player **Ian Champion**. **Steve Mariner's** fine run continued with a win over last years runner up **James Jeanne**. 1982 champ **Graham Bisson** saw off the 2013 runner-up **Nigel Senior**. The other 2 Guernsey players **Bob Chapple & Matt Ogier** made it through with **Matt Jones** and **Chris Saville** joining them along with England number 1 **Curt Driver** who survived a big scare against **Bob Hall**. So to the Quarter Finals—**Mark Brewster** defeated **Steve Mariner**, **Graham Bisson** won a low scoring affair with **Chris Saville**, whilst **Matt Jones & Curt Driver** recorded more comfortable wins over **Bob Chapple & Matt Ogier** to end the Guernsey involvement. Mark won his semi final fairly comfortably against **Graham Bisson**. Curt lost a 6k opener against **Matt Jones** in his semi—it proved costly as although he led by 7k, Matt was faultless with 13k in leg 2 to book his place in the final.



The World Championship Doubles was won by **Curt Driver & Mark Trafford**; (pictured left, far right) a strong pair as they are 1 and 2 in the rankings! They beat champions for the last 2 years **Jim Millward & Trevor Gallienne** (pictured far left) - their unbeaten record gone! The plate was won by **Lorin Cough** beating **Phil Oakley**. **Joshua Gardner** won his 3rd junior title, runner-up was **Alfie Millward**—yes that name is familiar as he is the son of a certain 4 time champion...be afraid everyone be very afraid, after all it only takes 3 years to win this title nowadays!

Over 50's @ Didcot Con Club, 30th Oct 2016

The Over 50's title was won by **Ernie Jordan** (pictured right) for the 2nd time (last won in 1996) beating 2004 champ **Pete Burton** in the final. It was a low scoring final which Ernie won **7,430-3,530**

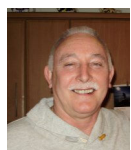


20 players turned out for the competition (9 down from last year) and were split into groups of 4 top two progressing. Ernie progressed with 3 out 4 wins, **Dennis Atkins** being a big casualty in his group who would go on and win the over 60s that day. **Ian Moquet** went through unbeaten in group 2, **Pete Burton** won group 3 and **Chris Saville** won group 4. Runners up who progressed were **Andy Burns**, his wife **Janet Burns** and 2 other ladies **Pauline Withey** and **Myra Hawkins**.

The 3 ladies failed to progress further than the quarter finals. Ernie and Pete were joined by **Ian Moquet** and **Chris Saville** in the semi finals. Both semis were close but Eric beat Ian and Pete beat Chris. 3 time champ, **Tony Martin**, didn't even make it through his group but got the high break of **11,660**.

Over 60's @ Didcot Con Club, 30th Oct 2016

The Over 60's title was won by **Dennis Atkins** (pictured right). He beat Kent's **Chris Saville** in the final. Dennis won this title 2 years ago in 2014 and he won comfortably **15,100-3,380**.



There were only 13 entries (9 down on last year), and Dennis beat **Ernie Jordan**, **Cliff Salde** and then **Phil Hawkins** to make the final. Chris beat **Pete Burton** and then **Pauline Withey** in the semi final.

Phil Hawkins did make the days high break with **11,310**.

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

Email nigelsenior05@googlegmail.com with your suggestions

Latest British Rankings (@ 31st December 2016)

MEN				LADIES			
Pos	Player	County	PTS	Pos	Player	County	PTS
1	Curt Driver	Kent	316.9	1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	135.4
2	Mark Trafford	Oxon	258.8	2	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	77.4
3(+1)	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	258.4	3	Michelle Baden	Sussex	65.0
4(-1)	Nigel Senior	Sussex	233.7	4	Denise Wills	Surrey	61.5
5	Dave Ingram	Sussex	193.2	5(+2)	Ros Appleby	Sussex	51.4
6	Mark Brewster	Kent	187.8	6	Bella Stoner	Sussex	49.7
7(-1)	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	187.6	7(-2)	Jenny Florey	Oxon	45.8
8(-1)	Ian Lelliott	Sussex	174.6	8	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	41.0
9	Martin Cole	Sussex	138.7	9	Dawn Jordan	Bucks	32.8
10	Gerry Fitzjohn	Kent	117.3	10(+1)	Mel Standbridge	Oxon	31.5

Ladies Grand Prix, 27th Nov 2016

Jean Brackenridge (pictured right) won her 4th Ladies Grand Prix title. This draws her level with her opponent in the final **Pauline Withey**, who has also has 4 Grand Prix titles. The final was close as you would expect, Pauline drew 6k clear after leg 1, but Jean came back to win **11,260-10,700**.



Jean was seeded 2nd and won all her group games to qualify for the final. Wins over **Dawn Jordan** (seeded 7), **Lorraine Hall** (seeded 6) and **Michelle Baden** (seeded 3) saw her through comfortably. Pauline, the top seed, also won her group with ease with wins over last years champ **Jenny Florey** (seeded 8),

Ros Appleby (seeded 5) and **Mel Standbridge** (seeded 4). Jean also made the high break of **8,000**.

Final

Jean Brackenridge 11,260
beat
Pauline Withey 10,700

Group A

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Pauline Withey (Oxon) (1)	6
2	Jenny Florey (Oxon) (8)	2
3	Ros Appleby (Sus) (5)	2
4	Mel Standbridge (Oxon) (4)	2

Group B

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Jean Brackenridge (Sus) (2)	6
2	Lorraine Hall (Sus) (6)	4
3	Michelle Baden (Sus) (3)	2
4	Dawn Jordan (Bucks) (7)	0

Final Grand Prix Standings (after 10 events)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Curt Driver	76
2	Mark Trafford	45
3	Mark Brewster	41
4	Kevin Tunstall	35
5	Ian Lelliott	33
6	Martin Cole	29
7	Nigel Senior	28
8	Matt Jones	28
9	Dave Ingram	24
10	Jim Millward	20
11	Steven Sheard	19
12	Gareth Lloyd	18
13	Phil Osborne	14
14	Paul Sainsbury	14
15	Ian Champion	13
16	Gary Powell	12

Grand Prix @ Didcot Con Club, 27th Nov 2016

Nigel Senior (pictured right) retained the Grand Prix title. He (still) may not be able to win an open (not since 2010 anyway) but will be happy to take his 2nd Grand Prix title in 12 months. He beat **Tony Cross** in the final, who was appearing in his first major final. Nigel was put in first and raced to **22,000** exactly in 17 minutes. This was thought by some to be out of Tony's range and his task was more difficult when he missed his first split and lost time in retrieving the balls back. However, Tony started to motor and Nigel's eyebrow was raised when Tony reached 10k in 7 mins 50 secs, around 20 seconds up on Nigel to the same point. Sadly for Tony a short one up when reaching 11k finished the final there and then—but a great effort from him nonetheless.



The top 16 performers on the open circuit (although due to declined invites we had to go down to well into the 30's) this year were seeded and placed into 4 groups—winners progressing to the semi finals. Top seed and new England number 1 **Curt Driver** had a shootout with **Gerry Fitzjohn** (seeded 8) to see who progressed in Group A. Gerry should have won, drawing level on the break with a couple of minutes left, but Curt got a final chance which he took. **Mark Brewster** (seeded 2) was in control of Group B. He made the days high break of **22,330** against **Lee Radford** (seeded 10). But he slipped up against **Phil Osborne** (seeded 7) in his final game to allow **Tony Cross** (seeded 15) to sneak through by just 200 points on aggregate. Group C was no less exciting as **Matt Knight** (seeded 11) beat **Dave Ingram** (seeded 6) and **Martin Cole** (seeded 3) in his first 2 games. A win against **Stu Carruthers** (seeded 14) would see him through but after Stu ran the table out and a Matt miss allowing Dave to beat Martin by enough points to qualify. Group D was won by eventual champ and 4th seed Nigel, but only after he lost to 12th seed **Barry Radford**. Nigel went into his last game needing to beat new World Champ **Matt Jones** by 2k, which he did and Barry did not get enough points despite beating **Tony Webster** (seeded 13). Only 4k separated those top 3 players. In the semis Tony was superb beating Dave from 16k down, Nigel beat Curt after he broke down on 6k, Nigel not missing until touching up in leg 2.

Group A

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Curt Driver (Kent) (1)	6
2	Gerry Fitzjohn (Kent) (8)	4
3	Bob Hall (Sus) (9)	2
4	Stephen Coleman (Nor) (16)	0

Group B

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Tony Cross (Sus) (15)	4
2	Mark Brewster (Kent) (2)	4
3	Phil Osborne (Sus) (7)	4
4	Lee Radford (Hants) (10)	0

Semi Finals

Nigel Senior 20,910
Curt Driver 6,080
Tony Cross 17,680
Dave Ingram 16,610

Group C

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Dave Ingram (Sus) (6)	4
2	Matt Knight (Sus) (11)	4
3	Stuart Carruthers (Sus) (14)	2
4	Martin Cole (Sus) (3)	2

Group D

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Nigel Senior (Sus) (4)	4
2	Barry Radford (Hants) (12)	4
3	Matt Jones (Bucks) (5)	4
4	Tony Webster (Hants) (13)	0

Final

Nigel Senior 22,000
Tony Cross 11,100

County Championships Division 2, @ Didcot Con Club, 6th Nov 2016

Sussex B (pictured right) have won the County Championships Division 2 to gain promotion to division 1. It was a convincing win as they took the title by 5 points from the runners-up **Oxon B**



Six teams were present and the best start was made by **Berks B** as they won their first match **5-2** against **Kent B**. Unbelievably they would finish the day bottom. **Sussex B** and **Bucks** also made winning starts recording **4-3** wins. In series 2 **Sussex B** showed their intent with a **5-2** win over **Kent B** to take a 1 point lead. In series 3 **Sussex B** continued their winning streak with a **4-3** victory over **Bucks**, but **Oxon B** beat **Berks B 5-2** to draw level on 13 points. Series 4 was pivotal as whilst **Oxon B** were completing a **4-3** win over **Kent B**, **Sussex B** took 6 points in their win over **Hants** to lead by 2 with one match to go. The title was sealed with a **6-1** win over **Berks B**. The winning side was **Bob Hall, Jim Greensted, Kev Hall** (these 3 were the only unbeaten players and Jim had the highest average of **10,536**), **Martin Smith, Henry Brooks, Matt Knight & Colin Southouse**. Hampshire's **Tony Woolvin** made the high break of **16,150**.

Division 1

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Sussex A	22
2	Kent A	21
3	Oxon A	19
4	Northants	16
5	Berks A	15
6	Surrey	12

Division 2

Pos	Team	Pts
1	Sussex B	25
2	Oxon B	20
3	Bucks	17
4	Hants	17
5	Kent B	14
6	Berks B	12

Under 25's @ Didcot Con Club, 27th Nov

Daniel Wheel (pictured right) from Sussex won the Under 25's title for the first time. Only 4 players entered, all from Sussex, and it was decided that they would play each other best of 2 legs in a round robin.



Daniel started with a win over **Jamie Minihane**, and **Kyle Ingram** beat **Joe Oakley** in his first match. Kyle then assumed control by beating Daniel and Joe kept his hopes alive by beating Jamie with the aid of the days highest break of **9,450**.

In the last games Kyle played Jamie first but Jamie pulled off a win that meant Kyle would have to await the outcome of the match between Daniel and Joe to know his fate. The situation was that Daniel needed 11k and a win or Joe needed 8k and a win—anything less and Kyle would take the title on aggregate. Joe looked good but a touch up on 7k would prove to be a bad decision because Daniel came back to win **12,040-9,510** to seal the title.

Upcoming Events in January & February

11th Feb - Oxon Open - The 25th Oxon Open will take place at Didcot Con Club, Didcot. **Jim Millward** his 8th national title last year beating **Curt Driver** in the final.

Dates for your diary 2017—see <http://www.aebba.org/> for entry forms

- 11th Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club)
- 4th Mar - England v Guernsey (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
- 4th/5th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
- 25th Mar— East Anglian 4-pin Open (@ Masonic Hall, Sudbury)
- 9th Apr—Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School, Merstham)
- 29th/30th Apr - Guernsey Pairs/Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)
- 7th May - AEBBA Mixed Pairs (@ Totteridge Club)
- 21st May - Northants Open (@ Cock Inn, Northampton)
- 11th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club, Horsham)
- 2nd July - Kent Classic (@ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge)
- 23rd July - British Ladies (@ Hurst Club, Hurstpierpoint)
- 6th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Cressex Con Centre, High Wycombe)
- 3rd Sept - Berks Open (@ Arborfield Club, Reading)
- 17th Sept - County Div 1 (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 24th Sept - County Div 2 (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 8th Oct - Alternative Rules (@ Totteridge Club)
- 15th Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)
- 22nd Oct - National Off the Spot Open (@ Emsworth SS Club, West Sussex)
- 5th Nov— AE Open Singles/AE Ladies Singles/Over 50's (@ Totteridge Club)
- 10th/11th/12th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles/ Jersey v England (Jersey)
- 26th Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies Grand Prix/Over 60's/Under 30's (@ Didcot Con Club, Oxford)
- 3rd Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ Didcot Con Club, Didcot)