

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

Bowls Northamptonshire

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7th JULY, 2019.

BOWLS REPORT

1. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN 'MIDDLETON CUP' versus HERTFORDSHIRE – RESULT

The men of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** travelled to Welwyn, Hertfordshire, on Saturday, 6th July, 2019, for the last 'Middleton Cup' match of this year's campaign, which was played at Welwyn & District BC, against Hertfordshire. Team Manager Mick Smith asked for maximum effort to give the County every chance of finishing in the top two of the East B Group, behind Leicestershire. This the players certainly did, for they played with great spirit and determination, and won the match very comfortably indeed which gave themselves 20 points, and second place in the Group, with 3 wins and one loss.

The margin of the win was very large, a massive 59 shots, the biggest win by any County in the Group matches, which gives much confidence in the County's ability. The highest scoring of the 5 winning rinks for the County was that skipped by Gavin Taylor, which posted a very good 22 shots win, but not far behind was that skipped by Roger Tansley, with a win by 18 shots.

The final score was Northamptonshire 145 shots (20 points) – Hertfordshire 86 shots (2 points).

Rink details as follows, with Hertfordshire skips only named:

Rink 1. Adam Pitfield, Shaun Marriott, Peter Ward & Andrew Manton 21 shots – Nick Muir 10 shots

It was a very even start in this match with the scores level after 4 ends at 2 shots each, but then the County had a 4 ends winning run and went ahead 8-2. Hertfordshire made some inroads to the lead and after 3 ends were just 4 behind at 7-11, but Andrew & his men added 4 shots on the next 2 ends to go further ahead, and after dropping 3 shots and leading by 5 with 4 ends to play, they won all 4 of those ends for a very good win.

Rink 2. David Iddles, Martin Gearey, Jack Tobin & Phil Exley 20 shots – Scott Lesley 31 shots

This match was pretty even over the first few ends, with Hertfordshire being 6-4 in front after 5 ends, but then the County taking the lead 12-6 with 4 winning ends. After 12 ends of play Phil & his men were looking very steady at 15-9 up, but once more on end 13 – unlucky for some, and it was for the County, for Hertfordshire picked up a big count of 6 shots to even the match on 15 shots each. The home men then picked up two singles and followed it with another massive count of 6 shots to get well in front at 23-15, and although Phil and his men reduced their deficit by 5 on the next 2 ends, the last 3 ends were all Hertfordshire as they collected 8 more shots, including a last end 4 for a very good win for them.

Rink 3. David Love, Mick Spear, Connor Cinato & Vernon Gearey 23 shots – Tom Muir 12 shots

What a start for the County in this match – a big pick up of 5 shots on the first end, and after dropping a couple of singles, Vernon & his men won the next 4 ends to be ‘in charge’ at 13-2 shots up. After 10 ends they were still well up at 15-4 shots, and with the next 4 ends producing just singles, the advantage to the County was still good at 16-7. With 3 ends left to play Vernon & his men were 23-8 shots up, and although Herts won the last 3 ends they were restricted to just 4 shots to add to their total.

Rink 4. Tony O’Leary, Simon Coles, Will Walker & Roger Tansley 29 shots – Graham Thompson 11 shots

Another brilliant start for the County in this encounter with another big pick up of 5 shots on the first end, followed by 3 singles for an 8-0 lead, and when Herts picked up a 3 on the 5th end, Roger & his men responded with another big 5 to keep a good lead of 10 shots. After 10 ends of play the lead for the County was 11 shots at 17-6, and then Herts won the next 4 ends, albeit restricted to just single counts on each, to reduce their deficit, but in winning the next 3 ends the 11 shots margin was reinstated for the County at 21-10 with 4 ends to play. Hertfordshire won the first of those with a single, but Roger & his men added 8 more to their total, including yet another count of 5 shots on the last end for a very good victory.

Rink 5. Danny Walker, John Freeman, David Walker & Gavin Taylor 32 shoots – Mike Parsons 11 shots

With 6 shots on the board for no reply in the first 3 ends, this was another great start for the County, and after dropping a double on the 4th end, Gavin & his men, as a result of a great ‘take out shot’, picked up a massive count of 7 shots on the 5th end, and followed it with a double on the next end to lead 15-2 shots. Then followed 5 very tightly contested ends of just single shots, with 3 to the County and 2 for Hertfordshire for an 18-4 lead after 11 ends, and a 3 added on the next saw Gavin & his men quite dominant. Herts did pick up 3 shots on the next 2 ends, but the County responded by collecting 5 shots on the following 2 ends to lead 26-7 with 5 ends to play. Herts picked up 3 shots on 2 of those ends, but the County collected 6 more shots on the other 3 ends for a most comprehensive victory.

Rink 6. Neil Rolfe, Mark Tompkins, John Haines & Paul Broderick 20 shots – Paul Andrews 12 shots

A very low scoring match in the early stage, with single shots scored on the first 5 ends 3 of them by Herts, but then the County bucked that trend and collected a big count of 4 shots on the 6th end to briefly take the lead 5-4, but the home players picked up 2 singles on the next 2 ends to go back in front by 1 shot. The response to this was another 4 by Paul & his men on the 9th end, and two singles on the next 2 ends for a lead by 11-6, and although Herts added 3 shots on the next 2 ends, Paul and his men won the following ends, albeit with just single counts, for a 14-9 lead with 5 ends to play. Those ends went 6-3 in the County’s favour for a good win.

2. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN CHALLENGE CUP – RESULT

The women of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** played their ‘Inter Area Challenge Cup’ competition on Monday, 1st July, 2019, at Burton Latimer Town BC, and a total of 48 ladies from the two areas of the County contested this very keenly, with the result in doubt until the very end.

The **South Area** eventually won by just 6 shots, with 4 winning rinks and 2 losing, with the highest scoring rink for the South being that skipped by Pat Bodily with a win by 11 shots, and the highest for the **North Area** being that skipped by Eleanor Winters, with a 14 shots win. The final score was South Area 104 shots – North Area 98 shots. Rink details as follows, South Area names first:

Rink 1. Val Scott, Christina Cole, Elaine Urquhart & Hilary Sharpe 15 shots – Marlene Armitage, Shelagh Galloway, Margaret Cave & Trish Basford 22 shots

This was a fairly close affair throughout, with the North being 5-3 up after 5 ends, and then the South taking over at 9-5 and 11-6 after 13 ends, only for Trish and her ladies clawing back with a 4 to be just 1 behind, and after dropping a 2 on the next end, Trish took the lead at 17-13 with 4 ends left to play. Those 4 ends were better for the North as they collected 5 shots to 2 conceded for a decent win.

Rink 2. Elsie Hatton, Lynn Babb, Wen Hill & Di Brumwell 20 shots – Joyce George, Margaret Tyler, Sandra Mawson & Jan Hunt 13 shots

This was a closely fought match with the scores level on several occasions, including 2 each, 4 each, and 11 shots each after 15 ends of play. Di and her ladies took a 15-11 lead after 17 ends, and after an exchange of doubles, were still 4 in front at 17-13 and , in winning the last 2 ends, Di and her South rink took a decent win.

Rink 3. Barbara Parsons, Maureen Brown, Rhona Holland & Janet Swift 10 shots – Marian Mackie, Angela Wright, Linda Simms & Eleanor Winters 24 shots

A match in which the South team were 'under the cosh' for the first 10 ends as they could not get on the scoreboard as the North team scored 18 shots, but the last 11 ends went very much in Janet and her players' favour for they won 7 of them and reached double figures, as Eleanor and her ladies added just 6 more shots in their 4 winning ends for a decent victory for the North.

Rink 4. Julie Spreadbury, Sally Hodson, Nicky Hardy & Pat Bodily 24 shots – Margaret Fairs, Hazel Wood, Phyll Parry & Wilma Walker 13 shots

In this match the South were 6-1 up after 6 ends of play, and after dropping a count of 3 shots on the next end, Pat and her ladies won the next 3 ends and added 7 shots to their score for a good lead at 13-4. A good 4 for Wilma and her ladies of the North on the next end, and a collection of 4 more after conceding 2 singles, saw them reduce their deficit to 11-15 with 6 ends left to play. The first 4 of those ends were very good for the South for they picked up 8 shots for a 23-11 lead, and after dropping a double on the penultimate end, Pat and her South ladies won the last end for a very good win.

Rink 5. Maggie Edwards, Diana Brown, Gill Crossley & Sharon Tansley 17 shots – Sue Collins, Pet Winyard, Pam Page & Nancy Tebbutt 12 shots

In this match the North area started the better and posted a 5-0 lead after 4 ends, but the South ladies tied the scores up on the next 2 ends, and after dropping a single, they picked up a double and a single to take the lead 8-6, and that became 10-7 after 11 ends. A single to the North was followed by a tied end, and then Sharon and her ladies increased their lead to 14-9 with 5 ends to play. Those ends produced 3 shots to each side for a modest win for the South.

Rink 6. Judy Jones, Chris Cross, Linda Warren & Jill Welch 18 shots – Pat Coles, Annette Norris, Jo Johns & Pat Starsmore 14 shots

Another match which was very keenly contested, with few shots between the sides, certainly in the first half, with the South 4-3 up after 6 ends, and the North 8-7 up after 11 ends. 2 ends later the scores were level at 9 shots each, at which point Jill and her South ladies won 5 successive ends to take a decent lead at 18-9 with 3 ends to play, but Pat and her North ladies made a determined effort in winning those last 3 ends to reduce their deficit to just 4 shots.

3. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN 'FRIENDLY' versus MIDDLESEX – RESULT

The men of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** entertained their counterparts from Middlesex to a friendly match on Tuesday, 2nd July, 20019, at Corby Seagrave House BC, and although the County shared rink wins equally, Middlesex came out well on top by 28 shots. Of the County's winning rinks, the highest scoring was shared by the rinks skipped by Norman Gibb and Geoff Hayter, with wins by 7 shots, although Norman's rink won by 2 more ends than Geoff's, and the third winning rink was not far behind, that of Richard Somerton which posted a 5 shots victory.

I had the privilege, in the absence of a President this year, of being 'Captain for the Day' and although I tried to claim the match was a draw, my opposing President told the players that his FaceBook entry would show differently!

The final score was Northamptonshire 102 shots – Middlesex 130 shots.

Rink details as follows, Middlesex skips only named:

Rink 1. Rod Douglas, Tom Black, Dave Betts & Terry James 20 shots – David Stockman 36 shots

A pretty high scoring match in which, after the County posted a lead at 8-2, with 2 counts of 4, after 3 ends, the visitors evened things up over the next few ends, with the scores level at 8 shots each after 6 ends. At this point Terry & his men got stuck on that 8 as Middlesex firstly collected a big 6 on the 7th end and followed it with a single and a 4 for a 19-8 lead. The next 5 ends saw the County reduce their deficit to 17-23, but they were then confined to that 17 for 6 ends as Middlesex scored 13 shots for a very good lead, which was reduced a little when Terry and his men picked up 3 shots on the last end.

Rink 2. David Francis, George Donegan, Geoff Harris & Norman Gibb 24 shots – David Todd 17 shots

This was a match of relatively low scoring with the County just ahead 4-3 after 5 ends, and after increasing their lead to 11-6 after 10 ends, Norman and his men dropped a 3 and a single on the next 2 ends to be just 1 shot ahead at 11-10 with 9 ends to play. Middlesex went in front at 14-12 on picking up a 4 on the 14th end, and with 5 ends left to play were 3 up at 16-13, but Norman and his men really got themselves going in those last ends for they collected 11 shots to just 1 conceded, for a very good win.

Rink 3. Chris Hawkins, Bob Sullivan, John Chester & John Church 7 shots – Andy Docker 28 shots

What can I say about this match, in which I was the skip against the Middlesex President, Andy Docker, for I and my men never got our game together, whereas our opponents did! It was a very low scoring affair for the majority of the match, certainly the first half, but Middlesex were 11-0 up after 8 ends, and it did not get much better for us as we dropped shots regularly and picked up just 4 to be 4-18 adrift after 14 ends. That became 4-24 before we collected a few more shots and ultimately we were very well beaten.

Rink 4. Will Clelland, Dave Stewart, Bob Tingle & Geoff Hayter 20 shots – Andy Knott 13 shots

This match was also a relatively low scoring one which started very well indeed for the County as Geoff and his men posted 12 shots to none conceded after 6 ends of play, and then followed 7 ends in which just singles were scored, with the visitors having the better at 5-2 to reduce their deficit to 5-14 with 8 ends to play. Those 8 ends went marginally better to Middlesex 8-6 but it was still a decent win for the County.

Rink 5. Laurie Harrison, Dave Lovell, Will Keeney & Walt Winsor 11 shots – Roger Watkinson 21 shots

Yet another match in which the home rink scoring was very low, with the County scoring 11 shots in 9 winning ends, and Middlesex, with 12 winning ends, picked up 5 singles, 2 doubles, and just the one multi pickup of 4. Walt and his men were 'under the hammer' at 15-1 down after 10 ends of play, but the last 11 ends, apart from that count of 4, were dominated by the County in winning 8 of them to reduce their defeat to a much more modest one than at one time seemed likely.

Rink 6. Larry Lawrence, Peter Kitchener, Brian Diver & Richard Somerton 20 shots – Brian Hearn 15 shots

The first 6 ends of this match produced just single counts, with the County ahead 4-2, which became 7-2 on the next end until Middlesex won 3 successive ends to take the lead 9-7. 3 ends later the deficit for Richard and his men was 8-12 shots, but a big pick up of 5 shots saw them go back ahead by 1 shot with 7 ends left to play. Those 7 ends went much the better for the County as Richard and his players collected 7 shots, whilst conceding 3 shots, for a good win.

4. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN 'WALKER CUP' REGIONAL FINALS - SELECTION

Team Manager Jan Hunt has selected the following players to represent the Women's Section of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** in the Inter County double rink competition, the 'Walker Cup' against Leicestershire, in the Regional Finals, to be played at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 14th July, 2019, at Kingsthorpe BC.

Rink 1. Alison Dring, Burton Latimer Town BC/Pat Bodily, Sharon Tansley & Yvonne McKee, all Kingsthorpe BC

- Rink 2.** Ann-Marie Waters, Roade BC/Michelle Harris, Kingsthorpe BC/Katie Smith & Rebecca Wigfield, both Desborough Town BC
- Travelling Reserve:** Jill Welch, Heyford BC
- Non-Travelling Reserve:** Margaret Watts, Desborough Town BC

Subject to winning this encounter, they will play in the Group Final against the winner of the Essex v Huntingdonshire match which will be played at the same time and venue.

We wish them well in their efforts to progress in this prestigious competition.

5. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN 'FRIENDLY' versus SURREY – SELECTION

The following players have been selected by the Men's Section of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** to represent the County in a friendly match against Surrey BA, on Thursday, 18th July, 2019, at Kislingbury BC, commencing at 2.0 p.m.

- Rink 1.** Stuart Lake, Eddie Chapman, both Wellingborough BC/ Brian Jones, Heyford BC/ & Terry James, Thrapston BC
- Rink 2.** Laurie Harrison, Earls Barton BC/Lynn Ridgeway, Kislingbury/Dave Betts, Higham Ferrers Town BC/Michael Moulton, Heyford BC
- Rink 3.** Paul Cooke, Carlsberg BC/Richard Tyack, Woodford-cum-Membris BC/Geoff Allen, Heyford BC/Kevin Mawson, Kislingbury BC
- Rink 4.** Larry Lawrence, Kettering Lodge BC/Dave Lovell, Irchester BC/Dave Stewart, Rushden Town BC/Geoff Harris, Higham Ferrers Town BC
- Rink 5.** John Higginbottom, St Crispin BC/David Francis, Bugbrooke BC/John Chester, Desborough Town BC & Executive/Mossy Waters, Rushden Twn BC
- Rink 6.** Stephen Hill, Kislingbury BC/Terry Chapman, Rushden Town BC/Peter Kitchener, Irchester BC/Geoff Hayter, Bugbrooke BC
- Reserves:** John Church, Retired Police & Executive/Rod Douglas, Kettering Lodge BC/Keith Brudenell, Swanspool BC

6. BOWLS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 'COUNTY GALA'

Bowls Northamptonshire is holding its first ever 'County Gala' on Sunday, 22nd September, 2019, at Desborough Town BC. A notice has been sent to all the Clubs with the relevant details, and it will be noted that the event is being **sponsored by Brace Wealth Management**, for which the County is very grateful.

Entries are now being taken for **Club Teams** of 4 players, which may be single or mixed gender, with one rink only from any Club. The entries will be arranged in two divisions, with the winning rink in each playing for the top prize of £240, with the 2nd prize £120, 3rd prize £60, and 4th prize £40. There will also be some 'Target Bowls with prizes' and there will be bar and refreshments available at the Club all day.

Entry costs £40 per rink, and this includes all rink fees, and the pig roast, and as entries are limited to 20 rinks, time is of the essence if any Club wishes to participate.

Entries should be made to BN Assistant Treasurer, Alison Dring, 44, Fairfield Road, Isham, Kettering, NN14 1HF, with cheques in favour of Bowls Northamptonshire, and details of the team with contact name, telephone, address, email, etc.

Do not delay, for it will be 'First come, first served'

7. COUNTY COMPETITIONS – OF INTEREST THROUGHOUT COUNTY

COUNTY COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY KEMPSTON CONTROLS, SHIRLEY ROAD, RUSHDEN

LADIES

LADIES

LADIES

UNDER 25 SINGLES

Quarter Finals: **Abby Woodward, Burton Latimer Town BC** beat Gail Wilson, Finedon Town BC 21-14 shots
Megan Rolfe, Kingsthorpe BC given walkover by Paige Johnson-Young, Northampton West End BC
Chloe Weston, Abbey Park BC beat Emma Muir, Corby Forest BC 21-15 shots

OVER 55 SINGLES

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kingsthorpe BC on Saturday, 6th July, 2019.

1. **Pat Bodily, Kingsthorpe BC** beat Chris Cooper, Burton Latimer Town BC 21-8 shots
2. **Jenny Dempsey, Higham Ferrers Town BC** beat Margaret Watts, Desborough Town BC 21-10 shots

OVER 55 PAIRS

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kingsthorpe BC on Saturday, 6th July, 2019.

1. **Sandra Mawson & Pat Bodily, Kingsthorpe BC** beat Marion Stephenson & Margaret McIntosh, St Crispin BC 26-7 shots
2. **Pat Starsmore & Audrey Height, Kettering Lodge BC** beat Helena Norman & Val Betts, Higham Ferrers Town BC 27-20 shots

The winners of these Semi-Finals will now contest the County Final on the weekend of 27/28th July, 2019, at Northampton Whyte Melville BC

OVER 55 FOURS

1st Round: **Hilary Sharpe's Rink, Kingsthorpe BC** beat Pam Reynolds Rink, Wellingborough BC 13-11 shots
Jan Hunt's Rink, Wellingborough BC beat Margaret Watts' Rink, Desborough Town BC 19-10 shots
Wen Hill's Rink, Northampton Whyte Melville BC given walkover by Serena Santer's Rink, St Crispin BC
Tina Broderick's Rink, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Margaret Cave's Rink, Thrapston BC 20-17 shots
Wilma Walker's Rink, Corby Forest BC given walkover by Sue Collett's Rink, Woodford-cum-Membris BC
Audrey Height's Rink, Kettering Lodge BC beat Joan Sidebottom's Rink, Roade BC 22-11 shots
Sharon Tansley, Kingsthorpe BC beat Janet Swift's Rink, Abbey Park BC
Sandra Mawson, Pat Bodily, Yvonne McKee & Sharon Tansley, Kingsthorpe BC beat V Foster, G Morin, Linda Warren & Janet Swift, Abbey Park BC 18-13 shots

QUARTER FINALS – played at Kettering Lodge BC on Sunday, 7th July, 2019

1. **Marlene Armitage, Sandra Lake, Marilyn Dunkley & Jan Hunt, Wellingborough BC** beat Nicky Hardy, Celia Morris, Di Brumwell & Hilary Sharpe 15-14 shots

This was a very closely contested match for the first third, with the cores level at 4 shots each after 6 ends, but things changed thereafter in the second third, for after picking up a count of 3 on the 7th end, the Wellingborough rink was kept on 7 for 6 ends whilst Kingsthorpe collected 9 shots for a 13-7 lead. A good pick up of 4 on the next end, followed by a single, gave Jan and her ladies a boost to be just 1 shot in arrears, and after dropping a single to Hilary & her ladies on the 16th end, they won the last 2 ends for the narrowest of wins

2. Jenny Dempsey, Simone Evans, Viv Gaudyn & Rose Houghton, Higham Ferrers Town BC beat Sandra Mawson, Pat Bodily, Yvonne McKee & Sharon Tansley, Kingsthorpe BC 18-6 shots

The score in this match was 2 each after 4 ends, but then the Higham rink won the next 3 ends for an 8-2 lead, and then after dropping a double on the 8th end, they won the next two ends with doubles for a lead of 12-4 with 8 ends to play of the scheduled 18. Kingsthorpe collected a double on the next end, but they could score no more as Rose & her ladies collected 6 shots for a 12 shots lead and at that point Sharon and her ladies shook hands and conceded the match.

3. Catherine Gray, Chris Cooper, Maggie Lewis & Tina Broderick, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Shirley Salado, Linda Clasby, Elaine Munton & Wen Hill, Northampton Whyte Melville BC 19-10 shots

After conceding 2 shots on the first end, the Burton Latimer rink won the next 3 ends with doubles on each for a lead at 6-2, and after dropping another double on the next end they won 3 more in succession to increase their lead to 10-4. The next 6 ends went much more in Whyte Melville's favour as they scored 5 shots to 2 conceded, to reduce their deficit to just 3 at 9-12 down, but a big 4 to Tina & her ladies on the 15th end reinstated their lead and after dropping a single on the 16th end, they were able to win the last 2 ends for a decent victory.

4. Linda Simms, Sue Briggs, Pat Starsmore & Audrey Height, Kettering Lodge BC beat Margaret Fairs, Annette Norris, Eleanor Winters & Wilma Walker, Corby Forest BC 23-10 shots

In this contest Kettering Lodge started very well and after 5 ends were 6-1 up, but Corby Forest picked up a 3 on the 6th end, dropped a 2 on the 7th, and collected another 3 on the 8th end to be just 1 shot adrift at 7-8, but after 10 ends Kettering Lodge had collected 5 more shots for a decent 13-7 lead, and after dropping a single on the 11th, they won the next 5 ends and added 10 shots for a 23-8 lead with 2 ends only left to play. Wilma & her ladies collected a single on the 17th end, and although there was just 1 end left to play and they were 14 shots adrift, that 18th end was played with another single to Corby Forest.

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kettering Lodge BC on Sunday, 7th July, 2019.

1. Linda Simms, Sue Briggs, Pat Starsmore & Audrey Height, Kettering Lodge BC beat Catherine Gray, Chris Cooper, Maggie Lewis & Tina Broderick, Burton Latimer Town BC 23-9 shots

The Burton Latimer rink started well in collecting a 3 on the first end, but then Kettering Lodge got going well, and in winning the next 6 ends, posted a 9-3 lead, and 4 ends later Tina & her ladies had reduced their deficit to just 3 shots at 7-10 down. Audrey & her ladies won the next 3 ends, and added 7 shots to their total, including a count of 4, for a 17-7 lead, and after Tina and ladies picked up a double on the 15th end, Audrey's rink won the next 2 ends with a double and another 4, for a 23-9 lead and the victory was theirs.

2. Jenny Dempsey, Simone Evans, Viv Gaudyn & Rose Houghton, Higham Ferrers Town BC beat Marlene Armitage, Sandra Lake, Marilyn Dunkley & Jan Hunt 17-3 shots

In this match the scoring was very low indeed with just singles being scored on the first 8 ends, but it was Higham that won the most ends with a 7-1 lead at this stage. The next 4 ends all went the way of Rose and her ladies as they added 10 shots to their score, including a big pick up of 5 on the 12th end, to be leading 17-1 with 6 ends to play. Jan & her ladies picked up a double on the 13th end, but then conceded the match to Higham Ferrers.

Well done to the Semi-Final winners, they will now contest the County Final later this month, with the prize for the winners a qualification to represent the County at the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa next month.

COUNTY TOP CLUB

1st Round: Kingsthorpe BC beat Abington BC 2-2 (+14 shots)
Kislingbury BC beat Woodford-cum-Membris BC 4-0
Roade BC beat Wellingborough BC 3-1
Burton Latimer Town BC beat Thrapston BC 4-0

Higham Ferrers Town BC beat Geddington & Newton BC 3-1 (81-57 shots). Details as follows, Higham names first:

- Singles:** Jenny Dempsey beat Jo Johns 21-9 shots
Pairs: Lesley Watts & Viv Gaudyn beat Pat Coles & Karon Kerr 19-14 shots
Triples: Val Bailey, Geraldine Gregory & Rose Houghton beat Diane Talbot, Julie Tysoe & Linda Tomlinson 22-13 shots
Fours: Kay Hickman, Helena Norman, Clair Snelling & Val Betts lost to Helen Wood, P Price, Angela Wright & Trish Basford 19-21 shots

MIXED

MIXED

MIXED

COUNTY COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY KEMPSTON CONTROLS, SHIRLEY ROAD, RUSHDEN

EXECUTIVE TRIPLES

SOUTH AREA:

- 1st Round:** **Pat Bodily's Triple, Northampton Whyte Melville BC beat Pete Milburn's Triple, Abington BC 21-14 shots**
Paul Green's Triple, Northampton Express BC given walkover by Sharon Tansley's Triple, Kingsthorpe BC
David Cox's Triple, St Crispin BC given walkover by Sue Graham-Hole's Triple, St Crispin BC
Pete Morris's Triple, Kingsthorpe BC beat Duncan Marriott's Triple, Northampton West End BC 19-8 shots
Mick Isom's Triple, Daventry Tigers BC beat John Hodgkinson's Triple, Daventry Town BC 26-9 shots
A Carter's Triple, Wootton Grange BC beat Chris Cross's Triple, Byfield BC 19-14 shots
- 2nd Round:** **Dave Bellis's Triple, Daventry Town BC beat Wen Hill's Triple, Northampton Whyte Melville BC 18-14 shots**
- South Area Finals:** **Pete Morris's Triple, Kingsthorpe BC beat Maggie Edwards' Triple, Kingsthorpe BC 22-13 shots**

NORTH AREA

- 2nd Round:** **Connor Cinato's Triple, Kettering Midland Band BC given walkover by Neil Gould's Triple, Earls Barton BC**
Louis Gadke's Triple, Corby Seagrave House BC beat David Dimmock's Triple, Rothwell Manor Park BC 20-11 shots
Chris Blackley's Triple, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Pete Morgan's Triple, Ise BC 25-6 shots
Will Keeney's Triple, Corby Seagrave House BC given walkover by John Haines' Triple, Desborough Town BC

MIXED PAIRS

SOUTH AREA:

- 1st Round:** **Pat Bodily & Partner, Northampton Whyte Melville BC given walkover by Tony Hartwright & Partner, Roade BC**
- 2nd Round:** **Danny Walker & Partner, Northampton West End BC beat Jonathan Brown & Partner, Abington BC 23-14 shots**
Wayne Stanley & Partner, Northampton Express BC beat Linda Johnson & Partner, Northampton BBOB BC 20-6 shots
Richard Tyack & Partner, Woodford-cum-Membris BC beat Don Santer & Partner, St Crispin BC 21-18 shots
Pat Bodily & Partner, Northampton Whyte Melville BC given walkover by Will Walker & Partner, Northampton West End BC

NORTH AREA

2nd Round: **Richard Horrell & Partner, Thrapston BC** beat Robert Emery & Partner, Rothwell Manor Park BC 29-10 shots
Abby Woodward & Matt Pownall, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Rod Douglas & Partner, Kettering Lodge BC 23-19 shots
Malcolm Chambers & Partner, Wellingborough BC beat Lucy Lillywhite & Partner, Swanspool BC 22-16 shots
David Love & Partner, Wellingborough BC beat Helena Norman & Peter Knight, Higham Ferrers Town BC 23-4 shots
Paul Broderick & Partner, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Bill Leask & Partner, Swanspool BC 24-3 shots
Brian Hickman & Partner, Higham Ferrers Town BC given walkover by Malc Mattinson & Partner, Thrapston BC
Kieran Rollings & Partner, Kettering Lodge BC beat Clair Snelling & Partner, Higham Ferrers Town BC 30-15 shots
Allen Simms & Partner, Kettering Lodge BC beat Scott Fleming & Partner, Earls Barton BC 20-18 shots
Alan Dempsey & Partner, Higham Ferrers Town BC beat Pat Crouch & Partner, Desborough Town BC 21-17 shots
Adrian Harris & Partner, Kettering Lodge BC beat Phil Exley & Partner, Burton Latimer Town BC 23-12 shots

Area Finals: **Alan Dempsey & Partner, Higham Ferrers Town BC** beat Adrian Harris & Partner, Kettering Lodge BC 20-16

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

COUNTY COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY KEMPSTON CONTROLS, SHIRLEY ROAD, RUSHDEN

MANFIELD CUP COMPETITION

Following the unofficial result that I published in my Report last week, I am now able to confirm the full result of the 'Manfield Cup' competition. This is the oldest men's competition in the County, having its origins going back to 1906 when 'Northamptonshire Bowling Association' was born. The event was held on Saturday, 29th June, 2019, and 34 affiliated County Clubs took part, under the auspices of the Men's Section of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire**. This competition and others organised by Bowls Northamptonshire, are specifically sponsored by our Competitions sponsors, **Kempston Controls Ltd., of Shirley Road, Rushden**.

It is played at many greens around the County, with all participating Clubs fielding 4 rinks which play on greens other than their own, and, in accordance with the competition rules, clubs that are unable to field a full team of their own, may join forces with another, and this was the case with two teams this year comprising 4 affiliated Clubs.

Now that all the scorecards have been examined, the result has been officially ratified that **Northampton Whyte Melville BC** had 4 winning rinks, and was the only Club this year that did, and they had a +25 shots aggregate, and are therefore the winners. Congratulations to the players of this very long standing County Club, which was formed in 1909.

Desborough Town BC had 3 winning rinks and 1 that drew, with a +49 shots aggregate, and are therefore in 2nd place.

Burton Latimer Town BC & Wellingborough BC share 3rd place, with each having 3 winning rinks and 1 losing, with both having a shots aggregate of +35 shots.

The full list of clubs and results may be found on the Bowls Northamptonshire website by clicking on the Men's Draws link on the 'Home Page'.

As part of the celebration of the win, Northampton Whyte Melville BC will play against Bowls Northamptonshire Men's Section on Friday, 8th August, 2019.

FOURS

QUARTER FINALS – played at Kingsthorpe BC on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd July, 2019.

As will be seen the South Area completely dominated these quarter finals, with 4 winners, and of those 4, one Club, Northampton Express, provided 3 of them. Quite an achievement.

1. Neil Rolfe, Richard White(sub), Richard Lemon & Chris Bland, Northampton Express BC beat Richard Horrell, Andy Burrows, David Bailey & Terry Cutting, Thrapston BC 24-15 shots

The first few ends of this match were very closely contested, with the scores level at 5 shots each after 5 ends of play, but then the Express won 3 successive ends to take the lead 12-5, although Thrapston closed the gap to 12-9 at 10 ends. At 13 ends the gap was just 4 shots in favour of Chris & his men, but they then won 4 successive ends to go further ahead 23-12 with 4 ends to play. Terry and his men were 15-23 adrift with 2 ends to play, and the match was over when Chris picked up a single on the 20th end.

2. Rob White, Ian Bland, Wayne Stanley & Dominic Graham, Northampton Express BC beat Paul Melville, Scott Melville, Alan Muir & Alistair Melville, Corby Forest BC 18-13 shots

Corby Forest had the better of the early exchanges and were 4-1 up after 5 ends of play, but in winning 4 of the next 5 ends Express took a 7-5 lead, although Alistair and his men drew level at 7 each 2 ends later. A good pick up of 4 shots gave Dominic & his men a 4 shots lead, but the Forest were still there fighting and at 16 ends played were just 2 behind at 10-12. The last 5 ends were more productive for the Express as they collected 6 shots to the 3 by the Forest for a decent win.

3. Chris Terry, Mark Linnell, Tom Wellburn & Simon Coles, Northampton Express BC beat Keith Height, Cameron Knox, Matt Pownall & Phil Exley, Burton Latimer Town BC 22-21 shots

In this contest the Express men started off very well in winning the first 3 ends to lead 7-0, but Burton picked up 4 shots on the next two ends to close the gap, and there they were stuck for the next 6 ends whilst Simon and his men cruised to a 17-4 shots lead with 10 ends to play. A big shift in fortunes then occurred as Phil and his men firstly picked up a 4 on the 12th end and then after dropping a single, went on a 6 end winning sequence and took the lead at 21-18 shots with 2 ends to play. Simon and his men stopped the process of losing ends in drawing level with a 3 on the 20th end, for a last end 'shoot out' which the Express won.

4. Jason Bryan, Neil McKee, Andy Manton & Vernon Gearey, Kingsthorpe BC beat Bob Shatford, Dave Keller, Martin Cinato & Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Band BC 18-17 shots.

In this encounter the early ends produced a level 2 each after 3 ends, but Kingsthorpe then went on a winning sequence of 4 ends to take a decent 9-2 shots lead, and after dropping a single, they won the next 5 ends, albeit in just singles, to increase their lead to 14-3 with 8 ends to play. A good pick up of 4 by Connor and his men, followed by two doubles reduced their deficit to just 3 shots at 11-14 down, but Vernon and his men collected a 3 on the 17th end to put the pressure back on. Connor and his men responded well in winning the next 3 ends and levelling the match at 17 shots each with another last end 'shoot out' to follow, which Kingsthorpe narrowly won by a single shot.

SEMI FINALS – played at Kingsthorpe BC on the evening of Friday, 5th July, 2019.

1. Neil Rolfe, Richard Lemon, Chris Bland & Gavin Taylor, Northampton Express BC beat Jason Bryan, Neil McKee, Andrew Manton & Vernon Gearey, Kingsthorpe BC 17-16 shots

This match was pretty evenly contested throughout, with Express taking a 4-0 lead after the first 2 ends, but then dropping a huge count of 6 shots followed by a single, to go behind 4-7 after 4 ends. Gavin and his men recovered from that to draw level at 7 each, but then Kingsthorpe had a very good winning run of 4 ends in which they re-took the lead 12-7, and after 16 ends of play they were still ahead 15-11 shots. It was then the turn of Express to pick up shots and with 2 ends left to play they were ahead by the smallest margin 16-15, and when Vernon and his men collected a single on the 20th end, it was a last end 'shoot out'. That end started well for Kingsthorpe with Jason putting 2 bowls close to the jack, but with his 2nd bowl Richard drew in for shot, and it was the intention of Express to protect that position so Chris put 2 'blocking' bowls in, and although going very close to disturbing the head, neither Andrew nor Vernon were able to do so and it was Express through to the Final.

2. **Rob White, Ian Bland, Wayne Stanley & Dominic Graham, Northampton Express BC beat Chris Terry, Mark Linnell, Tom Wellburn & Simon Coles, Northampton Express BC 21-7 shots**

This match saw Dominic Graham's 2016 National Champions facing their own club mates, and they played like champions too, for after 5 ends, when picking up a big count of 5 on that 5th end, they were 9-2 shots up, and after dropping two singles, they went on a successful run of 5 ends to boost their lead to 17-4 with 9 ends to play. After dropping another single, Dominic and his men won 3 more ends to put themselves almost out of sight at 21-5, and when Simon and his men could pick up just two singles, they shook hands after 18 ends, and Dominic & men were through to the Final.

Congratulations to both winners, and especially to Northampton Express BC for providing both of them, and they will now contest the County Final later this month, but more importantly they will represent the County at the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa next month.

4 WOOD SINGLES

**South Area Finals: Dominic Graham, Northampton Express BC beat Alan Dunkley, Abington BC 21-13 shots
Jamie Walker, Northampton West End BC beat Chris Bland, Northampton Express BC 21-20 shots**

UNDER 25 SINGLES

South Area Final: Jack Botterill, Northampton Express BC beat David Walker, Northampton West End BC

UNDER 25 PAIRS

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kingsthorpe BC on the evening of Friday, 5th July, 2019.

1. **Will Walker & David Walker, Northampton West End BC beat Nathan Betts, Northampton West End BC & Adam Pitfield, Burton Latimer Town BC 20-8 shots**

In this match the West End pair were ahead 6-2 after 4 ends, but the West End/Burton Latimer pair were just 1 behind 2 ends later, however, Will & David then won 3 successive ends to go ahead 10-5, and after dropping a single, they picked up a massive count of 6 shots as a result of David firing his opponent's shot bowl off the green. At 16-6 shots up with potentially 7 ends to play, it was still possible for Nathan & Adam, but they could pick up just 2 singles on the next 2 ends, and when Will & David collected 4 more shots on the following two, they shook hands and conceded at 15 ends of play.

2. **Kieran Rollings, Kettering Lodge BC & Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Band BC beat Conor Bryan, Kingsthorpe BC & Danny Walker, Northampton West End BC 17-16 shots**

In this match, after 6 ends of play Kieran and Connor were 14-1 shots up and it looked as though it might be a short match, but Conor and Danny had other ideas, for they kept their opponents on that 14 for 6 ends as they picked up 9 shots to get within striking distance. That gap of 4 shots remained right up to the playing of the last end, and on this end Kieran & Connor had to protect that lead and prevent a big score, and this they were able to do, just, as Danny played his last wood he had a possible chance for a pick up of 4, but just failed to get the shots he needed and it was a 1 shot win for Kieran and Connor.

Congratulations to the two winners who will now play each other in the County Final later this month, with the winner of that to represent the County at the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa next month.

OVER 55 FOURS

SOUTH AREA:

1st Round: Geoff Hayter's Rink given walkover by David Blencowe's Rink, Brackley & District BC

Area Finals: **Geoff Hayter's Rink, Bugbrooke BC** beat Pete Milburn's Triple, Abington BC 18-13 shots
John Freeman's Rink, Abington BC beat Jonathan Brown's Triple, Abington 18-7 shots
Rob Archer's Rink, Abington BC beat Phil Manley's Rink, Cogenhoe BC 18-9 shots
Mick Sharpe's Rink, Kingsthorpe BC beat Martin Walker's Rink, Northampton West End BC 18-3 shots

NORTH AREA

Area Finals: **Carl Haines' Rink, Desborough Town BC** beat Ray Gray's Rink, Burton Latimer Town BC 18-13 shots
Malc Mattinson's Rink, Thrapston BC beat Will Keeney's Rink, Corby Seagrave House BC 21-10 shots
Norman Gibb's Rink, Corby Seagrave House BC beat Neil Gould's Rink, Earls Barton BC 27-17 shots
Walt Winsor's Rink, Wellingborough BC given walkover by Allen Simms' Rink, Kettering Lodge BC

QUARTER FINALS – played at Kettering Lodge BC on Sunday, 7th July, 2019.

1. **Tim Chapman, Peter Morris, Roger Tansley & Mick Sharpe, Kingsthorpe BC** beat Bryn Walker, Paul Coley, Nigel Hawkins & Walt Winsor, Wellingborough BC 15-14 shots.

What a close match this turned out to be with Wellingborough starting off very well with a 5-0 lead after 4 ends, but then Kingsthorpe won the next 4 ends and collected 9 shots, including a 4 for a 9-5 lead, and with just single shots scored over the next 4 ends Mick and his men kept ahead 12-6. The next 2 ends saw the determination of Walt & his men for they collected a good 4 and a double to tie things up at 12 each, and with one end left Walt's Wellingborough men were just 1 shot up at 14-13, but the last end produced a double for Mick and his men for a passage to the Semi-Finals.

2. **Will Clelland, John Bookless, Brian Diver & Norman Gibb, Corby Seagrave House BC** beat Andy Cragg, Tom Fuins, Geoff Hayter & Rod Rigby, Bugbrooke BC 17-13 shots

In this match Bugbrooke won more ends than Corby Seagrave House, but 8 of the 10 were singles, whereas the 8 from Corby included a 5 and two 3's. Bugbrooke scored first with a double, but that 5 came next for Corby, and after 5 ends Norman & his men were 9-3 up, and after dropping two singles, they picked up a 3 to go 12-5 ahead, and then followed 5 singles of which 4 went to Rod and his men for them to close to 9-13 with 5 ends left to play. In picking up a treble on the 17th end, Bugbrooke gave themselves a chance at 13-16 with one end left, but Norman and his men got a single for the win.

3. **Richard Horrell, Barry Melville, David Bailey & Terry Cutting, Thrapston BC** beat Phil Reeve, Tony Aston, Dave Vernon & Pat McAlwane, Abington BC 22-6 shots

In this match Thrapston started very well indeed, and after 6 ends of play they were 10-0 up, and after dropping two singles, they added 5 more to their score, including a 4, to be further ahead at 15-4. Things did not get any better for Pat & his Abington men, for they were stuck on that 4 for 4 ends as Terry & his men added 7 more shots to lead 22-4 with 3 ends to play. Abington picked up a 2 on the 16th end, but it was not enough and they conceded victory to Thrapston.

4. **Alan Coleman, Terry Brown, Tony O'Leary & John Freeman, Abington BC** beat Tony Gilbert, Malcolm Winckles, Pat Crouch & Carl Haines, Desborough Town BC 15-14 shots

Another very close finish in the end, but at the halfway mark it did not look like an Abington win. Desborough restricted John & his men to just two singles in the first 8 ends, whilst they were scoring well to lead 13-2, with the 9th end being particularly good for them when picking up a big count of 5. The Abington players, however, dug in deep, and with their vast experience, they then restricted Carl & his men to just one more shot on the 11th end, as they 'went to town' in scoring 13 shots for the narrowest win.

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kettering Lodge BC on Sunday, 7th July, 2019

- 1. Alan Coleman, Terry Brown, Tony O’Leary & John Freeman beat Richard Horrell, Barry Melville, David Bailey & Terry Cutting 18-15 shots**

Thrapston started well in winning the first 2 ends with doubles, but the next 5 ends were all Abington as they scored very well to take a good 11-4 shots lead after 7 ends. After 10 ends of play John & his men were still 12-7 up, and with a 4 and a single on the next 2 ends, that became 17-7 with 6 ends to play. Terry & his men won the next 4 of those last ends to give themselves a chance at 12-17 down, but after dropping a single on the 17th end they were presented with a 6 shots deficit playing the last end, which they did win with 3 shots, but it was Abington through to the Final.

- 2. Tim Chapman, Peter Morris, Roger Tansley & Mick Sharpe, Kingsthorpe BC beat Will Clelland, John Bookless, Brian Diver & Norman Gibb, Corby Seagrave House BC 22-16 shots**

In this match Corby Seagrave started pretty well in posting a 5-2 shots lead after 4 ends, but the next 4 ends were all Kingsthorpe as they scored 11 shots without reply to take a very good 13-5 lead, although Norman & his men were in there fighting hard and in collecting two trebles to a double conceded, they got within 4 shots at 11-15 down with 7 ends left to play. Mick & his men struck back hard with a good 4 on the next end, and after dropping a double, they scored 3 more shots to lead 22-13 with 3 ends left to play. Norman & his men won all 3 of those ends, but just in single counts, so it was the Kingsthorpe men who are through to the Final.

Congratulations to the Semi-Final winners, who will now contest the County Final at Northampton Express BC at 10.0 a.m. on Sunday, 28th July, 2019, with the prize for the winners being qualification for the National Finals at Royal Leamington Spa next month.

8. NATIONAL COMPETITIONS – OF INTEREST COUNTY WIDE

LADIES

LADIES

LADIES

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS SINGLES

- 3rd Round: Jenny Dempsey, Higham Ferrers Town BC lost to Chloe Brett, Parkway BC, Hunts 16-21 shots**

SENIOR PAIRS

- 2nd Round: Tina Broderick & Partner, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Viv Gaudyn & Partner, Higham Ferrers Town BC 9-17 shots
Linda Warren & Partner, Abbey Park BC beat Sharon Tansley & Partner, Kingsthorpe BC 28-3 shots**

MIXED

MIXED

MIXED

PAIRS

- 4th Round. Phil Exley & Partner, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Sophie Purell & Partner, St Ives BC 21-16 shots
Sian Hughes-Jones, Kettering Lodge BC & Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Band BC beat Adrian Harris & Partner, Kettering Lodge BC 32-5 shots**

FAMILY PAIRS

- 4th Round: Will Walker & Partner, Northampton West End BC beat Martin Cinato & Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Band BC 27-18 shots**

OVER 60 DOUBLE RINK – TONY ALLCOCK TROPHY

- 3rd Round: Kettering Lodge BC beat Kingsthorpe BC 35-34 shots**

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS SINGLES

2nd Round: Trevor Spear, Northampton Whyte Melville BC beat Darren Childs, Northampton West End BC
21-19 shots

SENIOR SINGLES

4th Round: Mark Turner, Kettering Midland Band BC beat John Freeman, Abington BC 21-15 shots
Martin Gearey, Kingsthorpe BC beat Michael Moulton, Heyford BC 21-10 shots

SENIOR PAIRS

2nd Round: Tony O'Leary & Partner, Abington BC beat Martin Walker & Partner, Northampton West End BC
21-4 shots
Martin Geary & Vernon Gearey, Kingsthorpe BC beat Alan Coleman & Terry Brown, Abington
BC 17-10 shots

CLUB TWO FOURS

3rd Round: Thrapston BC beat Somersham BC 41-37 shots

TOP CLUB

3rd Round: Burton Latimer Town BC beat Kettering Lodge BC 5-0

9. RUSHDEN & DIRICT 'TIPLER TRIPLES LEAGUE' – LATEST RESULTS

Division 'A' - Results of last matches:

'New Order' beat Rebels 62-41 shots
Higham Ferrers Town BC 'A' beat Rushden Town BC 'A' 57-45 shots
Irchester BC 'B' beat Higham Ferrers Town BC 'B' 56-45 shots
Thrapston BC beat Irchester BC 'D' 51-46 shots

Team 'New Order' still leads the Division with 24 points, followed in 2nd place on 20 points by Team 'Rebels', with Higham Ferrers BC Team 'A' now in 3rd place, just .5 of a point behind.

Division 'B' - Results of last matches:

Team RAFA beat Team Barton Saxons 55-49 shots
Team Barton Knights beat Team Mazda 57-43 shots
Raunds beat Team Wanderers 64-53 shots
One other match postponed involving Finedon Town BC & Team 'Fast Lane'

RAFA leads the table of this Division with 27 points, with Barton Knights in second place with 24 points, and Finedon in 3rd place with 23 points.

10. NATIONAL BOWLS NEWS

BOWLS ENGLAND NEWS

1. National Competitions Reminder

Bowls England wishes to remind all individuals and clubs that are still competing in the 2019 National Competitions that the final match prior to the National Finals in all National Competitions will be played on a neutral green midway between the two competitors (unless mutually agreed), regardless of mileage between the two named clubs

2. Official World Bowls Magazine – ‘Inside Bowls’ – July 2019 Edition

Here is your link to the July 2019 edition of ‘Inside Bowls’, the official publication of World Bowls: <http://online.fliphtml5.com/hpdf/hkoj/>

3. Chairman of Bowls England Announces Retirement

David Mitchell-Gears MBE has announced that he will retire from his post as Chair of Bowls England in November 2019. A bowls player since 1965, he helped to form Bowls England when the English Bowling Association (EBA) and English Women’s Bowling Association (EWBA) amalgamated and has been its Chairman since its inception in 2008.

In addition to his extensive contribution at national level, Mr Mitchell-Gears also continues to play an active role at his club, Clacton BC, and support his County Association, Essex. He was awarded with the MBE for services to the sport of lawn bowls in the Queen’s Birthday Honours in 2014.

Mr Mitchell-Gears said: “Since the formation of Bowls England, we have made great progress in modernising the sport on and off the green for this and future generations. The time is however right to stand down and pass the baton on to my successor. I am confident that they will inherit a robust organisation that is ready to take on whatever challenges may lie ahead.”

Tony Allcock OBE, Bowls England Chief Executive, added: “I have worked closely with David since I was appointed Chief Executive of the English Bowling Association in 2003. There are very few who have given more to a single sport than David for such an extended period of time. I am sure he will be missed greatly but we wish him well in his retirement.”

The position of Chair of Bowls England will be advertised shortly and elected in accordance with the Articles of Association, for a three-year term starting at the AGM in February 2020.

DISABILITY BOWLS ENGLAND NEWS

New Look to Disability Bowls England

Disability Bowls England is delighted to announce the appointment of **Mike Robertson and Matt Wordingham** to its Board of Trustees.

Robertson is no stranger to the Disability Bowls England scene, representing Team England at the Commonwealth Games in Australia last year. With more than 35 years’ experience on the green, Robertson joined Kieran Rollings and Paul Brown in the para-triples team that narrowly missed out on a medal at the Games. Robertson won the Bowls England men’s triples title with brothers Ean and Tristan Morton in 2017 and followed that up by securing the British Isles triples crown the following year. He is a regular in Huntingdonshire’s Middleton Cup team and won DBE’s national singles in 2017 as well as earning the Player of the Year award. Mike joins the Board of Trustees with a wealth of qualifications and experience within finance and accountancy.

Also joining the Board is **Matt Wordingham**, who is employed by Bowls England as its Publications and Media Officer.

Matt has worked at the national governing body since 2013, after graduating from the University of Huddersfield with a degree in Sports Journalism and Media. His previous roles before joining Bowls England include media positions with Huddersfield Town Football Club, BBC Sport and with the International Paralympic Committee during the London 2012 Paralympic Games. As a former competitive bowler, Wordingham has represented both Northamptonshire and Warwickshire in the Middleton Cup, as well as reaching numerous national finals and being a squad member of the men's junior international team in 2015.

Following the appointments, DBE Chair Paul Brown said: "I am pleased that Mike and Matt have joined the Board of Trustees at Disability Bowls England. Both have offered a lot of support to us over the years and I am confident that they will be able to drive DBE forward in the areas of their expertise."

Along with Chair Paul Brown, Robertson and Wordingham join Shirley Hughes OBE, Bob Love, Duggie Mitchell, Margaret Smith, Ray Smith and David Stott as Trustees of Disability Bowls England.

Following indication of retirement from some of the current Trustees, DBE is ideally seeking to appoint two further Trustees to join its Board. Volunteers in various areas throughout the year are also welcomed. If you feel that you can offer your time, please contact Paul on 07810 868015 or by emailing paul.brown@disabilitybowlsengland.org.uk

11. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN 'MCBA' versus NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The Men's Section of the Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire will take on Nottinghamshire in a Midland Counties match on Saturday, 13th July, 2019, at Wellingborough BC, commencing at 2.0 p.m.

Team Manager Mick Smith has been unable, due to work commitments, to provide the team in time for my Report, but he will be in touch with the selected players directly in the next 24 hours.

12. OBITUARY

Alan WARD, Abington BC

Alan died on Monday, 4th July, 2019, after a long illness.

Alan was born in 1942 in Chislehurst, Kent. He joined Abington BC after relocating from London in the 1970's. He was a reasonably experienced bowler at that time, having earlier taken up the sport in Kent.

Alan held the office of Club President in 1988 and Club Saturday Captain in 1983. He managed to reach the final stages of county competitions on many occasions but never quite made his dream of playing at Worthing, in the National Championships.

He represented Northamptonshire at Middleton Cup level in 1988 and in the Midland Counties in 1984/85/86/88.

Alan was a very competitive bowler and won many club competitions including the Club Singles on two occasions, in 1983 and 1986.

He was the current secretary of The Northampton Area Triples League and he was a very hardworking committee member and supporter of the club both on and off the green, and will be missed by many.

His Funeral is scheduled to take place at 1.15 p.m. (time is provisionally set) on Friday, 12th July, 2019, at The Counties Crematorium, Milton Malsor, Towcester Road, Northampton, NN4 9RN, with a Wake to follow at Abington BC.

13. COUNTY CLUB NEWS

SOUTH AREA – OF INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY BUT IN PARTICULAR TO READERS OF THE CHRONICLE & ECHO

ABINGTON BC

Fixtures:

- 10.7.19. Club hosts the Masonic BA 'Tipler Trophy' at 10.0 a.m.
- 11.7.19. Club plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 12.7.19. Club plays Byfield BC in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Stony Stratford BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 15.7.19. A Team plays St Crispin BC at home & B Team plays Byfield BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 16.7.19. Club plays Swanspool BC at home at 2.30 p.m.

BRACKLEY BC

Fixtures:

- 15.7.19. Club plays Cogenhoe BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
17.7.18. Club plays Byfield BC at home at 6.15 p.m.

BUGBROOKE BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Heyford BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
15.7.19. Club plays Daventry Town BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

BYFIELD BC

Fixtures:

- 14.7.19. Club holds a 'Fun Day' at 2.0 p.m.
16.7.19. Club plays Banbury Chestnuts BC at home at 6.0 p.m.
17.7.19. Club plays Brackley & District BC away at 2.30 p.m.

CARLSBERG BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC away at 2.0 p.m.

COGENHOE BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Bridgman BC at home at 2.0p.m.
14.7.19. Club plays Stanwick BC away at 2.30 p.m.
15.7.19. Club plays Brackley & District BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

COLD ASHBY BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC away at 6.30 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays Woodford-cum-Membris BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
16.7.19. Club plays Lutterworth BC at home at 2.30 p.m.

DAVENTRY TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Kislingbury BC away at 6.30 p.m.
12.7.19. Club plays Woodford-cum-Membris BC in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays Rugby Thornfield BC away at 2.30p.m.
15.7.19. A Team plays Bugbrooke BC at home & B Team plays West Haddon BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 pm.

HARPOLE BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays its 'Frost Fours' at 2.30 p.m.

HEYFORD BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Woodford-cum-Membris BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays Bugbrooke BC away at 2.30 p.m.
16.7.19. Club plays Roade BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

KINGSTHORPE BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Little Bowden BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Northampton Express BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club hosts the Regional Finals of the BE Walker Cup competition at 9.30 a.m.
- 16.7.19. Club plays Wellingborough BC away at 6.10 p.m.

KISLINGBURY BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Daventry Town BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 17.7.19. Club plays Byfield BC away at 2.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON EXPRESS BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Kingsthorpe BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 15.7.19. A Team plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC away & B Team plays Cold Ashby BC at home in the men's Triples league at 6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON WEST END BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Northampton BBOB BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Brington BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 15.7.19. A Team plays Desborough Town BC at home & B Team plays Carlsberg BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON WHYTE MELVILLE BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Abington BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 12.7.19. Club plays Harpole BC away in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Kislingbury BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Kettering Lodge BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 15.7.19. A Team plays Northampton Express BC at home & B Team plays Kislingbury BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

ROADE BC

Fixtures:

- 12.7.19. Club plays Kingsthorpe BC away in the women's triples league at 6.30 p.m.
- 15.7.19. Club plays Wootton Grange BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 16.7.19. Club plays Heyford BC away at 6.30 p.m.
- 17.7.19. Club plays Olney BC away at 2.0 p.m.

ST. CRISPIN BC

Fixtures:

- 12.7.19. Club plays Kislingbury BC away in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Desborough Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Rugby Railway BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays its 'Campling Trophy' at 10.30 a.m.
- 15.7.19. A Team plays Abington BC away & B Team plays Harpole BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 17.7.19. Club plays West Haddon BC away at 6.30 p.m.

WEST HADDON BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Little Bowden BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
15.7.19. Club plays Daventry Town BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
17.7.19. Club plays St Crispin BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

WOODFORD-cum-MEMBRIS BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Heyford BC away at 6.30 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays Cold Ashby BC away at 2.30 p.m.

WOOTTON GRANGE BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Travis Perkins at home at 2.30 p.m.
15.7.19. A Team plays Roade BC at home & B Team plays Daventry Tigers B away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 pm.

NORTH AREA – OF INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY BUT IN PARTICULAR TO READERS OF THE EVENING TELEGRAPH

BURTON LATIMER TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Desborough Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
14.7.19. Club plays Irchester BC away at 2.0 p.m.

CORBY FOREST BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Wellingborough BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
14.7.19. Club plays Higham Ferrers Town BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.
16.7.19. Club plays Oundle BC away at 2.30 p.m.

CORBY SEAGRAVE HOUSE BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Rothwell Manor Park BC away at 6.30 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays Kettering Lodge BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
14.7.19. Club plays Loyal Rangers at 2.0 p.m.
16.7.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
16.7.19. Club plays Kettering Midland Band BC in the County League at 6.30 p.m.

DESBOROUGH TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Kettering Lodge BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays Burton Latimer Town BC away at 2.0 p.m.
13.7.19. Club plays St Crispin BC away at 2.0 p.m.
14.7.19. Club holds its 2 wood singles competition at 10.0 a.m.
17.7.19. Club plays Little Bowden BC away at 2.30 p.m.

EARLS BARTON BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Rushden Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

GEDDINGTON & NEWTON BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Cold Ashby BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Carlsberg BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 16.7.19. Club play Corby Seagrave House BC away t 6.30 p.m.

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Irchester BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Corby Forest BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.
- 15.7.19. Club A Team plays at home to Irchester D Team & Club B Team plays way to Rebels in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

IRCHESTER BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays Higham Ferrers Town BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Burton Latimer Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 15.7.19. Club B Team plays Rushden A Team at home & Club D team plays Higham Ferrers B Team away in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH CHURCH INSTITUTE BC

Fixtures:

- 13.7.19. Club plays its Triples competitions at 1.0 p.m.

ISE BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Oundle BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Stanwick BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 17.7.19. Club plays Kettering Park BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

ISLIP BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Retired Police BA at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Kettering Athletic BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Swanspool BC away at 2.0 p.m.

KETTERING LODGE BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Desborough Town BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 13.7.19. Club plays Corby Seagrave House BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.
- 14.7.19. Club plays Northampton BBOB BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 15.7.19. Club plays its 'Thurland Rosebowl' at 6.30 p.m.

KETTERING MIDLAND BAND BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Thrapston BC away at 6.30 p.m.
- 16.7.19. Club plays Corby Seagrave House BC in the County League at 6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RETIRED POLICE BA

Fixtures:

11.7.19. Club plays Islip BC away at 6.30 p.m.

OUNDLE BC

Fixtures:

11.7.19. Club plays Ise BC away at 6.30 p.m.

13.7.19. Club holds its 'President's Day' at 2.30 p.m.

16.7.19. Club plays Corby Forest BC at home at 2.30 p.m.

ROTHWELL MANOR PARK BC

Fixtures:

11.7.19. Club plays Corby Seagrave House BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

13.7.19. Club plays a 'Last Man Standing' event at home at 1.30 p.m.

17.7.19. Club plays Abbey Park BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

RUSHDEN TOWN BC

Fixtures:

11.7.19. Club plays Kettering Athletic BC away at 2.0 p.m.

13.7.19. Club plays Earls Barton BC away at 2.0 p.m.

14.7.19. Club holds its 'President's Day' at 1.0 p.m.

15.7.19. Club A Team plays Irchester B Team away in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

SWANSPPOOL BC

Fixtures:

13.7.19. Club plays its Triples competitions at 2.0 p.m.

14.7.19. Club plays Islip BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

16.7.19. Club plays Abington BC away at 2.30 p.m.

THRAPSTON BC

Fixtures:

11.7.19. Club plays Kettering Midland Band BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

14.7.19. Club plays Wellingborough OG's BC away at 1.30 p.m.

14.7.19. Club plays Irchester BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.

15.7.19. Club plays New Order away in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

16.7.19. Club hosts BN Men's 2 Wood Singles competition at 6.0 p.m.

16.7.19. Club plays Swanspool Seniors away at 2.0 p.m.

WELLINGBOROUGH BC

Fixtures:

11.7.19. Club hosts the BN Men's Singles Quarter Finals at 6.0 p.m.

13.7.19. Club hosts BN's MCBA match versus Nottinghamshire at 2.0 p.m.

13.7.19. Club plays Corby Forest BC away at 2.30 p.m.

14.7.19. Club hosts BN Men's 2 wood singles play offs at 10.0 a.m.

16.7.19. Club plays Kingsthorpe BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

WELLINGBOROUGH OG'S BC

Fixtures:

- 11.7.19. Club plays Mears Ashby RBL BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
13.7.19. Club holds its Ladies Day at 10.0 a.m.
14.7.19. Club plays Thrapston BC at home at 1.30 p.m.

John G Church

John G. CHURCH, MBE – Northamptonshire Bowls Press Officer