

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLS NEWS REPORTS

Bowls Northamptonshire

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28TH JULY, 2019.

BOWLS REPORT

1. COUNTY PLAYER AWARDED A 'TEAM ENGLAND' SCHOLARSHIP'

Northamptonshire's **Kieran Rollings** has been named among five young athletes to receive the **Sir John Hanson Young Talent Scholarship from Team England**, designed to aid progression towards the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

Kieran, who plays for Kettering Lodge BC, made his Team England debut in para lawn bowls at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. He became the youngest ever English lawn bowls competitor, playing in the para-triples event at just 18-years-old.

Placing fourth on the Gold Coast has spurred Rollings on to go further. He said: "I'm over the moon to be selected. It will help me train and perform 100 times better and I'm looking forward to the next couple of years. With the help of the scholarship, I'll definitely be looking for my place at the next Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and after the experience of the Gold Coast in 2018 I'll be looking for that prestigious gold medal."

Rollings is the only athlete selected who has had the experience of competing at a Commonwealth Games.

Kieran is also the 'Bowls International' Young Male Bowler of the Year for 2018.

The other winners of the scholarship are from the sports of athletics, rugby 7s, judo, and squash.

With Birmingham 2022 in three years' time, each athlete striving to compete at the Games will receive £10,000, to support them in achieving their sporting goals. The funding is designed to give the youngsters an opportunity to progress through to the Team England selections, boosting their chances to compete for the nation on home soil in 2022.

In a tough competition to win the funding, **Team England** received over 70 full applications that met the selection criteria and were supported by sporting Governing bodies. The £50,000 award was made possible by a private donation from former British diplomat Sir John Hanson.

2. INTERNATIONAL versus AUSTRALIA – COUNTY PLAYERS INVOLVED.

As I indicated in my Report last week, England played Australia in a Test Match at Royal Leamington Spa on the weekend of 20th/21st July, 2019, but I was unable to obtain any results for that Report.

The following are those results that I have now been able to ascertain involving our County players, **Rebecca Wigfield**, Desborough Town BC/**Connor Cinato**, Kettering Midland Band BC/**Jamie Walker**, Northampton West End BC & **Kieran Rollings**, Kettering Lodge BC:

In this Test Match, England won 14-10 in disciplines.

DAY 1 – 20th July, 2019.

1. **Women's Triples.** **Sophie Tolchard, Rebecca Wigfield & Wendy King lost to** Karen Murphy, Samantha Shannahan & Chloe Stewart 14-16 shots
2. **Men's Pairs.** **Nicky Brett & Jamie Walker beat** Aaron Teys & Corey Wedlock 25-9 shots
3. **Men's Triples.** **Louis Ridout, Connor Cinato & Jamie Chestney beat** Ben Twist, Ray Pearse & Aaron Wilson 18-10 shots
4. **Men's Fours.** **Louis Ridout, Nick Brett, Jamie Walker & Jamie Chestney lost to** Aaron Teys, Corey Wedlock, Ray Pearse & Aaron Wilson 9-11 shots
5. **Women's Pairs.** **Sophie Tolchard & Rebecca Wigfield beat** Karen Murphy & Natasha Scott 18-11 shots
6. **Men's Pairs.** **Connor Cinato & Robert Paxton lost to** Ben Twist & Aaron Wilson 10-17 shots
7. **Men's Triples.** **Nicky Brett, Jamie Walker & Jamie Chestney beat** Ray Pearse, Aaron Teys & Corey Wedlock 20-11 shots

DAY 2 – 21st July, 2019.

1. **Women's Fours.** **Rebecca Wigfield, Lorraine Kuhler, Wendy King & Amy Gowshall beat** Karen Murphy, Samantha Shannahan, Chloe Stewart and Natasha Scott 18-8 shots
2. **Men's Singles.** **Jamie Walker beat** Aaron Wilson 21-10 shots
3. **Men's Fours.** **Louis Ridout, Connor Cinato, Robert Paxton & Nick Brett beat** Corey Wedlock, Ray Pearse, Ben Twist & Aaron Teys 18-17 shots
4. **Women's Triples** **Rebecca Wigfield, Ellen Falkner & Wendy King beat** Karen Murphy, Samantha Shannahan & Chloe Stewart 14-13 shots
5. **Women's Singles.** **Rebecca Wigfield lost to** Kelsey Cottrell 8-21 shots
6. **Men's Triples.** **Connor Cinato, Jamie Walker & Robert Paxton lost to** Aaron Teys, Corey Wedlock & Ray Pearse 14-20 shots
7. **Men's Fours.** **Louis Riddout, Connor Cinato, Robert Paxton & Jamie Chestney beat** Aaron Teys, Corey Wedlock, Ray Pearse & Aaron Wilson 16-10 shots
8. **Para Triples.** **Kieran Rollings, Gill Platt & Mike Robertson beat** Tony Bonnell, Barry Brennan & Josh Barry 13-10 shots
9. **Para Triples.** **Gill Platt, Kieran Rollings & Mike Robertson lost to** Chris Flavel, Barry Brennan & Josh Barry 14-16 shots
10. **Para Triples.** **Kieran Rollings, Gill Platt & Mike Robertson beat** Chris Flavel, Tony Bonnell & Josh Barry 11-9 shots

Well done to all the County players. Coincidentally, Rebecca, Connor & Jamie all won 3 matches and lost 2, and Kieran won 2 and lost 1, so that is a very good result for the County players, who each played a significant part in the defeat of Australia.

3. COUNTY BOWLER HONOURED WITH AWARD OF THE FRENCH 'LEGION D'HONNEUR'

Some of you may have read in the **Chronicle & Echo** newspaper of the award to **Albert Allen, of Northampton Express BC**, of France's highest military medal - the '**Legion d'Honneur**', and being appointed Chevalier of the Order of the Legion of Honour, by the President of the Republic of France.

This was 75 years after his exploits in the D-Day landings activity in the 2nd World War. Albert served on D-Day in 1944 as a commander in the Navy, where he signalled Canadian forces to help them land on Juno beach during the Normandy operation for the liberation of France.

The presentation was made at County Hall by Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire David Laing, much to the surprise of Albert, whose family had kept it secret from him on receiving the letter from the French Ambassador a few days earlier, and Albert believed he was attending, with his family & friends, for a 'Remembrance Day Rehearsal' so he was greatly surprised when he was called to receive this tremendous honour.

Albert is now 95 years of age, but he still bowls for his Club from time to time, and all the members there hold him in the highest regard, as does, of course the wider bowls community, who know him for his marvellous sense of humour and wit. Well done Albert – we are all very proud of you.

4. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN –MCBA versus WORCESTERSHIRE – RESULT

The men of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** played Worcestershire BA in a Midland Counties match on Saturday, 27th July, 2019, at Bugbrooke BC, and with 3 winning rinks, 1 drawn and 2 losing, the County won by 29 shots, and accrued 17 points to 5 points to the visitors.

The highest winning rink for the County was that skipped by Will Walker, which posted a very good 19 shots win, but not that far behind were the other 2 winning rinks, skipped by Vernon Gearey & David Walker, which won by 17 & 13 shots respectively.

The final score was Northamptonshire 137 shots – Worcestershire 108 shots.

Rink details as follows, Worcester skips only named:

Rink 1. Tony O'Leary, Paul Green, Roger Tansley & Curtis Johnson 17 shots – Steve Poyner 27 shots

In this match after picking up a very good 4 on the first end, the County rink then dropped a single followed by a big 5 to go behind 4-6, and although they retook the lead at 8-7 they lost it immediately to be 8-10 down after 7 ends. Curtis and his men won 6 of the next 9 ends, all in single counts, whereas Worcester collected 7 shots in their 3 winning ends, and in collecting a 4 on the 17th end the visitors were 21-14 head. Curtis and his men did pick up 3 more shots to get within 4 shots with 2 ends to play, but Worcester collected another 4 and a 2 for a good win to them.

Rink 2. David Love, Mick Spear, Simon Coles & Vernon Gearey 27 shots – Keith Alders 10 shots

This match started very well for the County as the rink won all 5 of the first ends and scored 10 shots in the process, including a good 4 on the 3rd end, and although the visitors did win 3 of the next 5 ends Vernon & his men were still 14-6 up at 10 ends. With a good run of 4 winning ends the County men increased their lead to 19-6 with 7 ends to play, and Vernon & his men won 5 of those for a very good win.

Rink 3. Danny Walker, Sam Gamble, Peter Ward & David Walker 27 shots – Luke Lane 14 shots

In this match the County picked up a couple of singles and a big count of 5 to lead 7-3 after 5 ends of play, and in scoring another big 5 on the 10th end they were 16-7 up. Worcester did fight back to 11-16 down in winning the next 3 ends, but a run of winning ends for David and his men saw them go further ahead at 23-11 with 4 ends to play, and as the County scored 4-3 on those last ends, it was a very good win for David and his men.

Rink 4. Rob White, Martin Gearey, Jack Tobin & Phil Exley 21 shots – Richard Moule 31 shots

In this match the visitors started very well indeed in winning the first 6 ends for a 13-0 lead, and that lead became 18-1 when picking up a big 5 on the 8th end, and 22-2 after 12 ends. At this point the County men had a three end winning streak with a good 4, followed by a big 5 and a double, to much reduce their deficit to 13-22, but just when they were having a good run disaster struck as Worcester picked up a massive count of 7 shots, followed by a double for a 31-13 lead with 4 ends to go. Credit is due to the way the County men responded as Phil and company won all of the last 4 ends and added 8 shots to their score to prevent a really big loss.

Rink 5. Chris Gray, John Freeman, Nathan Betts & Will Walker 26 shots – Dave Summers 7 shots

In this encounter the visitors did not threaten the County men at any stage of the match as Will and his men had a lead after 5 ends of 8-2 and at 10 ends a lead of 14-4, and in the last 11 ends Worcester were restricted to just 2 winning ends and 3 shots whilst the County won 9 of them and almost doubled their score for a very good win in which their opponents won just 4 of the 21 ends played.

Rink 6. Neil Rolfe, Mark Tomkins, John Haines & Paul Broderick 19 shots – Mark Sandoz 19 shots

This was a very keenly contested match,, especially in the first half when there were few shots between the two sides with the scores level at 3 shots each at 4 ends and 7 each after 9 ends, but then Paul and his men struck well and went ahead 15-7 after 12 ends, having collected a big count of 5 on the 11th end. Whilst still ahead at 16-9 Paul and his men were then kept on that score for 4 ends as the visitors scored very well to add 10 shots to their score, and to take the lead at 19-16 with 3 ends to go. Those 3 ends were contested very well and the County men denied Worcester the win as they won them all with single counts to tie the match.

5. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MEN ‘FRIENDLY’ versus BEDFORDSHIRE – RESULT

On an extremely hot afternoon on Tuesday, 23rd July, 2019, the men of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** entertained near neighbours Bedfordshire, to a friendly match at Kettering Lodge BC, and with just 1 losing rink the County won by 27 shots, with the rink skipped by Vice President Paul Green being the highest scoring, with a 14 shots win, although not too far behind was the rink skipped by yours truly with a 10 shots victory.

The Final score was Northamptonshire 121 shots – Bedfordshire 94 shots.

Rink details as follows, Bedfordshire skips names only:

Rink 1. Harvey Fruish, Rod Douglas, John Chester & Norman Gibb 14 shots – Mike Bertrand 21 shots

In this match the County rink was up against last year’s Bedfordshire President, and I know from my experience against him last year, that he is a very good skip indeed, and after going behind 1-4 after 3 ends, he and his men got their game going and went in front 6-4 over the next 3 ends. Norman is also a very doughty skip, and he and his men then won 4 successive ends to retake the lead 10-6, at which point the visitors really went on a roll of scoring, as they won the next 7 ends and took an 8 shots lead at 18-10 with 4 ends to play. Those ends went 4 shots to 3 in the County’s favour, but it was a decent win for Bedfordshire.

Rink 2. Will Clelland, Neil Moore, Jack Litchfield & Michael Moulton 23 shots – Terry Coles 20 shots

This proved to be a tight match right to the end, with the scores level on 5 shots each after 6 ends, and after Michael & his men had taken a 10-5 lead, Bedfordshire won 4 successive ends to take a 1 shot advantage at 11-10, but the County had a 3 end ‘purple patch’ of scoring with a 3, followed by a big 5 and a single, to take the lead by 8 shots at 19-11 with 6 ends to play. After 18 ends the visitors had drawn to within 4 shots at 15-19, but Michael and his men increased their lead to 7 shots at 22-15 with 1 end left to play, and that last end was won by Beds with a big pick up of 5 shots for a modest win for the County.

Rink 3. Laurie Harrison, Richard Somerton, Geoff Allen & Paul Green 25 shots – Roy Whiffin 11 shots

It is always helpful for the President of the Day to have a good strong rink against the visiting President's rink, and Paul Green's rink was certainly that, with Richard Somerton, Match Secretary moving across to play at No. 2 when the original player had to withdraw, and it was no surprise that they were the highest scoring rink. At one point it looked as though it might be a 'cricket score' for after 9 ends the County was 9-1 shots up, and after 16 ends the lead was 24-2 shots, but Bedfordshire were still in there and 2 ends later after picking up a single and a good 4 they reduced their deficit and after dropping a single on the 19th end, they finished with a flourish in winning the last 2 ends and reaching double figures, but it was, nevertheless, a very good win for the County.

Rink 4. Larry Lawrence, Keith Thatcher, Bob Tingle & John Church 22 shots – Peter Lee 12 shots

In general this was a pretty low scoring match, certainly in the first few ends, with my County rink winning the first 6 with just singles, then Bedfordshire bucked the trend and picked up a 3 followed by a single to much reduce their deficit. My rink was playing pretty well and we won the next 4 ends to get 10 shots in front, but then we dropped another 3 and a single to see our lead diminishing with 6 ends to play. We picked up a good 3 of our own on the 16th end, but Beds collected 4 shots to our 1 shot on the next 4 ends to be 6 behind at 12-18, and the last end was definitely ours for I had said 'You always remember your last shot in a match' and we all proved that adage to be the case as firstly Larry bowled a brilliant wood to the jack, then Keith bowled another, followed by Bob doing likewise, and with my last bowl I managed to also draw the shot for a very good pick up of 4 shots to finish with a good win.

Rink 5. Paul Cooke, Bob Sullivan, Dave Betts & Pete Mellor 18 shots – Alan Howarth 17 shots

This was also a low scoring match in the early stages, and one of fluctuating fortunes, with the County leading 5-1 after 6 ends, and then Bedfordshire leading 7-5 after 9 ends when picking up a good 4, but the reaction of Peter & his men was effective immediately, for they won the next 3 ends with a big 4, an even bigger 5 and a single to retake the lead at 15-7 shots. Then followed a double exchange of singles followed by a 2 by Peter & his men for a lead at 18-9 with 5 ends to play, and those 5 ends all went to Bedfordshire with 8 shots, but they fell short of the County's total by just 1 shot.

Rink 6. Dave Lovell, Dave Stewart, Brian Diver & John Haines 20 shots – Stuart Espie 13 shots

This was another closely contested match, certainly in the first 7 ends, with 6 singles and 1 double count only, and the advantage to the County 5-3, but Beds picked up a 3 to take the lead 6-5, then lost it next end when John & his men picked up a 2, but regained it with a 2 of their own to be 8-7 up after 10 ends. John and his men seized the lead back in collecting a pair of 2's, and although Beds fought hard to keep in the hunt, they were just 1 shot adrift at 12-13 with 4 ends left to play, and the County won 3 of those ends and added 7 shots, conceding just 1 for a decent victory.

6. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VICE PRESIDENTS versus GLOUCESTERSHIRE VP'S – RESULT

The **Northamptonshire Vice Presidents Bowling Association** entertained their counterparts from Gloucestershire, to a friendly match at Kislingbury BC on Wednesday, 24th July, 2019, and although winning just 2 of the 6 rinks, they won the match by 8 shots, due to the size of the winning rinks' scores. The highest was that skipped by Fred Bosworth which posted a very big 26 shots win, and the other winning rink was skipped by Paul Cooke with a good 10 shots win.

The final score was Northamptonshire VP's 114 shots – Gloucestershire VP's 106 shots. Rink details as follows, Gloucester kips only:

Rink 1. Maurice Tyler, Dave Thurley, Bob Brogden & Fred Bosworth 34 shots – Martin Bevan 8 shots

In this match the County VP's had a 'field day' with a very big win, and restricting their opponents to winning just 6 of the 21 ends. Gloucester VP's won the first end with a single, but Fred and his men won the next 8 ends and took a 14-1 lead. The visitors picked up a good 3 on the 10th end, but the County struck back at once with a better 4, and although Gloucester won 3 of the next 4 ends with singles, Fred picked up a 3 and at 15 ends was in front 21-7 with 6 ends to play. Those last 6 ends saw Gloucester collect a single only, whilst the County scored heavily on the other 5 ends, and added 13 shots to their total, including a massive 6 on the 19th end and finishing with a 4 on the last end.

Rink 2. Albert Julyan, Sally Hogston, Colin Incles & Ian Loseby 13 shots – Brian Usher 19 shots

The County rink started pretty well with a 5-1 shots lead after 6 ends, and still in front 9-4 after 11 ends, but then the visitors had a good scoring spell in winning the next 4 ends to take a 12-9 lead with 6 ends left to play. Those last 6 ends were pretty tight with the County just behind at 2-14 after 19 ends, but the 20th end was a bit of a disaster for Gloucester picked up a big count of 5 shots to increase their lead to 7shots with 1 end left. Ian and his team picked up a single on that end for a modest defeat.

Rink 3. Richard Pitts, Andrew Bosworth, Ken Legan & Paul Cooke 26 shots – Dave Baker 16 shots

This match was a pretty even and low scoring match in the early stages, with the score 2 each after 4 ends, but the County then took a 7-2 lead after 7, and still 5 in front after 10 ends at 10-5. The next 3 ends were good for Paul and his men as they won them all and added 8 shots to increase their lead to 18-5, but the 14th end saw them drop a huge count of 6 shots followed by two doubles and a single, for them to be just in front at 18-16 shots with 4 ends left to play. All 4 last ends went in Paul's favour as he and his men picked up 8 shots for their very good win.

Rink 4. Peter Byworth, Len Marshall, Peter Oliver & Brian Jones 15 shots – John Hudson 19 shots

This match was very evenly contested with the scores level on several occasions, including 6 shots each after 9 ends, and 12 each after 15 ends, but the next 3 ends belonged to Gloucester as they added 6 shots to their score, including a good count of 4, to lead 18-12 shots with 3 ends left to play. Those 3 ends were all singles, with Brian and his men taking 2 of them for a modest defeat.

Rink 5. Derek Essam, Dawn Lovesey, Dick Lovesey & Dave Williamson 14 shots – Gordon Blake 19 shots

In this match the visitors started much the better, taking a 6-1 lead after 5 ends of play, but then the County team went on a very good scoring run in winning the next 6 ends to take the lead 10-6. Gloucester responded very well in taking the next 3 ends and restoring their lead at 13-10, and although Dave & his players fought back to be just 1 shot adrift after 16 ends, they were then held back as the visitors won the following 3 ends to take a 19-12 lead with 2 ends to play. Those 2 ends went to the County, but just in singles for a modest defeat

Rink 6. Ollie Pearson, Richard Tyack, Bryan Audis & Richard Dyball 12 shots – Keith Hawkes 25 shots

This was quite a close affair for the first third with the scores level on 5 shots each, and after taking a 1 shot lead on the next end, the County had to suffer a run of 5 ends without scoring as Gloucester added 10 shots to lead 15-6 with 8 ends left to play. After picking up a single on the 14th end, Richard and his men lost the next 4 ends and Gloucester added 8 more shots for a very comfortable 23-7 lead with 3 ends to play. Those last ends saw Richard & his men collect a single and a good 4, with the visitors winning the last end with a double, and a good win for them.

7. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VICE PRESIDENTS BA versus HERTFORDSHIRE PPA – SELECTION

The following players have been selected to represent the **Northamptonshire Vice Presidents Bowling Association** in a friendly match against the Hertfordshire Past Presidents BA on Wednesday, 7th August, 2019, at Wellingborough BC at 2.0 p.m.

- Rink 1.** Ollie Pearson, Peter Byworth, Bryan Audis & Brian Jones
- Rink 2.** Maurice Tyler, Richard Dyball, Steve Hollywood & Dick Howell
- Rink 3.** Tony Hancock, Andrew Bosworth, Barry Hogston & Paul Cooke
- Rink 4.** Derek Essam, Len Marshall, Dennis Sansome & Ian Loseby
- Rink 5.** Richard Pitts, John Allen, Bob Brogden & Dave Williamson
- Rink 6.** Albert Julyan, Dave Brawn, Dick Lovesey & Peter Kitchener
- Reserves:** Peter Oliver, Jack Brown, Gerry Fitzhugh & Richard Tyack

8. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN 'FRIENDLY' versus BEDFORDSHIRE - SELECTION

The following have been selected to represent the Women's Section of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** in a friendly match against Bedfordshire on Wednesday, 31st July, 2019, at Dunstable Town BC, Hawthorn Close, Bullpond Lane, Dunstable, LU6 3BL, commencing at 1.30 p.m.

- Rink 1.** Wen Hill, Northampton Whyte Melville BC/Val Scott, Brackley & District BC/Wilma Walker, Corby Forest BC/Val Betts, Higham Ferrers Town BC
- Rink 2.** Anita Gearey, Roade BC/Sue Prior, Brackley & District BC/Linda Warren, Abbey Park BC/Sian Hughes-Jones, Kettering Lodge BC
- Rink 3.** Chris Cooper, Burton Latimer Town BC/Maggie Edwards, Kingsthorpe BC/Audrey Height, Kettering Lodge BC/Yvonne McKee, Kingsthorpe BC
- Rink 4.** Trish Basford, Geddington & Newton BC/Lisbeth Milburn, Abington BC/Elaine Urquhart, Brackley & District BC/Joan Sidebottom, Roade BC
- Rink 5.** Marlene Armitage, Wellingborough BC/Elaine Munton, Northampton Whyte Melville BC/Heather Lack, Burton Latimer Town BC/Janet Swift, Abbey Park BC
- Rink 6.** Margaret Tyler, Burton Latimer Town BC/Marilyn Dunkley, Wellingborough BC/Eleanor Winters, Corby Forest BC/Nancy Tebbutt, Thrapston BC
- Reserves:** Jan Hunt, Wellingborough BC/Sandy Hayter, Bugbrooke BC/Chris Cross, Byfield BC/Jill Welch, Heyford BC
- Note:** I did put this team in last week's Report, but unfortunately omitted to include Rink 6 – my apologies to those in that Rink.

9. BOWLS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 'MARKING AWARENESS COURSE' – Details

The **English Bowls Umpires Association (EBUA)** is holding, by request of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire**, a 'Marking Awareness Course' at Wellingborough BC (Indoor) on Saturday and Sunday, the 28th & 29th September, 2019, from 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. each day.

Markers are very much needed in Clubs and at County level and should have the skills to carry out the duties required in a competent manner.

The Course is open to all Club members and for those that would like to become a Regional Umpire, it is the first step to do that.

The Course will be informative and fun, and attendees will be issued with an attendance certificate and a 'Marker's Handbook' and the cost is a very **modest £10.00p per attendee**. There is no Exam, but attendees will be required to complete the measuring exercises.

It is the hope of the EUBA to have at least 2 trained Markers in every Club.

Anyone who would like to attend is asked to contact the County Umpires Co-ordinator Geoff Thomas on 01536 485972, or email geodt@btinternet.com

10. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CAVALIERS BA versus NORTHANTS RETIRED POLICE BA

The following will play for the **Northamptonshire Cavaliers** on Tuesday, 30th July, 2019, in a match for the 'John Macpherson Shield' against the Northants Retired Police BA, at Wellingborough BC, commencing at 2.0 p.m.

This memorial match was set up many years ago by the Northamptonshire Branch of the National Association of Retired Police Officers (NARPO) in memory of a former Police Sergeant John Macpherson, who served in Northampton Borough Police, and who supported Police bowls most enthusiastically over many years.

The Northamptonshire Branch arranged around 6 such memorial matches against County opposition, and although they are not now administered by the Northants Branch of NARPO, they are still played under the auspices of the Police BC which renamed itself to its present title a couple of years or so ago.

- Rink 1.** Graham Cashmore, Len Marshall, Bob Brogden & Peter Mercer
- Rink 2.** Harvey Fruish, Brian Collin, Ken Legan & Richard Dyball
- Rink 3.** Maurice Tyler, Colin Incles, Peter Kneeshaw & Mick Hall
- Rink 4.** John Cooper, Derek Essam, Geoff Hayter & Colin Barnes
- Rink 5.** Peter Byworth, Richard Tyack, Mick Galloway & Dave Cox
- Rink 6.** Peter Marsh, Graham Fruish, Brian Hayes & Peter Boulden

11. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE WOMEN 'M.E.L.' versus GLOUCESTERSHIRE – RESULT

The players of the Women's Section of the **Jackson Grundy sponsored Bowls Northamptonshire** took a coach ride to Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, on Friday, 26th July, 2019, to play a Middle England League match against that County, but they came home disappointed with a rather heavy defeat by 60 shots. The County did have two winning rinks, albeit by just a total of 7 shots, and they were skipped by Val Betts & Sian Hughes-Jones, winning by 1 shot and 6 shots respectively.

The Final score was Northamptonshire 86 shots (4 points) – Gloucestershire 146 shots (13 points). Rink details as follows, Gloucester skips only named:

Rink 1. Sue Collins, Elaine Munton, Nancy Tebbutt & Barbara Haseldine 18 shots – Cindy Britten 24 shots

This match was pretty close early on with the scores 4 shots each after 5 ends of play, but then the home rink gradually took the lead to be 12-7 up after 10 ends, 17-11 up at 15 ends, and with both sides scoring 7 shots each on the last 6 ends, the modest win was with Gloucestershire

Rink 2. Marlene Armitage, Maggie Edwards, Linda Warren & Val Betts 19 shots –J Howes 18 shots

The first half of this match belonged to Gloucestershire as they lead the County 7-1 after 5 ends, and 8-5 after 10 ends, but after picking up a good 4 on the 13th end followed by a single, the scores were level at 11 each, and then Val & her ladies went 1 shot in front at 14-13, before relinquishing the lead when Gloucs picked up a 4 with 4 ends left to play. The County was 2 shots adrift on playing the last end, but they picked up a 3 to take the win by the smallest margin.

Rink 3. Velda Cooper, Jo Johns, Jan Hunt & Alison Dring 11 shots – Joy Shelford 27 shots

This was a match in which, after picking up 3 shots on the first end, the home County was from then on never behind, with the score 3 all after 4 ends, and with a good run by Gloucs in winning 5 successive ends Alison & her players were 3-12 adrift. They did reduce the deficit by 4 shots on the next 2 ends, but then went further behind at 7-18 with 7 ends to play, and as those ends went much in favour of Gloucs., who picked up 9 shots to 4 by the County, their win was quite decisive.

Rink 4. Marian Mackie, Audrey Height, Pat Starsmore & Sian Hughes-Jones 20 shots – J Stannard 14 shots

This all Kettering Lodge BC rink started off very well in winning the first 3 ends, for they posted 6 shots, including a 4 on the very first end, and with some very good scoring over the next 7 ends they created a 15-3 shots lead after 10 ends of play. The next 5 ends, however, went better for Gloucester as they pulled back the County's lead to 6 shots with 6 ends to play. Those 6 ends saw each side score 4 shots for the final decent win of 6 shots for Sian and her ladies.

Rink 5. Nicky Hardy, Rhona Holand, Jill Welch & Yvonne McKee 9 shots – K Gent 34 shots

Two shots each on the first 2 ends, followed by a dropped 4 and a collection of 2 for the County on the next 2 ends saw the home side 6-4 ahead, and on that 4 Yvonne & her ladies were stuck for 6 ends as Gloucester added 18 shots, including 3 counts of 3 and 2 of 4, to lead 24-4 after 10 ends. Things did not get much better for Yvonne and her players for at 15 ends they were 29-7 down, and they could pick up just 2 winning ends of a single apiece, and they were well beaten.

Rink 6. Sandra Lake, Shelagh Galloway, Karon Kerr & Rose Houghton 9 shots – Lindsay Collin 29 shots

This match started awfully for the County as Gloucester scored 11 shots without reply on the first 5 ends, and after picking up their first shot on the 11th end, Rose and her players went further behind at 1-15, and after picking up a good 3 on the 10th end, they were confined to that score for the next 5 ends as the home rink added another 10 shots to be 'out of sight' at 25-3 with 6 ends left to play. Those last ends went better for the County as they won 4 of them and Gloucester won 2 of them, but it was a pretty big win for Gloucester.

12. COUNTY COMPETITIONS – OF INTEREST THROUGHOUT COUNTY

COUNTY COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY KEMPSTON CONTROLS, SHIRLEY ROAD, RUSHDEN

LADIES

LADIES

LADIES

COUNTY FINALS – PLAYED AT NORTHAMPTON WHYTE MELVILLE BC ON THE WEEKEND OF

27TH/28TH JULY, 2019, as follows:

It will be noted that one player was competing in no less than 5 disciplines – quite an achievement.

Pat Bodily, of Kingsthorpe BC and Northampton Whyte Melville BC, played in the Final of the premier individual competition, the 4 Wood Singles, first on Saturday, and followed that with the County Champion of Champions half hour later, and after lunch was part of the Kingsthorpe rink in the Fours Final. If that were not enough for one weekend, she was back on the green twice on Sunday morning, with firstly the Over 55 Singles, and after a very short break she took to the green again with her bowls partner Sandra Mawson for the Over 55 Pairs.

Saturday, 27th July, 2019 – played in very wet conditions

4 WOOD SINGLES

Ann-Marie Waters, Roade BC beat Pat Bodily, Kingsthorpe BC 21-13 shots

This match was a repeat of last year's County Championship Singles, where Pat had defeated Ann-Marie, and I know how keen Ann-Marie was to avenge that defeat. The first 2 ends went to Ann-Marie, but the next 3 went to Pat with 5 shots for her to lead 5-3 but Ann-Marie responded well to tie the scores at 7 each. After dropping a single on the next end, Ann-Marie scored two doubles to retake the lead at 11-8, and after 15 ends of play she was still ahead, by just 2 shots at 13-11. Then followed 3 scoring ends for Ann-Marie and a 17-11 lead, which Pat reduced to 17-13 on the next end, but what was the 20th end of play in this match, Ann-Marie was very pleased to pick up her first maximum of the match to take the title.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS SINGLES

Pat Bodily, Northampton Whyte Melville BC beat Linda Warren, Abbey Park BC 21-18 shots

This was a very good singles match played by two extremely good draw bowlers. After 4 ends the scores were level at 5 each, but on the next end Pat picked up a good maximum count of 4 shots to take the lead 9-5. Another 4 ends later the margin was still 4 shots for Linda at 13-9, but Pat got to within 1 shot at 13-14, however, Linda picked up two successive doubles to reach 18-13 up, and a sight of the winning post not too distant. Pat, however, produced some of her best bowls over the next 3 ends, starting with a maximum count of 4 to be 1 shot adrift at 17-18, and on the next end she scored a 3 to be 1 shot away from victory, and that single came on the next end.

PAIRS

Katie Smith & Rebecca Wigfield, Desborough Town BC beat Celia Morris & Hilary Sharpe, Kingsthorpe BC 19-13 shots

This was a match between two pairs of very good bowlers, all very determined with the 'will to win' very obvious, and the early ends were very evenly contested with the scores level at 3 each after 5 ends, but then past winners Katie & Rebecca picked up a 3, and after dropping 2 singles, won 3 successive ends to take a lead at 11-5 shots after 11 ends of play. Celia & Hilary scored a good 3 on the next end, but the Desborough pair reciprocated with a single and a double to keep ahead at 14-8 with 7 ends to play. Kingsthorpe won 4 of those last ends and added 5 shots to their score, but Desborough in winning the other 3 also added 5 shots to their score to maintain the 6 shots gap, and victory.

BENEVOLENT TRIPLES

Marian Mackie, Sue Briggs & Pat Starsmore, Kettering Lodge BC beat Shelagh Galloway, Pat Mattinson & Nancy Tebbutt, Thrapston BC 12-11 shots

In this match Kettering Lodge took an early lead, and after 9 ends of the scheduled 15 ends, the Lodge players held a 9-3 shots lead, but the next 4 ends saw the Thrapston players take over to score 8 shots without reply, and a lead at 11-9 shots, but Pat & her ladies picked up a double on the 14th end to tie the scores for a last end shoot out. That end went the way of Pat and her Lodge ladies for the victory.

2 WOOD SINGLES

Alison Dring, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Sandra Mawson, Kingsthorpe BC 18-2 shots

A match in which Alison was absolutely on the top of her form and Sandra, no matter that she also played some pretty good bowls, could not stop her opponent from taking what appeared, from the scorecard alone, to be a very easy win.

UNDER 25 SINGLES

Abby Woodward, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Lois Woodward, Burton Latimer Town BC 21-1 shots

This match between the Woodward sisters promised to be a good one, as both are very good bowlers, and they had already won the County Under 25 Pairs title, but on the day, Abby showed her sister Lois no mercy, and in a match which lasted just 14 ends, Lois was able to score just 1 shot on the 7th end when 11 shots down, for Abby to take the title.

TRIPLES

Alison Dring, Emma Exley & Tina Broderick, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Maureen McDonald, Gill White & Marilyn Dunkley, Wellingborough BC 16-13 shots

This match was quite close in the first third with Burton Latimer being 5-4 in front, but 4 ends later the Wellingborough triple, in scoring well took the lead at 8-6. The reaction to losing their lead was immediate, for Tina and her ladies picked up a massive count of 5 on the next end, followed by a single, to regain their lead after 12 ends at 12-8. With 2 ends to go Marilyn & her ladies were just 2 shots adrift at 11-13, but in collecting a count of 3 on the penultimate end, Burton Latimer had the cushion of a 5 shots lead, and that was enough for victory.

FOURS

Marian Mackie, Audrey Height, Pat Starsmore & Sian Hughes-Jones, Kettering Lodge BC beat Sandra Mawson, Pat Bodily, Yvonne McKee & Sharon Tansley 18-17 shots

What a great match this turned out to be. After 5 ends the Lodge four had a 5-2 shots lead, but they lost that lead 'big time' on the next end as Kingsthorpe picked up a big count of 5 shots, plus a single to take the lead 8-5. Four ends later on picking up a good 4 on the 11th end, Sharon & her ladies increased their lead considerably to 15-7, but in winning the next 4 ends Sian and her ladies closed the gap to just 2 shots at 13-15 with 6 ends left to play.

After 3 of those ends the scores were level, and so keenly contested was the match, that it was no surprise that with 1 end to play the scores were once more level, as a result of a terrific 20th end in which, when match down Sharon played a superb bowl which took the jack to a Kingsthorpe bowl on the edge of the rink, but Sian played another superb shot to 'ditch' the jack and pick up the shot for the match to go into a one end shoot out.

That last end was played very well indeed, with many very close bowls by players of both rinks, but in the end, someone has to lose and on this occasion it was Kingsthorpe, as the Lodge celebrated their win.

Sunday, 28th July, 2019 – in very wet and windy conditions.

OVER 55 SINGLES

Pat Bodily, Kingsthorpe BC beat Jenny Dempsey, Higham Ferrers Town BC 21-15 shots

In awful weather this was a very evenly fought contest in the early stages, with the scores level at 5 shots each after 7 ends of play, but Jenny then doubled her score over the next three winning ends, for a 10-5 lead, at which point Pat really 'upped her game' for she won the next 7 ends, albeit in 4 singles & 3 doubles, to lead 15-10 shots. Jenny was not yet beaten, however, for after 20 ends of play she was just 2 shots adrift at 15-17, but in collecting a good count of 3 shots on the next end Pat was almost there, and she completed her victory on the next end to be crowned the County Over 55 Champion.

OVER 55 PAIRS

Sandra Mawson & Pat Bodily, Kingsthorpe BC beat Pat Starsmore & Audrey Height, Kettering Lodge BC 18-11 shots

Having played a 22 ends singles match a short time before, **Pat Bodily embarked on her 2nd Final of the day**, and **her 5th Final of the weekend**, and the weather was just as awful for playing bowls as in her previous matches.

After 5 ends of play the Kettering pair were just in front at 4-3 shots, but 2 ends later their lead had increased to 9-3, but Sandra & Pat hit back well in winning the next 3 ends to reduce their deficit to just 1 shot, and after dropping a single, they scored 5 shots on the next 2 ends to take the lead at 13-10 with 5 ends left of the scheduled 18. Pat & Audrey picked up a single on the first of those but when Sandra & Pat won the next 3 and added 5 shots to their score, the Lodge players shook hands and conceded the win to the Kingsthorpe pair.

MIXED

MIXED

MIXED

COUNTY COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY KEMPSTON CONTROLS, SHIRLEY ROAD, RUSHDEN

MIXED PAIRS

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kislingbury BC on Friday 26th July, 2019.

1. Tina Broderick & Paul Broderick, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Marilyn Dunkley & David Love, Wellingborough BC 22-17 shots

In this match the husband and wife Broderick combination started very well and were 6-22 up after 5 ends of play, and this became an even bigger gap at 16-3 after 11 ends, but Marilyn & David collected a very welcome count of 4 shots on the next end to reduce their arrears, and after 16 ends of play they were just 7 shots adrift. After dropping a single to Tina & Paul, the Wellingborough duo won the next 3 ends and got to within 3 shots at 17-20 down, but the Broderick's picked up a couple on the last end for a decent victory and a place in the Final.

2. Kasey Fowkes & Danny Walker, Northampton West End BC beat Neville Bodily & Pat Bodily, Northampton Whyte Melville BC 21-17 shots

This match also featured a husband and wife pairing in the very experienced Bodily's, against the young Kasey and Danny and at 6 ends played the Bodily's held a 6-2 shots lead, but that lead was short lived as the West End pair picked up a 2 & a 3 to take the lead, and after dropping a single, picked up a good 4 to increase their lead to 11-7. Six ends later Neville & Pat had reduced their deficit to 12-14 with 5 ends to play, but those last ends went very much better for the West End pair as they collected 7 more shots to the 5 by Neville & Pat, for a passage to the Final

The two winning Pairs will now face each other in the Final to be held in September, at Northampton Express BC

EXECUTIVE TRIPLES

NORTH AREA

- 2nd Round:** **Barbara Haseldine's Triple, Finedon Town BC beat** Alan Rudge's Triple, Corby Forest BC 19-14 shots
Ian Roy's Triple, Wellingborough BC beat Mark Turner's Triple, Kettering Midland Band BC 22-11 shots
Steve Norman's Triple, Higham Ferrers Town BC beat Malcolm Loach's Triple, Rothwell Manor Park BC 23-5 shots
Pat Crouch's Triple, Desborough Town BC beat Brian Hickman's Triple, Higham Ferrers Town BC 19-18 shots
Keith Thatcher's Triple, Rushden Town BC beat Les Johnson's Triple, Thrapston BC 21-16 shots
Pat Starsmore's Triple, Kettering Lodge BC beat Allen Simms' Triple, Kettering Lodge BC 17-12 shots

AREA FINALS

- NORTH AREA:** **Ian Roy's Triple beat** Barbara Haseldine's Triple 21-12 shots
Pat Crouch's Triple, beat Steve Norman's Triple 21-14 shots
Connor Cinato's Triple, Kettering Midland Band BC beat Louis Gadke's Triple, Corby Seagrave House BC 19-13 shots
Chris Blackley's Triple, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Keith Thatcher's Triple 20-19 shots
Pat Starsmore's Triple beat Will Keeney's Triple, Corby Seagrave House BC 19-18 shots
- SOUTH AREA:** **Pat Bodily's Triple, Northampton Whyte Melville BC beat** Dave Bellis's Triple, Daventry Town BC 28-12 shots
Trevor Aston, Dave Fage & Thomas Manderson, Abington BC beat Paul Green's Triple, Northampton Express BC 22-11 shots
Peter Morris's Triple, Kingsthorpe BC beat Andy Carter's Triple, Wootton Grange BC 18-17 shots

SECRETARY/TREASURER SINGLES

QUARTER FINALS – following 2 played on Thursday, 25th July, 2019, at Wellingborough BC.

- 1. Alan Ashby, Northampton West End BC beat Pam Sallaway, Rushden Town BC 21-4 shots.**

I think it is fair to say that Pam was a bit 'outclassed' by the regular County Middleton Cup player Alan, for after winning the first end with a single, she was not able to win another for 4 ends as Alan took 10 shots for a comfortable lead. Pam did, in fact, win the next 3 ends with singles, but Alan went into overdrive and reached the finishing post in picking up 11 shots over the next 4 ends of play, for the victory that puts him in the Semi-Finals.

- 2. Danny Walker, Northampton West End BC beat Martin Walker, Northampton West End BC 21-17 shots**

In this match between father and son, the Junior Walker, Danny started well in building up a 5-2 lead after 5 ends of play, and increased his lead to 9-4 after 10 ends, but father Martin is a very experienced player and he stuck to his task and after 19 ends of play he took the lead 13-12. They say that 13 is unlucky for some, and it was for Martin as he was kept on that figure for the next 3 ends whilst Danny added 7 shots to his total. So close to the victory, but Danny was taken for a maximum count of 4 by his father on the next end, which obviously gave Martin a little hope of getting another such pick up for victory himself. It was not to be as Danny claimed his place in the Semi-Finals on the next end with a double.

The other two Quarter Finals are to be arranged on a date that is convenient for everyone, and as there is to be a delay in those, the Semi-Finals will not now be played on Wednesday, 31st July, 2019, as scheduled.

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

COUNTY COMPETITIONS SPONSORED BY KEMPSTON CONTROLS, SHIRLEY ROAD, RUSHDEN

TRIPLES

QUARTER FINALS – played at Kislingbury BC on Wednesday, 24th July, 2019.

What a great set of matches between very evenly matched triples.

- 1. Rob White, Wayne Stanley & Gavin Taylor, Northampton Express BC beat Steve Robinson, Kieran Rollings & Andy Macredie, Kettering Lodge BC 15-14 shots**

In this match the Lodge started much the better in winning the first 5 ends for a lead at 8-0 shots, and although the Express picked up a 4 on the 6th end, Andy and his men scored 3 more shots to lead 11-4 after 8 ends of play. At this point the Express men really got their game going, and they won the next 5 ends, and took the lead by 1 shot at 12-13, before the Lodge tied things up on the next end, with 4 ends left to play.

A 2 and a 1 on the next 2 ends saw Gavin and his Express men regain the lead at 15-12, but Andy and men were not yet finished, and after taking 1 shot on the next end they required 2 to tie on the last end and they very nearly got them, but in the end they were confined to 1 shot and the Express triple was through to the Semi-Final by the narrowest of margins.

- 2. Conor Bryan, Jason Bryan & Roger Tansley, Kingsthorpe BC beat Mark Turner, Martin Cinato & Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Band BC 21-17 shots**

Another highly competitive match between two very competitive triples, with Midland Band starting very well with a 4 on the first end, followed by a double, and after 6 ends of play they were 11-3 up and looking very good.

Kingsthorpe, however, really came about over the next 6 ends, winning 5 of them and closing the gap to just 1 shot at 11-12 down with 6 ends to play.

When Connor & his father and Mark put on 5 shots on the next end for a 17-11 shots lead with 4 ends to go, they were looking well set, but Roger, with father & son Jason & Conor, was having none of it and those 4 ends saw a tremendous effort by them and a turnaround in their favour, for they kept the Midland Band on that 17, as they added 10 shots to their score for a passage to the Semi-Final

- 3. Trevor Aston, Dave Fage & Thomas Manderson, Abington BC beat Adam Dally, Dean Gould & Neil Gould, Earls Barton BC 17-13 shots**

In this match Earls Barton started much the better for after a third had been completed they were 6-2 shots up, but then the 7th end was a disaster for them, but great for the Abington players, who picked up a big count of 5 shots to take the lead, which they immediately lost and were behind 9-11 after 12 ends.

The last 6 ends were extremely productive for young Thomas, just 15 years of age on the day, for he and his men, which included his granddad Dave, won 4 of them and added 8 shots to their score, and dropped just 2, for a passage to the Semi-Final.

- 4. Chris Gray, Cameron Knox & Jack Tobin, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Dave Mains, Dave Kovacs & Will Walker, Northampton West End BC 14-11 shots**

In this match the West End trio started the better and posted a 7-3 shots lead at the one third stage in the match, but Burton Latimer collected a good 3, and after dropping a single, won the following 5 ends to take the lead at 12-8 shots with 5 ends to play.

Two singles to Will and his men saw them within 2 of their opponents, and an exchange of singles saw the gap still 2 with the last end to come, and as well as they tried West End could not prevent Jack and his men picking up a single on that last end for the victory and a semi-final place.

SEMI-FINALS – played at Kislingbury BC on Friday, 26th July, 2019.

1. Chris Gray, Cameron Knox & Jack Tobin, Burton Latimer Town BC beat Conor Bryan, Jason Bryan & Roger Tansley, Kingsthorpe BC 21-18 shots

This match was ultimately, after a rather unexpected start, an extremely good one, played by 6 very good County players. The start saw the Kingsthorpe trio pick up a 2 on the first end, and then an enormous pick up of 7 shots on the 2nd end to lead 9-0, but this did not seem to faize the youthful Burton Latimer trio, for over the next 3 ends they reduced their deficit to just 1 shot at 8-9. Roger and his father & son players picked up 3 shots on the next 2 ends, but there they were stuck on 12 whilst Jack and his men scored a 4 followed by a double and a single to take the lead at 15-12 shots. It was then the turn of Jack and his men to be stuck on a score as Kingsthorpe won 5 successive ends to regain a lead at 18-15 with 3 ends to play, but once more the Burton players reacted very positively to this set back by scoring well on the last 3 ends to take the victory.

2. Rob White, Wayne Stanley & Gavin Taylor, Northampton Express BC beat Trevor Aston, Dave Fage & Thomas Manderson, Abington BC 24-8 shots

It was not to be a 16th Birthday win for Thomas in this match, which started disastrously for him and his triple, when they dropped a massive 6 on the first end followed by a 4 on the next, and from then on it was an uphill struggle for them to keep in the match. After 10 ends of play Express were 20-4 shots up, and although Thomas and his grandfather Dave & Trevor, equalled the scoring of Gavin and his men with 4 shots each, the score at 15 ends was 24-8 to Express and Abington called it a day.

The winners will now face each other in the County Final next week, but more importantly they will represent the County at the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa in August, when the Burton Latimer Triple will play the Somerset B qualifier in an early 1st Round at 2.0 p.m. on Wednesday, 21st August, 2019, and the Express Triple will play the Worcestershire B qualifier in the 1st Round at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 22nd August, 2019.

UNDER 25 SINGLES

SEMI-FINALS – played at Wellingborough BC on Thursday, 25th July, 2019.

1. Kieran Rollings, Kettering Lodge BC beat Will Walker, Northampton West End BC 21-20 shots

What a match this was, running to 28 ends of play, with the lead fluctuating between the two players, firstly Kieran taking a 4-1 lead after 5 ends and 12-6 after 12 ends, and then Will scored well in winning the next 4 ends to tie the scores at 12 each, and after dropping a double, he took the lead 16-14 shots with the winning post not far out of sight. The scores were tied again on 17 shots each, and then Will took 3 successive singles to be within 1 shot of victory after 25 ends of play, but Kieran ‘dug deep’ and tied the scores again at 20 each for a last end shoot out which he won for a place in the final.

2. Conor Bryan, Kingsthorpe BC beat Adam Pitfield, Burton Latimer Town BC 21-13 shots.

The match was pretty even for the first few ends with the scores level at 4 shots each after 5 ends, but then Adam eased in front with a 5 end winning sequence for a 10-4 shots lead. Conor, however, really got his game going for he won the next 5 ends and added 11 shots to his score in the process, for a 15-10 lead after 15 ends of play, and after dropping a double on the next end, he added a single and a three, to be very close to the victory at 19-12 up. Adam picked up a single on the 19th end of play, but Conor got the 2 he needed on the next end, for a place in the Final.

The winners will now contest the County Final later in the week, but more importantly they will now represent the County at the National Championships in Royal Leamington Spa, when one will face the Wiltshire A qualifier at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, 17th August, 2019, on green C2 and the other at 11.30 a.m. the same day on green E6

UNDER 25 PAIRS

FINAL – played at Northampton Express BC on Sunday, 28th July, 2019.

Kieran Rollings, Kettering Lodge BC & Connor Cinato, Kettering Midland Band BC beat Will Walker & David Walker, Northampton West End BC 17-16 shots (after an extra end)

This match started off very well for the Kettering pairing, with them winning the first 5 ends and posting 12 shots in the process, which included a big pick up of 5 shots on the 4th end, but the West End players won the next 3 ends for 4 shots, and dropped a single, to be 4-13 adrift after 9 ends. Kieran & Connor were still well ahead at 16-8 after 12 ends, but at that point Will & David won 6 successive ends, 4 in singles and 2 doubles, to draw level at 16 shots each after the scheduled 18 ends. This required an extra end which was played very tightly with first one pair holding shot and then the other, until Connor fired the jack into the ditch for the winning shot.

This win puts Kieran and Connor through to the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa next month, when they will meet the Herefordshire qualifiers in the first round on green D4 at 1.0 p.m. on Wednesday, 7th August, 2019.

OVER 55 FOURS

FINAL – played at Northampton Express BC on Sunday, 28th July, 2019.

Alan Coleman, Terry Brown, Tony O’Leary & John Freeman, Abington BC beat Tim Chapman, Peter Morris, Roger Tansley & Mick Sharpe, Kingsthorpe BC 19-11 shots

This was a closely fought match in the first two thirds, with firstly Kingsthorpe taking a small lead at 3-2, and then Abington leading 6-4 after 6 ends, and increasing their lead to 9-4 three ends later, only to drop a 4 and a single for Mick and his men to draw level at 9 shots each with 7 of the scheduled ends to play. The first of those ends saw John and his men pick up a big count of 6 shots, followed by a single & a double to double their score and lead 18-9, and as Kingsthorpe were only able to pick up 2 singles and concede 1, the victory was Abington’s after 17 ends of play.

This win puts the Abington men through to the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa next month, when they will meet the Herefordshire qualifiers in the 1st Round on green D1 at 2.0 p.m. on Tuesday, 6th August, 2019.

TIMETABLE FOR MEN’S COUNTY FINALS

Thursday, 1st August, 2019, from 6.0 pm. at Northampton Express BC, Duston Sports Centre Cotswold Avenue, Northampton, NN5 6DP

PAIRS: Darren Childs & Jamie Walker, Northampton West End versus Brian Briggs & Adrian Harris, Kettering Lodge BC

TRIPLES: Rob White, Wayne Stanley & Gavin Taylor, Northampton Express BC versus Chris Gray, Cameron Knox & Jack Tobin, Burton Latimer Town BC

Friday, 2nd August, 2019, from 6.0 p.m. at Northampton Express BC, Duston Sports Centre Cotswold Avenue, Northampton, NN5 6DP

FOURS: Neil Rolfe, Richard Lemon, Chris Bland & Gavin Taylor, Northampton Express BC versus Rob White, Ian Bland, Wayne Stanley & Dominic Graham, Northampton Express BC

4 WOOD SINGLES: Peter Ward, Desborough Town BC versus Jamie Walker, Northampton West End BC

2 WOOD SINGLES: David Love, Wellingborough BC versus David Walker, Northampton West End BC

U25 SINGLES: Conor Bryan, Kingsthorpe BC versus Kieran Rollings, Kettering Lodge BC

On the domestic competition front the two outstanding Quarter Finals of the Secretary/Treasurer's Cup will be played on:

1 - 30th July at Wellingborough BC Kieran Rollings, Kettering Lodge BC versus Neil Gould, Earls Barton BC
2 – 31st July at Kettering Lodge BC Will Walker, Northampton West End BC versus Keith Thatcher, Rushden Town BC - alongside the Executive Triples Quarter/Finals.

The Secretary/Treasurer Semi Finals planned for the 31st July at Kettering Lodge will be re-arranged for another date.

13. NATIONAL COMPETITIONS – OF INTEREST COUNTY WIDE

LADIES

LADIES

LADIES

TOP CLUB

3rd Round: Burton Latimer Town BC gave a walkover to Norfolk BC

MIXED

MIXED

MIXED

PAIRS

6th Round – Area Final: Emma Exley & Phil Exley, Burton Latimer Town BC beat, Adam & Hannah Smith, Leamington Avenue BC 23-15 shots

The husband and wife Exley's will now play at the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa as one of the Last 16 Pairs in the country, when they will meet the Essex qualifiers on B4 green at 2.0 p.m. on Friday, 23rd August, 2019.

FAMILY PAIRS

5th Round – Area Final: Will Walker & Jamie Walker, Northampton West End BC given walkover by Vernon Hudson & Partner, Wootton Park BC, Kings Lynn, Norfolk

They will now play at the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa against Mark Smith & Adam Smith of Warwickshire, at 2.0 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd August, 2019, on green C4

OVER 60 DOUBLE RINK -TONY ALLCOCK TROPHY

Kettering Lodge BC lost to Hemingford BC 'A' 33-34 shots. This was played at Thrapston BC on the 25th July, 2019. Rink details as follows, Hemingford skips only:

Rink 1. Marian Mackie, Pat Starsmore, Brian Briggs & Mick Catlin 17 shots – Hemingford (no skip's name) 17 shots

Rink 2. Linda Simms, Sue Briggs, Steve Waterfield & Allen Simms 16 shots – W Day 17 shots

The story of the match is that Mick Catlin's rink was 10-3 shots up and then 15-9 shots up. Allen's rink picked up a 3 and a 4 to go 16-9 up but the collection of 4 shots on the 15th end coincided with Mick's rink dropping a 4.

On Mick's 17th end they went behind 17-15 but on his last end he was holding 4 shots, which would have given the overall victory, but the Hemingford Skip managed to get in and cut it down to 2 making the final score for Mick and his players a draw at 17shots each.

Meanwhile Allen & his rink had a bit of a meltdown not being able to get anything in the head dropping a 3 and a 4 to make the score 16 shots each going on to the last end.

On that last end Linda held shot, her wood being jack high 18 inches to the side. This stayed shot until the Hemingford Skip took it out leaving them holding the shot, albeit 2 feet short of the jack. Allen was short and tight with his first wood and the Hemingford skip stayed away from the head with his second, so Allen had a chance to draw shot, however, he dropped short by a foot, missing the chance to take the Club to Leamington.

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

GENTLEMEN

SENIOR PAIRS

Area Final: - played at Wellingborough BC on Sunday, 28th July, 2019.

Brian Briggs & Allen Simms, Kettering Lodge BC beat Martin Gearey & Vernon Gearey, Kingsthorpe BC 19-10 shots

This match started off very well for the Kettering Lodge pair, for they won the first 6 ends, albeit with just singles on each, to take a 6-0 lead, and after dropping a single to the Kingsthorpe brothers, Brian and Allen took a double, followed by a massive count of 6 shots, to increase their lead to 14-1 at the half-way stage. The last 8 ends played went much better for the Gearey's for they posted 9 shots to the 5 by the Lodge pair, but it was not enough and after 17 ends of play the win was Brian and Allen's.

This puts the winners through to the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa next month, when they will meet the Lancashire qualifiers in a preliminary round on green D4 at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, 16th August, 2019.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

4th Round: John Freeman, Abington BC lost to Paul Dalliday, Parkway BC, Hunts 12-21 shots

CLUB TWO FOURS

5th Round: Northampton West End BC beat Rugby BC 42-26 shots

TOP CLUB

4th Round: Northampton West End BC beat Burton Latimer Town BC 4-1

14. RUSHDEN 'TIPLER TRIPLES LEAGUE' – LATEST RESULTS

Latest match results as follows:

DIVISION A

Higham Ferrers Town BC 'B' beat Team New Order 55-53 shots

Higham Ferrers Town BC 'A' beat Team Rebels 63-42 shots

Rushden Town BC 'A' beat Thrapston BC 49-36

Irchester BC 'D' beat Irchester BC 'B' 61-56 shots

These results keep Team New Order in 'top spot' with 34.5 points, with Higham Ferrers Town BC 'A' in 2nd place with 28.5 points, and Thrapston BC in 3rd with 26 points.

DIVISION B

Finedon Town BC beat Team Fast Lane 59-38

Team RAFA beat Team Fast Lane 55-44 shots

Team Barton Knights beat Finedon Town BC 50-49 shots

Raunds Conservatives BC beat Team RAFA 58-54 shots

Team Mazda beat Team Wanderers 60-41 shots

Team Barton Saxons beat Raunds Conservatives BC 69-28 shots

These results Put Finedon Town BC on top with 44 points, with Team RAFA in 2nd place with 36 points and Team Barton Knights in 3rd place with 34 points.

15. COUNTY INDOOR COMPETITION ENTRIES FOR 2019/2020 – CLOSING DATE APPROACHES

A reminder from the **Northamptonshire Indoor Bowling Association** Competition Secretary, John Chester, is that the closing date for competition entries for the 2019/2020 season, is approaching fast (in fact it appears to have passed!), but entries are being received, but the absolute deadline is Saturday, 3rd August, 2019. The draw will be attended to next weekend so if you do wish to submit one it has to be done at once. Entry forms are available at the Indoor Clubs via the Club Secretary, or if in difficulty, they may be downloaded from **the NIBA website**, at <https://northantsiba.com>

16. NATIONAL BOWLS NEWS

ENGLISH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Women's International Team Manager

The EIBA is seeking a Manager for its Under 25's Women's International Team. The successful applicant will be in position for 2 years and lead the selection and team management for the International Series. For full details on the position please [click here](#)

17. COUNTY CLUB NEWS

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

ABINGTON BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Rushden Town BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 2.8.19. Club plays Kingsthorpe BC in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Daventry Town BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 5.8.19. A Team plays Northampton West End BC way & B Team plays Earls Barton BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays its women's Triples at 10.0 a.m.

BRACKLEY BC

Fixtures:

- 5.8.19. Club plays Northampton West End BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club hosts match between the MCBA and the Home Counties BA at 2.0 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club plays Buckingham West End BC away at 6.15 p.m.

BUGBROOKE BC

Fixtures:

- 4.8.19 Club plays St Crispin BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 5.8.19. Club plays Heyford BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club plays Woodford-cum-Membris BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

BYFIELD BC

Fixtures:

- 4.8.19. Club plays Cogenhoe BC at home at 2.30 p.m.

CARLSBERG BC

Fixtures:

3.8.19. Club plays Desborough Town BC away at 2.0 p.m.

COGENHOE BC

Fixtures:

1.8.19. Club hosts the Licensed Victuallers BA Singles competition at 2.0 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Cold Ashby BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
4.8.19. Club plays Brington BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
5.8.19. Club plays Northampton Express way in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

COLD ASHBY BC

Fixtures:

3.8.19. Club plays Cogenhoe BC away at 2.0 p.m.
7.8.19. Club plays West Haddon BC away at 6.30 p.m.

DAVENTRY TOWN BC

Fixtures:

2.8.19. Club plays Kislingbury BC away in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Abington BC away at 2.30 p.m.
5.8.19. A Team plays Roade BC at home & B Team plays Kislingbury BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

HARPOLE BC

Fixtures:

1.8.19. Club plays Roade BC away at 2.30 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Heyford BC at home at 2.30p.m.

HEYFORD BC

Fixtures:

3.8.19. Club plays Harpole BC away at 2.30 p.m.
6.8.19. Club plays St Crispin BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

KINGSTHORPE BC

Fixtures:

3.8.19. Club plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC away at 2.0 p.m.
6.8.19. Club plays Corby Forest BC away at 2.30 p.m.

KISLINGBURY BC

Fixtures:

3.8.19. Club plays Stony Stratford BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
7.8.19. Club plays Roade BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON EXPRESS BC

Fixtures:

1.8.19 & 2.8.19. Club hosts the Men's County Championships at 6.0 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Roade BC away at 2.0 p.m.
5.8.19. A Team plays St Crispin BC away & B Team play Cogenhoe BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON WEST END BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays a Norfolk Team at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays St Crispin BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 5.8.19. A Team plays Abington BC at home & B Team plays Brackley BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTON WHYTE MELVILLE BC

Fixtures:

- 2.8.19 Club plays St Crispin BC away in the women's Triples league t 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Kingsthorpe BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club plays its Roger Horton Memorial Trophy match at 2.0 p.m.
- 5.8.19. A Team plays Kingsthorpe BC at home & B Team plays Harpole BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

ROADE BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Harpole BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Northampton Express BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 5.8.19 Club plays Daventry Town BC away in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club plays Kislingbury BC away at 6.30p.m.

ST. CRISPIN BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Finedon Town BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 2.8.19. Club plays Northampton Whyte Melville BC at home in the women's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Northampton West End BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club plays Bugbrooke BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 5.8.19. A Team plays Northampton Express BC at home & B Team plays Daventry Tigers BC away in the men's triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Heyford BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

WEST HADDON BC

Fixtures:

- 5.8.19. Club plays Oakfield BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 5.8.19. Club plays Wootton Grange BC at home in the men's Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club plays Cold Ashby BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

WOODFORD-cum-MEMBRIS BC

Fixtures:

- 4.8.19. Club plays Bloxham BC, Oxon., away at 2.30 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club plays Bugbrooke BC away at 6.0 p.m.

WOOTTON GRANGE BC

Fixtures:

- 5.8.19. A Team plays Byfield BC at home & B Team plays West Haddon BC away in the men's Triples league at 6.30 p.m.

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

BURTON LATIMER TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Thrapston BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC away at 2.0 p.m.

CORBY FOREST BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Kettering Lodge BC away at 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Higham Ferrers Town BC at home at 2.30 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Kingsthorpe BC away at 2.30 p.m.

CORBY SEAGRAVE HOUSE BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club holds its President's Day at 6.30 p.m.
- 2.8.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC in the County League at 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Rushden Town BC away at 2.0 p.m.

DESBOROUGH TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Kettering Athletic BC away at 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Carlsberg BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Kettering Lodge BC at home at 6.15 p.m.

EARLS BARTON BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Swanspool BC away at 2.0 p.m.

GEDDINGTON & NEWTON BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Oundle BC away at 6.30 p.m.
- 2.8.19. Club plays Corby Seagrave House in the County League at 6.30 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Rothwell Manor Park BC away at 2.0 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club plays Burton Latimer Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Thrapston BC at home at 6.30 p.m.

HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Corby Forest BC away at 2.30 p.m.
- 5.8.19. A Team plays Thrapston BC at home & B Team plays Rushden Town BC A Team away in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Wellingborough BC away at 6.30 p.m.

IRCHESTER BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Irthlingborough Church Institute BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
4.8.19. Club holds a Gala and Barbecue at 2.0 p.m.
5.8.19. B Team plays Team New Order at home & D Team plays Team Rebels away in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
6.8.19. Club plays Northampton BBOB BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH CHURCH INSTITUTE BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Irchester BC away at 2.0 p.m.

ISE BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Wellingborough BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Kettering Midland Band BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

ISLIP BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Wellingborough OG's BC away at 6.0 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Raunds Conservatives BC way at 2.30 p.m.
6.8.19. Club plays Finedon Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

KETTERING LODGE BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Corby Forest BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
4.8.19. Club holds its Captains' Day at 1.30 p.m.
6.8.19. Club plays Desborough Town BC away at 6.15 p.m.

KETTERING MIDLAND BAND BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club holds its Captains' Night at 6.30 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Ise BC away at 2.0 p.m.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RETIRED POLICE BA

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Rothwell Manor Park BC away at 6.30 p.m.

OUNDLE BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
4.8.19. Club holds a Gala Day
7.8.19. Club plays Whittlesey BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

ROTHWELL MANOR PARK BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays the Northants Retied Police BA at home at 6.30 p.m.
3.8.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC at home at 2.0 p.
7.8.19. Club plays Kettering Park BC at home at 2.0 p.m.

RUSHDEN TOWN BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Abington BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 3.8.19. Club plays Corby Seagrave House BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 5.8.19. A Team plays Higham Ferrers Town BC 'B' team in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.

SWANSPPOOL BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Earls Barton BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club holds its 'Jack Pott' trophy at 1.30 p.m.

THRAPSTON BC

Fixtures:

- 3.8.19. Club plays Burton Latimer Town BC at home at 2.0 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club plays Wellingborough BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.
- 5.8.19. Club plays Higham Ferrers Town BC 'A' away in the Tipler Triples League at 6.30 p.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Geddington & Newton BC away at 6.30 p.m.

WELLINGBOROUGH BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Ise BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 4.8.19. Club plays Thrapston BC in the County League at 10.0 a.m.
- 6.8.19. Club plays Higham Ferrers Town BC at home at 6.30 p.m.
- 7.8.19. Club hosts a match between Northants VP's & Huntingdonshire PPA at 2.0 p.m.

WELLINGBOROUGH OG'S BC

Fixtures:

- 1.8.19. Club plays Islip BC at home at 6.0 p.m.

John G Church

John G. CHURCH, MBE – Northamptonshire Bowls Press Officer