



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

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AEBBA Newsletter Editorial

The men's and ladies Internationals kicked off the bar billiards year in Jersey in February and we were treated to a pair of terrific matches. England's men triumphed 17-16 over the home side, and Chris Newson's do or die 3k break at the end of the match sealed the win. England ladies came through 12-6 against the strongest Jersey ladies team they have had in years.

The first open was held in Oxon, it was won by Steven Sheard beating an in form Phil Collins in the final. The standard of billiards was very high on the day with six 20k breaks made (3 by Phil).

We have a lot to look forward to in the coming months—in March we have the British Pairs in Bournemouth, which I am sure will be a fantastic weekend as it always is.



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Jersey Men v England Men @ Ambassadeur Hotel, 5th February 2011

The first major event of the bar billiards year was the annual meeting between the **Jersey** and **England** (pictured right) Mens teams. Played at the Ambassadeur Hotel, Jersey, England were looking to avenge the landslide defeat of 22-11 2 years ago.



The draw looked to be in the home side's favour as the three England players who had not played an away international in Jersey were drawn out in the last series, so England looked to build an early lead. England made a terrific start taking 6 of the first 7 legs, with highlights being a 14k lead for **Steven Sheard** over **Steve Ahier** and **Richard Wooton** opening a 10k lead over World Championship runner up **Graham Bisson**. As expected though Jersey fought back to 7-4 down at half time although debutant **Mark Trafford** took a leg against the break against **James Jeanne**.

England made a good start to the 2nd half—**Paul Sainsbury**, **Keith Sheard**, **Kevin Tunstall**, & **Jim Millward** completed 3-0 wins for the visitors and only **Dennis Helleur** secured a 3-0 win for Jersey. However both **Steve Ahier** (15,860) and **Graham Bisson** (11,350) turned around their big 1st leg deficits with magnificent run outs to give Jersey a chance going into the last series albeit 15-10 down with only 8 points left to play for.

Into the final 4 games and things looked grim for England 10 minutes in with all 4 Jersey players in control. Although **Mark Trafford's** aggregate win was safe, England needed one more point from somewhere to secure victory. Up stepped **Chris Newson** 3k down with some 5 minutes left against **Bob King**. Several squeaky bum moments and 5 minutes later Chris potted the final balls to win by 370!

So a 17-16 win for England and a truly magnificent match with great bar billiards played by both sides.

Latest British Rankings (@ 28th February 2011)

<u>MEN</u>				<u>LADIES</u>			
<u>Pos</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>PTS</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>PTS</u>
1	Kevin Tunstall	Sussex	264.2	1	Pauline Withey	Oxon	111.7
2	Nigel Senior	Sussex	254.2	2	Jean Brackenridge	Sussex	101.4
3	Phil Collins	Oxon	243.3	3	Mrs Chris Newson	Hants	79.7
4	Keith Sheard	Oxon	194.6	4(+1)	Lorraine Hall	Sussex	47.0
5	Steven Sheard	Oxon	190.1	5(-1)	Hayley Tunstall	Sussex	46.9
6	Curt Driver	Kent	151.8	6	Denise Wills	Surrey	46.4
7	Paul Sainsbury	Berks	136.3	7	Alison Norman	Surrey	28.9
8	Richard Wooton	Sussex	119.8	8	Jenny Florey	Oxon	28.8
9(+1)	Mark Brewster	Kent	112.7	9	Shauna Nicholls	Surrey	21.8
10(-1)	Leon Beer	Oxon	107.3	10	Colleen Park	Sussex	21.5

A lot of players currently playing are probably unaware that there is a World 24 hours bar billiards record. This record was entered into the Guinness Book of records through the 1980's and early 90's. The highest score recorded by a team of five is **1,754,730** by Les Green, Richard Powell, Kevin Clark, Mick Lingham and **Curt Driver** (only of these players still playing nationally) of the Shipwrights Arms, Chatham, Kent on 26-27 May 1990. Each player was allocated 16 games (18 mins each) and averaged 1,218 per minute or 21,934 per leg.

Could this record every be broken? The averages required are incredible, but after 20 years it would be interesting to see how close a team could get.

The individual record is held by **Mark Sawyer** who made **29,000** in 17min 30secs in the 1999 Oxon Open. His poor opponent had 24,760 put past him in the first leg by Mark—a 2 leg aggregate score of **53,760!** Current England number 4, **Keith Sheard** held the previous record at **28,530** and he also holds the world record off the spot score at **25,950**.

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

Email nigelsen-ioro5@googlemail.com with your suggestions

Something for the ladies.... the ladies don't always get enough coverage on here, but with the British Ladies coming up in April I thought it would be interesting to see which ladies had been the most successful. **Pauline Withey** is clear at the top with **14 titles** and she has won all the titles available to her—3 All England, 3 British, 2 Grand Prix and 6 Special Ladies.

Pos	Player	Won
1	Pauline Withey	14
2	Viv Wright	11
3	Chris Newson	8
4	Jan Taylor	7
5	Jean Brackenridge	6
6	Sue Mariner	5
7	Myra Hawkins	3
8	Bella Stoner	2
=	Gail Woods	2
=	Jane Wood	2
=	Gay Austin	2

Latest Grand Prix Standings @ 28th February 2011 (after 1 event of 11)

Pos	Player	Pts
1	Steven Sheard	15
2	Phil Collins	10
3	Gary Johnson	6
=	Rick Dewdney	6
5	Curt Driver	3
6	Kevin Tunstall	3
=	Dennis Atkins	3
=	Bill Kerr	3
9	Jon Bamsey	1
=	Geoff Powell	1
11	Mark Brewster	1
=	Nigel Senior	1
=	Mark Trafford	1
=	Simon Ellam	1
=	Bert Lovegrove	1
=	Lee Radford	1

Oxfordshire Open @ Didcot Con Club, 19th February 2011

Steven Sheard (pictured right) won the first national open of the year by winning the 2011 Oxfordshire Open. Steven beat 2009 World Champion **Phil Collins** to make him runner-up for the second successive year. Neither player really got going in the final but Steven ran out winner 17,390—8,630



This is Steven's 3rd senior national title having previously won the 2005 Kent Classic and the 2007 Alternative Rules. Steven made fairly comfortable passage to the quarter finals where he came back from 7k to beat 2003 champion **Dennis Atkins**. In the semi final Steven defeated Oxon's **Gary Johnson** on tricky table 1.

Phil's route to the final was fair to say a bit tougher than Steven's. He should have been eliminated in round 2 by **Pete Sainsbury** who missed the one up when level chasing 14k. A 21,280 run out was too much for defending champ **Nigel Senior** who could only make 19,700 in reply in the last 16. In the quarter finals he faced a 20,800 deficit to England number 1 **Kevin Tunstall** but replied with a superb 21,460 run out. He then overcame Sussex's **Rick Dewdney** in the Semi Final, Ricky though was very pleased to reach his first national semi final.



In the plate final Oxon's **Ian Moss** (pictured left) defeated fellow countyman **Stuart Florey**. **Phil Collins** could console himself with the high break which was the **21,460** made in that quarter final against **Kevin Tunstall**. **Jenny Florey** got the high ladies break with a **4,710** to ensure the Florey's won something.

A great event—thanks to Tony Willis and Pete Ewins and other helpers for running the day.

Upcoming Events in March & April

12/13th Mar - British Pairs (Bournemouth) - The 29th British Pairs will take place at the Queens Hotel, Bournemouth. **Keith Sheard & Mark Trafford** will be looking to defend their title they captured last year

10th Apr - Portsmouth Open - The longest running open (other than Jersey) of all the current opens will see its 19th running in April. **Keith Sheard** beat **Mark James** in the final last year.

17th Apr - British Ladies - The 18th British Ladies Open will take place at Salfords Club nr Horley, in April. **Alison Norman** will be defending the title she won last year, taking out defending champ **Lorraine Hall** and two top lady players **Chris Toner** and **Pauline Withey** on the way to her first national title.

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

5th Feb - Jersey v England (@ Ambassadeur, Jersey) Jer men 16-17 Eng men, Jer Ladies 6-12 England ladies
 19th Feb - Oxon Open (@ Didcot Conservative Club) winner Steven Sheard
 12/13th Mar - British Pairs (@ Queens Hotel, Bournemouth)
 10th Apr - Portsmouth Open (@ Moneyfields SSC)
 17th Apr—British Ladies Open (@ Salfords Club, nr Horley)
 30th April/1st May - Guernsey Pairs/ Guernsey Open (@ Les Rocquettes, Guernsey)
 8th May - Surrey Open (@ St Nicholas School, Merstham)
 11th June— England v Guernsey (@ Roffey Club)
 12th June—Sussex Open (@ Roffey Club)
 10th July - Kent Classic (@ SixinOne Club, Tonbridge)
 24th July - Under 25's/Over 50's/ Over 60's (@ PO Club, Reading)
 7th Aug - Bucks Open (@ Princes Riseborough Golf Club)
 21st Aug - Mixed Pairs (@ PO Club, Reading)
 11th Sept - Berks Open (@ PO Club, Reading)
 25th Sept - County Div 1/ Ladies AE Singles (@ PO Club, Reading)
 2nd Oct - Ladies County/ AE Open Singles (@ PO Club, Reading)
 9th Oct - Alternative Rules (@ PO Club, Reading)
 23rd Oct - Team Champs/ Special Ladies (@ PO Club, Reading)
 20th Nov- County Div 2 (@ PO Club, Reading)
 4/5/6th Nov - World Champ Pairs/ World Champs Singles (Jersey)
 27th Nov - Grand Prix/ Ladies GP (@ PO Club, Reading)
 4th Dec - AEBBA AGM (@ PO Club, Reading)

Jersey Ladies v England Ladies @ Ambassadeur Hotel, 5th February 2011

Great news this year was that **Jersey** had a ladies side to play the **England ladies** (pictured right) after the match was cancelled last year. Also Jersey had a new captain, **Michelle Baden** who became the first player (male or female) to play for both England and Jersey. Also out of retirement was **Jenny Wallace (nee Noel)** making this a very strong Jersey Ladies team.



Jersey ladies made a strong start taking 3 of the first 4 legs with last ball wins for **Sami Baden** and **Jenny Wallace** over **Chris Newson** and **Hayley Tunstall** respectively. England pegged it back to 3-3 at half time with wins for captain **Pauline Withey** and **Jenny Florey**.

England started the 2nd half strongly with **Jean Brackenridge** completing a 3-0 win and **Chris Newson** and **Hayley Tunstall** overturning deficits to record 2-1 wins. Jersey captain **Michelle Baden** gave the home side some hope by winning her match 3-0 to make the overall score 9-5. Pauline went onto win 3-0 and Jenny took an aggregate 2-1 win to take 3 of the last 4 points to make the final score 12-6 in favour of England