

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

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**24<sup>th</sup> August, 2008.**

**PRESS REPORT**

### **NATIONAL MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS AT WORTHING – COUNTY INVOLVEMENT**

The Bowls England Men's Championships at Beach House Park, Worthing, concluded on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2008, with the playing of the Inter County Middleton Cup Final, between Devon and Norfolk as last year, and once again this year it was Devon's victory by 11 shots.

Earlier in the week Northamptonshire's competition qualifiers in the Chantrey Vellacott DFK Pairs and Singles were on show with varying degrees of success as follows:

#### **Pairs**

The County Winners and Runners-up were on adjoining rinks on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, in the first round of their campaign, with winners Neil Rees and Paul Broderick of Wellingborough BC playing Clive Black and Andy Kirtland of Darlington Railway Athletic BC, Durham, and the runners-up Sam Wade and Phil Reeve of Kingsthorpe BC, playing Ian Honnor and Chris Young of Weybridge BC, Surrey.

Wade & Reeve always knew that they were in for a hard game against two England International players, and despite their best efforts, their opponents were just too good on the day and the Kingsthorpe pair lost the encounter 7-22 shots.

Rees and Broderick, however, met with better fortune, and saw off their opponents in a very keenly fought game by 19-15 shots. This brought them to a second round match in the afternoon against Shaun Claridge and Paul Mabbutt, Headington BC, Oxfordshire, and what a close match it was with both sides playing some excellent bowls throughout and the scores on 18 shots each when playing the last end. The County pair picked up just the one shot on this end to progress to the last 16 the next morning.

Their next opponents from Stute BC, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, were Michael Bowley and Simon Skelton, both England Internationals, and a keenly fought match was expected. This proved to be the case for at 10 ends there was just 3 shots advantage to the County pair, but this advantage was soon wiped out when the Derbyshire duo picked up a count of 4 shots on the 12<sup>th</sup> end to draw level. Rees and Broderick then picked up 9 shots to their opponents 2 shots to establish a 7 shot lead with 2 ends to go, and despite the best efforts of Skelton he could only pick up a further 3 shots, giving the Wellingborough pair passage into the Quarter Finals by 21-17 shots.

The Quarter Finals on the afternoon of the 19<sup>th</sup> August, saw them matched against near neighbours Andy Irons and Steve Wade of Blaby BC, Leicestershire, and as expected at this stage a very keenly fought match was realised, although when dropping a huge count of 6 shots on the second end to put them 7 shots behind after just those 2 ends did not augur well. However, playing very calmly and effectively over the next 8 ends saw the County pair put on 10 shots to just 2 by the Leicestershire pair to take a 1 shot lead and from that point to the end of the match Rees and Broderick managed to keep their noses in front and won 19-17 shots.

As Rees and Broderick were now in the semi-finals on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August, the Northamptonshire supporters were very hopeful of a second finalist in a week, and possibly another title. Their opponents from Carlisle Subscription BC, Cumbria were John Baird and Ricky Gallagher, and with the County pair playing very assured bowls they went into an early lead by picking up 6 shots in the first two ends, and despite their opponents pulling them back to a 1 shot lead over the next 2 ends, the next 5 ends saw Rees and Broderick move into a 9 shot lead, at which point the supporters were beginning to get quite optimistic that their hopes of another final were to be realised.

The Cumbrians, however, had other ideas and over the next 7 ends scored 12 shots to the County men's 3 to draw level with 2 ends to play. On the 20<sup>th</sup> end Broderick played a terrific saving shot bowl, which caused his partner to react with such exuberance that he dislocated his shoulder, a fairly regular occurrence which he managed to put back himself. Unfortunately Gallagher made 2 shots with his last bowl to take a lead of 2 shots into the last end. That last end went the way of the Cumbrians who picked up 3 shots to take the match 24-19.

A very fine achievement in reaching the Semi-Final of a National Competition, the second time in a week for Paul Broderick, he having done so in the Mixed Fours on the 17<sup>th</sup> August, and congratulations go to him and his partner Neil Rees, with the hope that when he goes into hospital to have his shoulder sorted out in September, he will not get the problem of the dislocations which have been occurring quite frequently of late.

### **SINGLES**

The County Singles Champion Darren Childs, Thrapston BC, on his first visit to the National Championships, started his assault on the Singles against a very youthful Sam Lines, Ventnor BC, Isle of Wight, and at 12-15 shots he was within touching distance only to drop a full count of 4 shots to go within 2 shots of defeat and with a lot to do. Darren, having won the next end decided to keep the jack and bowl to his own fairly short length and gradually caught his opponent at 19 shots each. He then decided to have lost bowl, and with his opponent putting up a full length jack it was important that Darren drew close which he was able to do, and he took the 2 shots he needed.

This brought him into a match with England International Nicky Brett, from White Hart BC, Warboys, Hunts. This was a match which Childs was very confident of taking, and that confidence was not misplaced for he took an early lead which was maintained and at 18-15 shots up he was playing very well. He then had 2 poor ends which Brett took advantage of, picking up a score of 3 on each to take the match, much to the disappointment of Darren and his supporters.

The County Runner-up, Keith Height, also from Thrapston BC, started his first visit to the National Championships very well indeed against Peter Thomson, Jr., of Thompson Park BC, Sunderland, Durham, which after a few ends he was always in front, and ran out winner 21-18 shots.

This brought him up against England Junior International Danny May of Carlisle Subscription BC, Cumbria, one of the most promising young bowlers in the country, and despite playing some excellent bowls, Keith could not match his opponent and he went down 11-21 shots.

### **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HON VICE PRESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWS**

#### **OBITUARY – REG ABBOTT**

It is with deepest regret that the death on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, of Reg Abbott is announced. Reg was a player and administrator of the Northamptonshire Vice-Presidents for over 40 years, holding the office of Match Secretary, Fixture Secretary, and Assistant Match Secretary, for a continuous period of years from 1978 to 2006. He held the office of Chairman of the Association in 1997. In 2006 he was elected the Association's Patron.

Reg was a long-term member of Kettering Athletic Bowling Club, and for his services to Bowls in Northamptonshire he was awarded Life Membership of Northamptonshire Bowling Association in 2007.

He was very highly respected in bowling circles and beyond, both in this County and in other Counties, and he showed a very high commitment and dedication to bowls and to the Vice-Presidents Association in particular. There are literally hundreds of bowlers who will have enjoyed his company on and off the green, for his warmth, friendly nature, and sense of humour, plus he was a very able bowler having twice been runner-up in the County Secretary's Cup competition, in 1993 and 1996.

His funeral is at St. Andrews Church, Rockingham Road, Kettering, at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2008.

## **VP's Friendly Match versus Leicestershire VP's 20.8.08. - Result**

The gentlemen of the Northamptonshire VP's played their counterparts from Leicestershire in a friendly fixture at Hart of Fleckney BC, Leicestershire, on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, and enjoyed an emphatic win by 59 shots. At the tea break the County players held a very slender lead of 8 shots but whatever was in the tea did the trick as they raced ahead, the final score being Northamptonshire VP's 145 shots – Leicestershire VP's 86 shots. Rink scores, Leics skips only, as follows:

### **Rink 1.**

Mick Griffin  
Ken Friend  
Mike McKeown  
Ollie Pearson v G Spencer  
33 shots 15 shots

### **Rink 2.**

Bill Foster  
Peter Byworth  
Walter Stoddard  
John Watson v J Wilson  
23 shots 15 shots

### **Rink 3.**

Bob Tingle  
Graham Dunscombe  
Colin Incles  
Tony Buckmaster v D Bramley  
16 shots 19 shots

### **Rink 4.**

Graham Cashmore  
Harry Bell  
Brian Audis  
Ken Legan v M Roberts  
18 shots 16 shots

### **Rink 5.**

Trevor Tilley  
Geoff Care  
Clyde Hulbert  
Tony Essam v T Bentham  
28 shots 7 shots

### **Rink 6.**

Len Marshall  
Mick Pullen  
Richard Howell  
Tony Coles v G Sim  
27 shots 14 shots

Next matches: Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2008 versus Oxfordshire VP's at Abington BC at 2.0 p.m.  
Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 versus Northamptonshire Bowling Association at Earls Barton at 2.0 p.m.

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN versus MANFIELD CUP WINNERS – CORBY FOREST BC 29.8.08.**

The following have been selected to represent the Northamptonshire BA in an executive match versus the Manfield Cup Winners, Corby Forest BC, on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, at 6.30 p.m.

### **Rink 1.**

Provided by  
the County  
Under 25  
Squad

### **Rink 2. (Runners-up)**

Duncan Marriott, West End  
Andrew Hunter, Kingsthorpe  
Sam Wade, Kingsthorpe  
Phil Reeve, Kingsthorpe

### **Rink 3.**

Martin Horsham, Brackloey  
John Cooper, Executive  
Laurie Harrison, Executive  
John Clipston, Executive

### **Rink 4.**

Provided by  
Rushden  
Town  
BC

### **Rink 5.**

John Ruff, Executive  
Bryan Jones, Executive  
Harvey Fruish, Executive  
Geoff Hunt, Executive

### **Rink 6.**

Peter Wright, Executive  
Martin Cinato, Executive  
Peter Kneeshaw, Executive  
Richard Somerton, Executive

## **NATIONAL UNDER 25 INDOOR TRIAL – COUNTY PLAYERS SELECTED.**

Jamie Walker, Wellingborough IBC, has been picked for an International Indoor Trial at Under 25 level, no doubt as a result of his excellent performances at the National Indoor Championships earlier this year where he was runner-up to Danny May of Cumbria for the Under 25 Singles title.

The Trial is being played at Kingsthorpe IBC, Northampton, on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2008, and Jamie is playing at No 2 in a rink being skipped by Robert Chisholm of Stanley IBC, Durham.

Two other County players have also been selected as travelling reserves, Dominic Graham, Northampton & District IBC and Michael Chester, Wellingborough IBC.

The prize following the Trial if successful will be an International versus Wales at Swansea on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2008, and a place in the British Isles Indoor International Series at Abbeyview IBC, Dunfermline on the 10/11<sup>th</sup> January, 2009.

## **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN versus THRAPSTON BC CENTENARY CELEBRATION 31.8.08.**

The following men have been selected to represent Northamptonshire BA in a celebratory match against Thrapston BC as part of the Club's Centenary programme, on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2008, at 2.0 p.m.

**Rink 1.**

Geoff Thomas, Kettering Lodge  
 Walter Stoddard, St Crispin  
 Geoff Harris, Higham Ferrers  
 Harvey Fruish, President

**Rink 2.**

Bob Barnard, Wellingborough  
 Peter Byworth, Wellingborough  
 Mossy Waters, Irchester  
 Geoff Hunt, Match Secretary

**Rink 3.**

Frank Craven, Whyte Melville  
 Malcolm Tait, McAlpine  
 Neville Bodily, Whyte Melville  
 Tracy Nunn, Jun Vice President

**Rink 4.**

Peter Wright, Executive  
 Skene McInnes, St Crispin  
 Dave Stewart, Irchester  
 Richard Somerton, Executive

**Rink 5.**

Mick Hall, Brackley  
 Doug Hatton, Brackley  
 Bill Humphries, West Haddon  
 Ron Giles, Abington

**Rink 6.**

Trevor Jackson, Wellingborough  
 John Ruff, Executive  
 Dave Thurlow, Burton Latimer  
 Laurie Harrison, Secretary

Reserve: Gordon Morris, West End

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LADIES versus LEICESTERSHIRE Daventry Town BC 27.8.08.**

The following ladies have been selected to play a Middle England League match against Leicestershire ladies at Daventry Town BC on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2008, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

**Rink 1.**

Brenice Willmott, Irchester  
 Yvonne McKee, Kingsthorpe  
 Wilma Walker, Corby Forest  
 Brenda Bishop, Daventry Town

**Rink 2.**

Eileen West, Rushden  
 Eleanor Winters, Corby Forest  
 Barbara Oliver, Kislingbury  
 Jackie Harrington, Brackley

**Rink 3.**

Vicki Rushall, Daventry Town  
 Pat Bodily, Whyte Melville  
 Pam Lewis, Rushden  
 Sharon Tansley

**Rink 4.**

Sandra Mawson, Cogenhoe  
 Jean Pownall-Davies, Daventry Town  
 Bev Manning, Kislingbury  
 Audrey Height, Rushden

**Rink 5.**

Jackie Grainge, Brackley  
 May Wiggins, Corby Forest  
 Pat Mattinson, Thrapston  
 Val Betts, Higham Ferrers

**Rink 6.**

Chris Cooper, Burton Latimer  
 Pat Symonds, Daventry Town  
 Margaret Cave, Rushden  
 Hilary Sharpe, Kingsthorpe

Travelling Reserves:

Joan Bryan, Burton Latimer  
 Pat Gayton, Swanspool  
 Chris Cross, Byfield

Alison Dring, Swanspool

Non-travelling Reserve:

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UNDER 25'S versus WARWICKSHIRE 31.8.08. AT WELLINGBOROUGH**

The Northamptonshire Under 25's conclude their Midland Counties 'Ron Barston' Championship, having already won the trophy, with a match against Warwickshire Under 25's to be played at Wellingborough BC on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2008, at 2.30 p.m. The following have been selected to play:

Richard Lemon (Capt), Express; Adrian Harris, Kettering Lodge; Scott Johnson, Wellingborough; AnnMarie Gearey, PSL Roade; Victoria Stevenson, Whyte Melville; Adam Brown, Abington; Robbie Gearey, PSL Roade; Rebecca Wigfield, Desborough; Aaron Bell, Express; Matt Pownall, Geddington & Newton; Will Hill, Rothwell Cons; Chris Wright, Express; Jack Tobin, Rushden; Shaun Marriott, West End; Matt Wordingham, Higham Ferrers; Jamie Walker, West End; Nathan Betts, Rushden; Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Ban; William Walker, West End; Danny Walker, West End.  
 Travelling Reserve: Curtis Johnson, Wellingborough.

**CLUB NEWS AROUND THE COUNTY**

**NORTH AREA, MOSTLY OF INTEREST TO READERS OF THE EVENING TELEGRAPH**

**Corby Forest BC**

30.8.08. Members visit Woods End BC for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Desborough Town BC**

- 28.8.08. Kingsthorpe BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Raunds Conservatives BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Earls Barton BC**

- 28.8.08. Members visit Burton Latimer BC for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Thrapston BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 31.8.08. Members visit St Crispin BC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Geddington & Newton BC**

- 29.8.08. Members visit Little Bowden BC for a mixed match at 6.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Members visit Rothwell Conservatives BC for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 31.8.08. Members visit McAlpine BC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Higham Ferrers Town BC**

- 30.8.08. Members visit Sharnbrook BC for a ladies match at 3.0 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Kettering Midland Band BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Irchester BC**

- 28.8.08. Oundle BC visits for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.
- 28.8.08. Members visit Wellingborough BC for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Members visit Wellingborough Managers & Foremen BC for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Whyte Melville BC visits for a ladies match at 2.0 p.m.
- 31.8.08. Wellingborough BC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 2.9.08. PSL Roade BC visits for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Ise BC, Kettering**

- 30.8.08. Finedon Town BC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Kettering Lodge BC**

- 30.8.08. Kislingbury BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Members visit Kettering Athletic BC for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.
- 2.9.08. Members visit Oundle for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.

### **McAlpine BC, Kettering**

- 28.8.08. Members visit Rothwell Manor BC for a mixed match at 2.30p.m.
- 30.8.08. Members visit Stanwick BC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 31.8.08. Geddington BC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Rushden Town BC**

- 28.8.08. Members visit Oundle for the 'Owen Frost Cup' match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30/31.8.08. The Club holds its competitions finals at 10.0 a.m.

### **Stanwick BC**

- 28.8.08. Members visit Woodsend BC for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. McAlpine BC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Swanspool BC**

- 30.8.08. Welland Park BC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 31.8.08. Corby Forest BC visits for a mixed match at 2.30 p.m.
- 2.9.08. Wellingborough BC visits for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.

### **Wellingborough BC**

- 28.8.08. Irchester BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Kingsthorpe BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 31.8.08. The Club hosts the Northamptonshire Under 25's versus Leicestershire Under 25's at 2.30 p.m.
- 2.9.08. Members visit Swanspool BC for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.

### **SOUTH AREA, MOSTLY OF INTEREST TO CHRONICLE & ECHO READERS**

#### **Abington BC**

- 28.8.08. The Club holds its Thursday Captain's Day at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. West End BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 31.8.08. The Club hosts a match between Northants VP's and Oxfordshire VP's at 2.30 p.m.
- 2.9.08. Members visit Kingsthorpe BC for a ladies match at 2.30 p.m.

#### **Cold Ashby BC**

- 30.8.08. Caldecott Park BC visits for a mixed match at 3.0 p.m.
- 31.8.08. The Club holds its Mixed Triples at 1.30 p.m.

#### **Heyford BC**

- 30.8.08. Members visit Daventry & District BC for a mixed match at 3.0 p.m.

#### **Northampton Express BC**

- 30.8.08. The Club embarks on its Devon Tour at 9.0 a.m. and will be based in Torquay, returning on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2008. Six matches have been arranged as follows:
  - 31.8.08. versus Torquay BC
  - 1.9.08. versus Bitton Park BC, Teignmouth
  - 2.9.08. versus Paignton BC
  - 3.9.08. versus Babbacombe BC
  - 5.9.08. versus Kings BC, Torquay
- 48 Bowlers will be on Tour, and this will be the 34<sup>th</sup> such tour.

#### **Northampton West End BC**

- 28.8.08. Daventry Town BC visits for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 30.8.08. Members visit Abington BC for a men's match at 2.30 p.m.
- 2.9.08. Members visit Whyte Melville BC for a ladies match at 6.30 p.m.



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