

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS**

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION SECRETARY:**

Laurie Harrison, Esq.  
1b, Newport Pagnell Road,  
Hardingstone. NN4 6ER  
Tel: 01604 661785

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN'S COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION SECRETARY:**

Mrs Jan Hunt  
61, Batsmans Drive, Rushden,  
Northants. NN10 6EW  
Tel: 01933 410182

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION SECRETARY:**

Brian Sherwood, Esq.  
14, Loseby Close, Rushden,  
Northants. NN10 9HT  
Tel: 01933 312976

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN'S INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION SECRETARY:**

Mrs. Valerie Blackwell,  
York House, 95, Keats Way, Rushden.  
Northants. NN10 6NH  
Tel: 01933 391956

### ***PRESS OFFICER***

**John G Church, Esq. MBE,  
43, Hay Close, Peverel Manor,  
Rushden, NN10 0TT  
Tel: 01933 351824  
Mob: 07790672331**

**Email: [john.g.church@btinternet.com](mailto:john.g.church@btinternet.com)**

**19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2010.**

**PRESS REPORT**

## **MEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS – LATEST RESULTS**

### **TRIPLES CHAMPIONSHIP**

#### **First Round:**

**Neil Rees/Darren Lyman/Paul Broderick, Wellingborough BC** came up against the Somerset Triple of Pip Branfield/Darren Mason/James Branfield, of Clevedon BC. The Branfield family are well known in bowling circles, and Pip Branfield has represented England on a number of occasions, and is the England Under 25 Team Manager. The match started well for the County Triple and they were 7-0 up after a few ends, but then a run of 5 ends in which they dropped 12 shots without reply, including a 6 count, saw them on the back foot. They did not recover from this reversal of fortunes and lost 14-19

**John Baggat/Martin Walker/Alan Ashby, Northampton West End BC**, started off very well and built up a healthy 10 shot lead with all three bowlers putting some very good bowls down, and although the Nottinghamshire Triple of Steve Rainbow/Ben Powell/Nigel Hallam, of Newark Northen BC, fought back very well, when playing the last end the County trio were 5 shots ahead and merely had to play covering bowls to prevent a big score against them. This nearly went wrong for them when the Notts skip had one bowl left for he played an almost impossible shot to pick up 4 shots, and had his own bowl stayed on the rink it would have been a tie and an extra end being required. As it was the win was by 1 shot, with the score being 21-20.

#### **Second Round:**

**The Northampton West End Triple** met an Isle of Wight trio of Jack Berry/Ian Morey/Bruce Marks of Shanklin BC, and in a match which started at 2.30 p.m. no-one could have predicted that it would not be over until 7.5 p.m.

The County players were playing some excellent bowls and building good heads but the Isle of Wight skip seemed to turn it around end after end to pick up shots, and after 7 ends the score was 8-0 in favour of his team. It could not last for him and the Alan Ashby trio picked up their first shot to make it 1-8, then dropped a 3 but immediately picked up a 3 themselves to make the score 4-11 after 10 ends. Three times the head was destroyed and the end killed, which helped to prolong the match, as did the slow play particularly from the Isle of Wight players who regularly spent much time debating which shot(s) to play.

After 18 ends the scores were level at 13-13, which required an extra end to be played, the first time it was played Ashby killed the end for it to be replayed, and finally despite West End's best efforts to win the match the Isle of Wight managed to collect the 1 shot they needed for victory.

Four and a half hours plus of play is long by any standards for a Triples match, and virtually all other matches in this second round had been completed at least 1 hour before.

**(Please find attached a photograph of the West End Triple taken at Worthing today 1 to r Walker/Ashby/Baggat)**

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