

## **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)**

**23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2010.**

**PRESS REPORT**

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

#### **PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP- Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2010.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Round:** After their magnificent win on Sunday afternoon in the preliminary match against Devon's Robert Paxton, **Kingsthorpe's duo, Andrew Manton and Vernon Gearey**, were in confident mood as they faced the Surrey pair of Paul Vamvacopoulos and Mark Bishopp (note it is spelt with 2 p's) from the Weybridge BC. The Surrey pair, however, got off to a flying start and, despite some excellent bowling from both Andrew Manton and Vernon Gearey, they went ahead to 13 shots before the County pair registered a score.

The match became much more even then, and in fact turned in favour of the County pair as they plugged away and got to within 3 shots at 13-16 after 18 ends. The 19<sup>th</sup> end looked as though it would go Gearey's way when he so nearly took out a Surrey bowl for a multiple count, but a single shot went to Surrey, and needing to chase a score on the 20<sup>th</sup> end to give themselves a chance, Gearey moved the jack but it glanced across to a Surrey bowl instead of the County's, and they dropped 3 shots and the game was over, the final score being 13-20. Such quality bowls from the County pair on another day would have seen them to victory.

**Mick Catlin and Darren Childs, Thrapston BC**, entered the fray with a first round match against a Buckinghamshire pair, Steve Jackson & Bob Doddington of Iver Heath BC. The County pair picked up a count of 5 on the very first end, and with some scintillating bowling to which the Bucks pair had no answer, they reached 16 shots on the board without reply. The Bucks pair got on the score-board with an unexpected count of 4, but that success was short-lived as the Thrapston duo powered to a very impressive win by 25 shots to 7 shots against at 18 ends, when the Bucks pair conceded defeat.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Round:** **Catlin and Childs** met a Hampshire pair, Bernie Love and Jim Wood, of Eastleigh Railway BC, in the second round, and a very close game ensued. The Hampshire pair had the better of the early ends, achieving a 4 shot lead after 5 ends, but thereafter it was always very close, with the County pair drawing level on picking up a count of 5 shots on the 13<sup>th</sup> ends, and going ahead by 1 shot the next end. This lead changed hands a couple of times, with the score 17-14 in Child's favour on the 17<sup>th</sup> end.

They got stuck on 17 for the next 3 ends, due to several telling bowls by the Hants skip when he was shots down, and so they came to the last end with the scores level at 17 all. Catlin bowled some close bowls matched by the Hants lead, and Childs, with his last bowl played a trailing weight bowl to take the jack through. He picked up the jack but agonisingly it got caught on a Hants' bowl for the one shot they needed for victory. Final score was 17-18 against the Thrapston pair. Both players played very good bowls indeed and in such a match of high quality, they can be proud of the part they played. **(Photograph attached 1 to r Childs – Catlin)**

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

