

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS**

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**7<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.**

**PRESS REPORT**

### **1. OBITUARY – Mrs LEAH PURCELL – DISTINGUISHED COUNTY BOWLER**

It is with deep regret that the death of **Leah PURCELL** is reported. Leah died on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2010, after a period of illness. She was a very highly respected member of the bowling fraternity both in this County and beyond, who will be sorely missed by all those who knew her in whatever capacity.

She was heavily involved in bowling for 35 years, first taking up the sport in 1975 at the outdoor **Desborough Town BC**, where she very quickly established herself as a very good bowler, her ability being proven by her competition successes where, on 3 occasions – Triples in 1978, Fours in 1980, & Triples in 1984, she represented the County at the **National Championships in Royal Leamington Spa**.

In 1982 she became a member of the **steering group** which led to the formation of the **Kettering & District Indoor Bowling Club** (now Kettering Lodge IBC)

Although she was a very accomplished bowler, due to an injury in 1984, her playing abilities were severely restricted, and she turned her hand to various roles in administering the game, both within the County and further afield. She became a qualified **National Coach** in 1985 following which she helped many new bowlers, and in 1988 she took an active part in the formation of the Ladies Section at the newly opened Desborough Indoor BC, where at the time of her death Leah was the Ladies President for the year 2009/2010. She was a **Life Member** of Desborough Town BC and an **Honorary Life Member** of Desborough IBC.

Leah held office in the County as **President of Northamptonshire Women's Indoor Bowling Association** in the year 2003/2004, and was the **County Assistant Secretary** from 2004 to 2009. She reached higher office when she became the **President of the Midland Counties Women's Indoor Bowling Association** for the year 2005/2006.

It was her great encouragement to young bowlers which particularly shone through in her bowling activities, for she was heavily involved in the Youth Development Schemes, being a leading member of the group which set up the **Northamptonshire Bowls Youth Development Scheme** 5 years ago, of which not only did she administer the competitions, but at the time of her death was the **Chairperson of the County Scheme**.

She is survived by her husband Andy Purcell who is himself also very heavily involved in bowls in the County and their children, son Steve and daughter Stephanie.

Leah's funeral is to be held at St Giles Church, Lower Street, Desborough, at **1.0 p.m. on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010**. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Cransley Hospice, St Mary's Hospital, Kettering NN15 7PW for attention of Diana Patrick.

**(I attach hereto a photograph of Leah, which you have the authority of her husband to use)**

## **2. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE OVER 60'S TRIUMPH IN NATIONAL SEMI-FINAL versus CUMBRIA**

**WELL DONE TO THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE OVER 60'S TEAM – IT'S THE FINAL FOR THE SECOND SUCCESSIVE YEAR IN THIS NATIONAL COMPETITION AFTER FANTASTIC WIN OVER CUMBRIA.**

To the delight of Team Manager John Haines and the many travelling supporters, the gentlemen of the Northamptonshire Over 60's Team visited South Leeds IBC on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010, the neutral venue for their semi-final of this National competition against a strong Cumbria team, and came away with a marvellous 35 shot victory.

Despite winning on his rink the famous International John Bell, who is in charge of the country's Commonwealth Games Bowls Team for Delhi, later this year, was clearly very disappointed with how the game went away from his County after a good start by them.

After 5 ends Cumbria had the upper hand, having settled much more quickly to the green, and held a 7 shots advantage, up on 4 of the 6 rinks, but by the halfway stage that advantage was reversed with Northamptonshire taking a 7 shots lead. This lead had grown to 17 shots after 15 ends, and a massive 34 shots by 18 ends completed. Cumbria conceded the match with 3 ends left to play and a defeat by 35 shots. A massive difference at this level. All rinks played their part in this victory but especially the rinks skipped by Carl Haines and Jim McKee which posted a 40 shots advantage between them, allowing their opponents to score on just 12 ends of the 41 ends played.

Final score was Northamptonshire 128 shots – Cumbria 93 shots. Rink scores, Northamptonshire names first and Cumbria skips only, as follows:

- Rink 1.** Bob Care/John Clipston/Colin Jones/Jim McKee 30 shots – J Menzies 10 shots
- Rink 2.** Roger Summers/Brian Thomas/Walt Winsor/Terry James 13 shots – R McMath 24 shots
- Rink 3.** Alan Maden/Reg Jones/Tony Weston/Mick Sharpe 22 shots – A Little 14 shots
- Rink 4.** Tony Dicks/Mick Richardson/Martin Keech/Mick Worthington 13 shots – J Bell 25 shots
- Rink 5.** Peter Maloy/John Baggat/Malc Mattinson/Roger Tansley 22 shots – R Gall 12 shots
- Rink 6.** Jim Diver/Ron Chambers/George Warren/Carl Haines 28 shots – D McManus 8 shots

Northamptonshire now play Surrey in the Final as they comfortably beat Essex in their Semi-final. The Final is on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2010, at Kempston IBC (formerly known as Lawson Park IBC) Bedford.

**(Please find attached two photographs of the two highest winning rinks as follows: Photo No. P2020097 left to right Colin Jones/John Clipstone/Bob Care/Jim McKee – all from Kingsthorpe IBC & Photo No. P2020099 Jim Diver/Ron Chambers/Carl Haines/George Warren – all from Desborough IBC)**

## **3. NATIONAL CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS FINALS**

Tina Broderick, Wellingborough visited Warner Lakeside IBC, Hayling Island, Hampshire, on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2010, for the National Finals of the Champion of Champions competition, where she met Sue Latham, Thornbury IBC, Gloucestershire. Her opponent was much on form and despite her best efforts on the day Tina succumbed 15-21. Her opponent then went on to take the trophy beating Sue Allen, Ryedale IBC, Yorks 21-16 after very convincing wins in the quarter finals & semi-finals.

## **4. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT IBC**

The first full week of National Championship Finals commences at Northampton & District IBC on Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.

There will be many County bowlers, both men and women, involved at different stages and disciplines, and a number of top bowlers from around the country. Spectators are very welcome, and they will be assured of some very high quality bowls every day.

Of particular interest to the County are the following:

**Mixed Pairs:** Tina & Paul Broderick play Taunton Deane at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.

- Men's Over 60 Fours:** Bob Care/Alan Spencer/John Clipston/Colin Manton, Kingsthorpe, play Bournemouth at 6.30 p.m. on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.
- Men's Over 50 Triples:** Jim McKee/Calvin Carpenter/Mick Sharpe, Kingsthorpe play Bridgwater at 6.30 p.m. on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.
- Mixed Fours:** Neil Rees/Margaret Johnson/Tina Broderick/Paul Broderick, Wellingborough, play Cumbria at 6.30 p.m. on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2010.

## **5. NATIONAL COMPETITION RESULTS – LATEST**

**MIXED** A reminder that the Mixed Pairs and Mixed Fours qualifiers are playing at the National Championships at Northampton & District IBC as referred to in Para. 4 above.

### **GENTLEMEN**

#### **SINGLES**

**Area Semi-Finals:** Neil McKee, Kingsthorpe beat Neil Corbyn, Wellingborough 21-12  
Andrew Hunter, Kingsthorpe beat Andy Smith, Northampton 21-13

Hunter and McKee now play in the Area Final for the right to play in the National Finals at Nottingham in April.

#### **PAIRS**

**Area Semi-Final:** Neil Rees/Paul Broderick, Wellingborough, beat Steve & Robert Norman, Wellingborough, 20-4.

### **OVER 60 FOURS AND OVER 50 TRIPLES**

**Finals:** A reminder that the Area winners of these competitions play in the National Championships at Northampton & District IBC as referred to in Para. 4 above.

## **6. COUNTY COMPETITIONS – LATEST RESULTS**

### **GENTLEMEN**

#### **SINGLES**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Round:** Dave Flippance, Desborough beat Darren Lewis, Kingsthorpe

**Quarter Final:** Andy Smith, Northampton beat Martin Cinato, Desborough  
Dominic Graham, Northampton beat John Haines, Desborough

#### **PAIRS**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Round:** Carl Haines, Desborough beat Bryan Jones, Kettering  
Chris Bland, Northampton beat Malc Mattinson, Rushden

**Quarter Final:** Darren Lewis/Vernon Gearey, Kingsthorpe beat Bob Fuller/Mick Cooper, Wellingborough

### TRIPLES

**2<sup>nd</sup> round:** Chris Bland's triple, Northampton beat Bob Fuller's triple, Wellingborough  
Martin Keech's triple, Rushden beat Mick Corbyn's triple, Rushden

**Quarter Final:** Richard Lemon's triple, Northampton beat Graham Southgate's triple, Desborough  
Chris Bland's triple, Northampton beat Dave Masters triple, Northampton

### FOURS

**1<sup>st</sup> Round:** Dave Masters' rink, Northampton beat Bob Norman's triple, Wellingborough  
Ollie Kirkwood's rink, Northampton beat Matt Pownall's rink, Desborough

### TIPLER ROSE BOWL – for Over 60 Rinks

**Quarter Final:** Alan Wright's rink, Northampton beat Sid Wittering's rink, Northampton  
Ken Fitzhugh's rink, Northampton beat Trevor Spear's rink, Northampton

### UNDER 25 SINGLES

**Quarter Final:** Sam Gamble, Desborough beat reigning Champion, Matthew Wordingham, Rushden

### 7. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LADIES versus BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LADIES – RESULT

The ladies of the County Indoors Association played the first of two matches in two days on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2010, against Buckinghamshire Ladies at Wellingborough and after a slow start when they were adrift by 7 shots after 5 ends across the green, they got their game together and built up a steady lead which was never threatened, and at the end was a substantial 35 shots. Four winning rinks and two losing by a few shots, a very good result.

Final score was Northamptonshire 134 shots – Buckinghamshire 99 shots. Rink scores, Bucks skips only, as follows:

**Rink 1.** Donna Williamson/Margaret Newportt/Joan Bryan/Pat Bax 14 shots – B Thomas 23 shots  
**Rink 2.** Vicki Rushall/Sue Lomas/Chris Cooper/Joan Watts 18 shots – L Throup 13 shots  
**Rink 3.** Audrey Gardener/Barbara Hutt/Irene Scoble/Tina Broderick 38 shots – J Harris 10 shots  
**Rink 4.** Jan Hunt/Barbara Astle/Di Brumwell/Audrey Height 23 shots – S Botterill 13 shots  
**Rink 5.** Yvonne McKee/Jane Maloy/Valerie Blackwell/Jeanie Flippance 24 shots – S Strange 14 shots  
**Rink 6.** Zoe Eisler/Kay Green/Wilma Walker/Joyce Porter 17 shots – J Baldwin 26 shots

### 8. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LADIES versus WARWICKSHIRE LADIES – RESULT

In the second match of the week Northamptonshire Ladies took on Warwickshire Ladies in the Midland Counties League on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010, at Welford-on-Avon IBC, Warwickshire, and after a tremendous battle lost by the smallest of margins, just 1 shot. Warwickshire had the better start at 5 ends with a lead of 5 shots but at 10 ends that had been turned round to 3 shots up for Northamptonshire, however, in the next 5 ends Warwickshire picked up 38 shots to the 17 by the County ladies to go into what might have been an unassailable lead at 15 ends.

The County ladies were not to be outdone however for over the last 6 ends they fought back to within that 1 shot and in winning on 4 rinks could claim a 'moral victory' but the points went to Warwickshire. Final score was Northamptonshire 122 shots – Warwickshire 123 shots. Rink scores, Warwickshire skips only, as follows:

**Rink 1.** Vicki Rushall/Eleanor Winters/Barbara Oliver/Di Brumwell 25 shots – D Green 17 shots  
**Rink 2.** Eileen Waddington/Rhona Holland/Michelle Tansley/Audrey Height 14 shots – J Cook 35 shots  
**Rink 3.** Jean Burgess/Barbara Hutt/Pat Symonds/Jeanie Flippance 22 shots – M Tims 18 shots  
**Rink 4.** Sue Bagshaw/Chris Cooper/Wilma Walker/Brenda Bishop 20 shots – B Tew 19 shots  
**Rink 5.** Jane Maloy/Irene Scoble/Pat Bax/Sharon Tansley 24 shots – M Edwards 16 shots  
**Rink 6.** Pat Starsmore/Joan Bryan/Joan Watts/Joyce Porter 17 shots – C Grigg 18 shots

## 9. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN versus NORFOLK – RESULT

Northamptonshire men entertained Norfolk men to a friendly match at Desborough IBC on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2010, and found the going pretty hard against a very strong side. The writing was on the wall after 5 ends with the County being 14 shots in deficit, and things did not improve over the next 5 ends when the deficit at 10 ends had doubled to 28 shots.

Over the second half of the match, however, the Northamptonshire men matched their opponents fairly evenly for Norfolk could not build on their lead appreciably and the last 11 ends of the match saw them make just a 2 shot advance to win by 30 shots. Final score was Northamptonshire 105 shots – Norfolk 135 shots. Rink scores, Norfolk skips only, as follows:

- Rink 1.** Bryan Jones/Eddie Chapman/Keith Howlett/Laurie Harrison 19 shots – R Cutting 20 shots
- Rink 2.** Peter Woodhams/Gordon Morris/Tony Warren/Richard Somerton 13 shots – V Moore 22 shots
- Rink 3.** Peter Maloy/Don Scott/Mick Pullen/Tracy Nunn 25 shots – John Hardy 18 shots
- Rink 4.** Jim Walvin/Bill Craig/George Willmott/Norman Gibb 21 shots – P Hurren 21 shots
- Rink 5.** John Smith/Walter Stoddard/Brian Diver/Geoff Hunt 13 shots – R Brinded 30 shots
- Rink 6.** Ernie Earp/Mick York/Harvey Fruish/George Warren 14 shots – S Allcock 24 shots

## 10. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

Chris Bland, Northampton & District IBC, has been working recently on the Northamptonshire Indoor Bowling Association website, and he invites interested parties to visit the site, and let him know their thoughts on it, and ways to make improvements. He has recently downloaded draws and results in relation to County Competitions; County Honours; and records; and much more interesting information. The website will be found at: **[www.northantsiba.com](http://www.northantsiba.com)**

## 11. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

As with the Indoor Association, the outdoor County Bowls Association has a website which is also being maintained by one of our County's bowlers, Scott Johnson, Wellingborough BC, and he has recently downloaded all the County Draws for competitions in 2010. The 2010 NBA competitions are being sponsored by **[www.kempstoncontrols.co.uk](http://www.kempstoncontrols.co.uk)** This is a company based in Shirley Road, Rushden, Northants. He also downloads these Press Releases, and all this information and much more may be found by visiting the website at **[www.nbabowls.co.uk](http://www.nbabowls.co.uk)**

## 12. BOWLS ENGLAND NEWS

1. I regret to report the death this week of former President of Bowls England – Cliff Waterman, of Suffolk. Cliff was the first Men's President of Bowls England following unification between the English Bowling Association and the English Women's Bowling Association in 2008.

2. The Annual Conference of Bowls England is being held on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010, at the Town Hall, Royal Leamington Spa, and a cordial invitation is extended to Bowls England members to attend. The Conference starts at 11.0 a.m.- finishing at around 4.0 p.m. and there is a very interesting Agenda of subjects, including: Club Funding; Playing Unaffiliated Clubs; The Bowls Press; Club & County Development; Finance Update; History of the Sport; National Championships Travel Assistance; etc., etc., and there is a section at the end of the Agenda for 'Any Questions?'

Speakers at the Conference include Tony Allcock, MBE, BE Chief Executive; Alistair Hollis, BE Development Officer; Melvin Beck, Editor of Bowls International Magazine; and Chairman/Vice Chairman of the various BE Committees.

Anyone interested in attending is advised to get together with others for transport, as parking is not available onsite, although there are public car parks nearby. Further information may be obtained by telephone to BE on 01903 820222 or by email on [enquiries@bowlsengland.com](mailto:enquiries@bowlsengland.com)

3. Sporting Highlights, Sponsors of the 2010 National Women's Pairs Championship, has launched the official lawn bowls supporters packages for the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India, which begins on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2010.

The 15 day package includes flights, taxes, five star hotel accommodation, Tour Manager, India visa, transfers and entry to all bowls competition and sightseeing trips and social functions. For further details, including cost please contact Sporting Highlights on 08453379189 or visit the website at [www.sportinghighlights.co.uk](http://www.sportinghighlights.co.uk)

### **13. LEONARD DENNY MEMORIAL TROPHY – LATEST NEWS**

The last two County Clubs remaining in the Leonard Denny Memorial Trophy competition are **Wellingborough IBC** and **Kingsthorpe IBC**, and they are now drawn to play each other in the second round. This competition is principally entered by Clubs in the southern half of the country, and is administered by Cambridge Park IBC, at whose green the finals are held.

The match is based on two rinks with one away and one at home, and the contest between the two County Clubs takes place at 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010. The **Wellingborough** team is as follows:

**At Wellingborough: Rink 1.** Dave Love/Bob Fuller/Martin Walker/Walt Winsor  
**At Kingsthorpe: Rink 2.** Jason Hall/Wayne Gregory/Jamie Walker/Darren Lyman

The Kingsthorpe team names have not been provided.

### **14. WELLINGBOROUGH JUNIOR TRIPLES TOURNAMENT**

On Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2010, the Wellingborough Junior Open Triples was held at the Club, and 10 Triples of young bowlers under 18 years competed, being drawn from Northampton & District IBC; Desborough IBC; Kingsthorpe IBC; Rushden IBC; and the hosting club Wellingborough IBC.

The competition comprised two groups of 5 playing a round robin of short matches, and Group 1 was won by the Kingsthorpe trio of Gareth Jones/Trudie Beard/David Walker, with runners-up spot taken by Connor Bryan/Jasmin Spear(both Northampton) and Connor Cinato, Desborough. Group 2 was won by Curtis Johnson/Danny & William Walke, Wellingborough, and the runners-up being Liam Baxter/Nick Manton/Tom Wellburn of Kingsthorpe.

This provided a Final between the two Group winners, and the Johnson/Walker/Walker combination took the honours. The play off for 3<sup>rd</sup> place went in favour of the Bryan/Spear/Cinato team.

At the conclusion of the event prizes were presented by the family of the late Eric Gordon-Bailey who was instrumental in setting up Junior Bowls at Wellingborough, and the family continues to support the event every year.

### **15. NATIONAL ‘YETTON TROPHY’ COMPETITION**

**Northampton & District IBC** bowed out of the National Ladies Inter Club ‘Yetton Trophy’ competition at the last 16 in the country stage when they met a very strong Lincoln & District IBC side on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2010. The score was Northampton 58 shots – Lincoln 98 shots.

No further details supplied to me.

### **16. CLUB NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY**

#### **DESBOROUGH IBC**

##### **Fixtures:**

- 11.2.10. Swanspool BC visits for a mixed match t 2.0 p.m.
- 13.2.10. Little Bowden BC visits for a mixed match at 2.0 pm..
- 14.2.10. A Fred Hodge Select team visits for a mixed match at 2.0 p.m.
- 15.2.10. Old Centralians BC & Oadby BC visit for a ladies match at 2.0 p.m.

#### **KETTERING LODGE IBC**

##### **Fixtures:**

- 11.2.10. The Northamptonshire Hon Vice Presidents visit for a men’s match at 2.0 p.m.
- 13.2.10. Kettering Midland Band BC visits for a men’s match at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.2.10. Members visit Daventry IBC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 15.2.10. The Club Ladies play a match against the Club men at 2.0 p.m.

**KINGSTHORPE IBC**

**Fixtures:**

- 11.2.10. Abington BC visits for a men's match at 2.15 p.m.
- 13.2.10. Members visit Barwell IBC for a mixed match at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.2.10. Leicester BC visits for a mixed match at 2.15 p.m.

**NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT IBC**

**Event:**

**The Club hosts the National Indoor Bowls Championship Finals from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2010 (Inclusive)  
See Paragraph 4 above for further details.**

**Fixture:**

- 11.2.10. Members visit Rushden IBC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

**RUSHDEN IBC**

**Fixtures:**

- 11.2.10. Northampton & District IBC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 13.2.10. Members visit Whittlesey IBC for a mixed match at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.2.10. Peterborough IBC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

**WELLINGBOROUGH IBC**

**Fixtures:**

- 10.2.10. Club hosts match between Northants & Hunts Masonic BA and Leicester & Rutland Masonic BA at 2.15pm
- 11.2.10. Members visit Daventry IBC for a men's match at 2.0 p.m.
- 11.2.10. Club hosts a match between Northants Police BC and Harborough & District IBC
- 13.2.10. Raunds BC; Thrapston BC & Irchester BC visit for a men's match at 2.15 p.m.



**John G. Church, MBE – Northamptonshire Bowls Press Officer**