

# Northants Bar Billiards League



Annual General Meeting 2016

# Agenda

## Apologies

Minutes of Previous AGM – 2nd September 2015

Chairman's Report

Treasurer's Report

League Sponsorship 2016/17

League Secretary's Report

Social Secretary's Report

Competition Secretary's Report

County Captain's Report

Election of Committee Officers

Member's Proposals to AGM

Any Other Business

# Meeting Close

## Minutes of the 2015 AGM

The minutes of the 2015 AGM were published on the Northants Bar Billiards League website on the 3rd September 2015.

They remain available at this address:

<http://www.northantsbarbilliards.org/committee-meetings.html>

It is the view of the League Secretary and the League Committee that they do represent an accurate account of the 2015 Annual General Meeting and should be adopted into permanent record as such.

Minutes Accepted

Yes/No



# Chairman's Report

First can I thank you all for coming, AGM's in general are less than exciting, however very necessary for the continued satisfactory functioning of any organisation and Bar Billiards Leagues are no exception.

Speaking personally, it has been a good year where I have been more than adequately supported by all of my fellow committee members, and I have dodged several bullets, especially recently where Lorin very kindly took over my only real duty of the year organising the Annual Golf Day, and for that Lorin I thank you. My golf did not in any way benefit from Lorin's kindness. However, next year the chairman's "sport" of choice is a tossup between dominoes and tiddlywinks, (You may note both of these "sports" enable you to partake of the odd beverage whilst playing!) and you can save the walk for later on (if at all).

What I am particularly pleased with, during my tenure, is the resurrection of the Northants Open which, whilst difficult enough to organise on its own, was combined with a 4 pin competition the day before, just to concentrate the mind even further. Speaking as someone who attended both days, I cannot thank all the organisers enough (they know who they are!) it was a truly great weekend, seamless and clearly enjoyed by all those who attended, to the extent that, when the majority of people were leaving they were heard to say "see you next year?".

Not only was it a very enjoyable two days but it would seem that it will make a profit for the league and whilst this was not its primary objective does mean that our financial position is a very stable one.

We are fortunate to have many committed members of our League & Committee without whom we simply would not be able to offer the competitive and enjoyable league that we do. That said, there isn't anyone more committed than Simon Coleman, Stephen Coleman and Jason Neal who made this event the success that it is.

As in previous years if anyone wants the job of Chairman please feel free to stand, however if uncontested I will happily stand for another year, why would I not with such an entirely splendid group of committee members.

Thank You to you ALL.

Tony



# Treasurer's Report

Please see separate documents which will be issued at the meeting. They will be included in the final minutes of the AGM.

## League Sponsorship 2016/17

We are fortunate to have such generous sponsorship which enables our league to function and to provide such fantastic prizes for our League, Cup, Northants Masters and Jim Wilson Competitions. It is inevitable that we are always looking for new sponsors so please, if you can help, please do so and commit some sponsorship below.

LEAGUE SPONSORSHIP.....

NORTHANTS MASTERS SPONSORSHIP.....

TEAM KNOCKOUT SPONSORSHIP.....

PREMIERSHIP/NENE CUP SPONSORSHIP.....

JIM WILSON SPONSORSHIP.....

# League Secretary's Report

I am once again delighted to report back to the league membership as I reach the end of my third term in the role of League Secretary. It is a role I have enjoyed immensely as it has presented me with the opportunity to work closely with the committee to bring about the much needed change the league was overdue.

I came into the role with a pretty specific three-year plan and so, at the end of my term, I have been able to take the time to reflect on what we have achieved together. It is worth saying at this point, none of this change would have happened without the support of the committee and the league membership. I am very proud of what we have accomplished – where we have re-built and how we have started to not only arrest the decline of our league but to grow.

In all reality, my role has been only to present ideas and a vision for this league – it has been the tireless work of the Competition Secretary, the Social Secretary, the Treasurer, Chairman and committee who have made it happen. Furthermore, none of the changes would have had the impact they did without our generous sponsors. As we grow, we think bigger; and as we think bigger we need larger budgets with which to work. I am thrilled that our level of sponsorship has grown again in the last year and I cannot thank all of our sponsors enough. We all need to do our bit as we continue, in order to safeguard the financial sustainability of our league by finding new revenue sources and widening our appeal to new sponsors.

My three-year plan was built upon some key principles:

- We needed to increase member engagement
- We needed to be outward looking in order to grow
- The league must be in control of it's own destiny through financial sustainability

I firmly believe that we have made great strides forward in our league because our direction of travel has been set by these principles. All of the specific objectives that I set for myself and the league have been linked in some way to them. So it is useful, at this point, to take a moment to review the changes.

Over the last three years we have introduced a number of initiatives in order to dramatically increase the levels of engagement in our league membership. We have improved how and what we communicate. No longer are members left 'in the dark' as to what we have done, are doing or what we intend to do. The improved communication helps all of our league member's to 'buy in' and become committed stakeholders in our success. I am pleased to say that we have a vibrant committee of enthusiasts who are all passionate about our continued success and growth. We enjoy a growing league membership and we should continue, in all our efforts, to protect and increase that. We have introduced new competitions that give everyone more opportunities to succeed. We have given more players the opportunity to represent the league and the county on the national scene.

We have a clear constitution and Rule Book available to all which offers us a strong foundation upon which we continue to build and we have a continually updated web presence which allows members and others to see all that we do.

Whilst there is still much to do, I think we have a much more energized and enthusiastic league than perhaps we have had for more than a decade. We now embrace change and use it to our advantage. We have a clear pathway to continued sustainability.



Three years ago we had only nine teams across six venues and a diminishing number of league members. Last year we saw ten teams play in the Winter League across seven venues (well, strictly speaking it was eight after the team from Burton Latimer moved to Cranfield!). For the 2016/17 season we are likely to have eleven teams enter across the seven venues and have already guaranteed a new venue wanting to be part of the league – we just need to help them source a team. It is this kind of growth that we need as we continue.

I remember spending an enjoyable Friday afternoon in February of this year driving around parts of the county visiting pubs to talk to the landlords and managers about our league. I was able to speak to them with enthusiasm about what our league could offer them safe in the knowledge that our offering is now a compelling one. Guaranteed revenue for more than 35 weeks per year along with a friendly and committed clientele. I was pleased when The Red Lion in Cranford saw this as an opportunity for them and so it has proved. They have seen their revenues rise as we have seen our membership increase with a second team entering the recent Summer League.

Our challenge is to continue to evangelise about our league wherever we go in the county. It is precisely this activity that has also seen another pub want to join us providing we can help them create a team. A task we should relish as it will help to safeguard our league into the future.

Within the Bar Billiards community we have raised our profile. Thanks to our fantastic County Captain and the Inter-Area Captains we have once again started to be recognised for our achievements and the perception of our league elsewhere is a very positive one. It has been noticed all across the country that we are doing many things right and I am often asked for 'our secret'. As is always the case, our 'secret sauce' is not a blend of 13 herbs and spices but a blend of committed and able people who want to be part of driving our success forward.

One of our greatest achievements, which was part of the three year plan, was to resurrect the Northants Open. Thanks to the herculean efforts of Simon Coleman, Stephen Coleman, Jason Neal and others, this has happened and proved to be an unmitigated success. It cannot be underestimated how difficult this was to achieve but yet how important it is that we have done so. Even the unending commitment of Simon was tested as he tried to create an event worthy of its place in the National Bar Billiards calendar. But in doing so he and his team have strengthened the position of Northants Bar Billiards in the Bar Billiards community but also helped to safeguard the Bar Billiards community itself. We owe Simon and his colleagues a great debt of thanks.

It is clear already that this 'outward looking' activity will serve us well in the future.

To financial matters – sponsorship will not and cannot be the only solution to our revenue demands. We need to find other sources of revenue as we continue to grow. I am delighted that, over the last three years, we have seen our revenues rise through the fine work of Michelle our Social Secretary and the stewardship of our accounts by Sue & Jim.

It would be remiss of me not to mention at this point that our hearty congratulations should go to the new Mrs Coleman! It is wonderful to see Simon and Michelle tie the knot and the entire league is delighted for you. We wish you both every happiness as you live your lives together.

It is actually because of the fantastic work of Michelle that events such as Race Night, Quiz Night, Grand Finals Weekend and now the Northants Open are such a financial success. We need to do more of this so that we are not solely reliant on sponsors but we have already started to change the blend of where we get our revenue from in order to de-risk our financial future. We also need to enter into more arrangements like we have with The Red Lion where we own the league table that is in place there and take a profit share out. Not only does this offer an excellent proposition to the licensee but also offers continued revenue to our league.

I am proud to report that all of the major objectives that I started with have now been achieved – very few of them by me but instead by the huge efforts of others. Nevertheless, ticks in the boxes!!

**And so to the future – we need a new plan.** We need another adventurous plan that gives us the drive and momentum to push forward – further and faster. To do more, continue to grow to a level that takes advantage of the foundations we have set and allows us to compete further with the Bar Billiards Counties like Sussex. We need to set targets and make plans to achieve them – why not plan to secure 20 teams by 2020? Why not work to ensure that every venue has two teams per table? We should take inspiration by what we have achieved and the achievements of others. As the saying goes, ‘If we aim for the stars, we may just hit the moon.’ Now wouldn’t that be a good thing? I am convinced that a new plan will need new people – more engagement and more contributions. I would like to see more people come forward with their ideas and their enthusiasm and I will be looking forward to hearing what you have to say.

In the meantime – we will soon get down to the business of the 2016/17 Winter Season which promises to offer even greater competition than last year. Subject to final confirmation I expect the two league divisions to be set as follows:

**Division 1**

Rushden Cons  
The Cock ‘A’  
The Red Lion ‘A’  
Storm  
The Cardigan Arms

**Division 2**

Crown & Anchor Cobblers  
The Cock ‘C’  
Headlanders  
Crown & Anchor Saints  
The Red Lion ‘B’  
Thomas a Becket

Fixtures will be published very soon and I should like to wish all competitors and teams the very best of luck for their winter campaigns!

Lorin

# Social Secretary's Report

Quiz night went well in November, everyone had a good night. It could, as always, have been slightly better supported with not all teams being represented.

Race night in February was a successful night with a fantastic amount being raised despite again not all teams being represented.

Presentation evening went well, if not a little snug and early finishing. Hopefully we can look forward to an even better one next time.



# Competition Secretary's report

Another year of pure billiards bliss has passed with winners and losers across our County. All competitions seemed to have gone well; especially with the new ruling of the 7-day grace period to complete matches which seemed to work well and kept everything running smoothly. I believe there were only a couple of problems which were smoothed out eventually. Let's see if the new ruling gets changed at the AGM!!!!

Throughout the year we had some big shocks like long term legend Ted taking out Jason Neal in the Individuals quarter finals in which he was looking unbeatable during the season. We had some new names on some trophies like Stevie Anscombe in The 2nd Division Individuals and Phil York winning the Blind Pairs.

Congratulations also to The Cardigan Arms who managed to take the Nene Cup in their first year and also Jason Neal finally managing to take The Northants Masters Premier Division Trophy home to cuddle in his retirement!!

The Jim Wilson Tournament was again a complete success with tables playing even better than ever; I believe we managed 3 or 4 table play-outs and numerous breaks of over 10K. Again big congratulations to Ian Street who has retained the trophy for another year and Lorin Clough for winning the Plate.

The Northants Masters, as always, seems to be enjoyed more and more each year even though this year Division 1 was in a bit of chaos with people pulling out at the last minute (even though some did have very good reason to). The competition ran well and delivered some highly competitive matches. Well done to all the Division winners.

Even though I can't mention everyone by name, I would like to personally congratulate all the winners on behalf of myself and the league.

Well Done All of You!!!!!!

Si

# County Captain's Report

Looking back on last year and my first as County Captain, it was quite a disappointing one, which actually made me think about what we have actually achieved as a county. Starting as one of the smallest leagues with diminishing teams, we have grown and hopefully looking at another team this year we have put Northants back on the map in the Bar Billiards world. We are now a team that even the best fear to play, and now a season where we don't win anything has become a disappointing one! So I'd first like to congratulate everyone on improving throughout all the teams and also the Inter-Area teams, which I think at the minute are the strongest they have ever been!

So at the last AGM the Teams were selected with the help of the committee, and there were many familiar faces, but also some new ones which was great to see. All three captains continued their positions so it was just a matter of filling out the teams with the abundance of players now wanting to play for the county.

The Inter-Area squads were as follows:

## **Inter-Area A**

Stephen Coleman ©  
Simon Coleman  
Damian Coates  
Andy Chambers  
Lorin Clough  
Jason Neal  
Chas Peel

## **Inter-Area B**

Jason Dunkley ©  
Tony Britten  
Matt Thomson  
Dawn Dunkley  
Jon Coe  
Jim Thomson

## **Inter-Area C**

Keith Thomson ©  
Mark Dickerson  
Martin Atwill  
Kevin Ross  
Mary Leeming  
Shaun Thomson



So we start with the County 'A' and the first competition on the calendar is the 7-a-side, which is actually the only competition we play as a county. On Sunday 15th November the 'A' side played at Didcot Cons Club in Oxfordshire, in the Second Division Championships. The team consisted of Stephen, Simon, Jason, Lorin, Jason, Damian and Andy. After a very long and technical team talk of "win", wise words once said by Charlie Peel, we sent the guys raring in against our first opponents Hampshire. Now Northants have a history of starting badly and getting better as the day goes on, and being great historians we felt the need to carry this on, with Andy, Jase and Damo all losing our first 3 games meaning we were 3-0 down already! Jason D, had a very close game next but unfortunately just ran out of time, but thankfully Lorin saved us the blushes and won comfortably. This meant pressure was on the Coleman's, any losses would surely write off any chances of winning the group after our first game, but a couple of wins would be a respectable result and we would just need to perform in the latter stages. Thankfully it was a captain's performance by myself to make it 4-2 winning comfortably, Simon's game being much closer but thankfully he took the win we needed to make it 4-3, a loss but still 3 vital points. The winner of today is collective legs, so its 3 points won rather than a game lost.

Our second game was against another strong county in Buckinghamshire, this year managing to get both their 'A' & 'B' sides to the inter-area final! This time round it was myself and Simon to play first, I never really got settled against the experienced Terry Issard, and with Simon 7,500 down before he had a shot against their new prodigy Matt Jones, a player who has already won a national open in his first year of playing! Thankfully Simon managed to get the break back and get his head down to bring the game back level, played a split down to the bottom and unfortunately left a really difficult ball behind the 30 hole. A great cushion shot put both balls down and Simon took a great win to level the match 1-1. Damian played Ernie Jordan and never looked like losing, Andy however, played a tricky table but managed to make the most of it and win a very important leg to put Northants 3-1 up, which left both Jason's and Lorin to play. Jason Neal played really well and touched on at 9,000 to win his leg against the experienced Ray Hussey, Lorin and Jason Dunkley both had much closer games, however both took the games and got another 2 points meaning Northants got a great result of 6-1 against a definite contender for the day.

The third game of the day was against Kent 'B', and this time round the fixtures were reversed and so we had both Jason's and Lorin up first. Jason Dunkley unfortunately didn't really stand a chance being well over 8k down before having a shot and there wasn't really time to catch back up against Chris Saville. Jason Neal played Marianne Wright and a routine victory put us back on track and levelled the tie. Lorin's game against Vinny Mitchell was a lot closer, Vinny managed to get a couple of breaks together and put Lorin under pressure, however with around 7 minutes to go Lorin managed to get the break back and put in a nice 6,000 break to give us the leg and put us 2-1 up. Next up were the Coleman's and my bad run of form continued into this game and struggled to put any sort of break together. Simon however redeemed us and secured us another vital leg to give us a 3-2 lead. Andy played veteran Bryan Stevens, which was a close game, but Bryan just managed to come out on top meaning Damian had to win to get us the result we wanted, and thankfully he did meaning we had 13 legs out of a possible 21.

So we stood second in the group with two games to play, and our next game was against the group leaders and a 'bit part' team of Oxford. Three of their players didn't turn up despite it being held in.....you guessed it OXFORD! Anyway Damian played Danielle Chewings first and Andy played Ian Moss. Damian won his game with ease, however did make it difficult for himself starting with a solid 150! Andy's game was not so easy with Ian starting off well and got a few thousand in the lead, however Andy's resilience meant he clawed it back and managed to take the victory to put Northants 2-0 up. It was now down to the Jason's and Lorin to extend the lead, Jason Dunkley struggled against the young and improving Adam Ingram. Lorin played Oxford captain Sid Ponting, and although also struggled at first he got his head down and secured another leg. Jason Neal also played well against another Oxford youngster in Callum Bowler, meaning we wrapped up another 4 legs to Oxford's 1, meaning we should overtake them in the league. Simon and myself made sure of it with two very comfortable wins meaning we thrashed them and secured our second 6-1 of the day.

So going into the last game the table looked as follows, Bucks were in 6th with 9 points, then Berks with 11, Kent had 14, Oxford were 3rd with 15, Hampshire 2nd with 16 and we actually led the group with 19 points. This meant regardless of what anyone else does, 4 legs would mean automatic promotion to Division One next year. Our final game was against Berks 'B', and myself and Damian led the assault. I managed to win another game somehow having played pretty rubbish all day, however Damian came up against it just falling short, despite scoring over 7,000! Andy, Lorin and Simon were up next, all playing on Adjacent tables, so the stage was set, we needed three legs and had three strong players up, could this be the series that gets us promoted! Andy was playing Andy Burns against the break, but a peg at 3k, let him in and Andy knew this was his chance, by this time Lorin was already over 5k, Simon was 4,000 up so we felt good, however in another twist and turn in the race for the title, Andy Chambers also pegged his break! By now the other 2 games were in the bag with Lorin scoring over 16,000 and Simon over 12,000, it was just down to Andy. A late return to the break meant we were back in shape and Andy rallied home to take the leg we needed and meant we were champions and would be rubbing shoulders next year with the celebs in Division One. Now with the comfort of no pressure the two Jason's were playing for pride. Jason Neal was on the tricky table, but a solid 8,000 reverse break gave him the win in a truly skilled performance, Jason Dunkley just missed out on the win, however all the hard work had already been done throughout the day by EVERYONE.

I would like to congratulate all the players that did their bit and each contributed to an outstanding 24 points. A massive well done to Lorin and Simon who finished the day unbeaten, which is not an easy achievement, but also the fact Simon has yet to lose a leg at this competition for 3 years now! I feel that next year will be even more difficult against the 1st Division teams but we go into it with confidence.

Here are the team's stats for the day: -

Overall	Name	Games	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Game 4	Game 5	Total
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So now onto the Inter-Area Competitions, and after an early exit last year Northants were hoping to redeem themselves. We will start with the 'A' side and their first game was an all-out affair against the Northants 'C' team. Having waffled on about the County competition I will try to summarise this competition a bit more. The 'C' team were at home first playing from The Cock Hotel and although it was a 5-0 to the 'A' side, that certainly doesn't explain the game, there were a few games that could have gone either way but we were very happy with the result against a strengthening 'C' side. The home leg was to be played from The Cardigan Arms and this was a little more routine and as expected, however a big well done to Martin Atwill who managed to take a leg of Andy Chambers and help keep the 'C' team with their heads held high! Final Result was 9-1 with the aggregate scores of 59,040 to 17,440. Our second game was against Reading 'A', a very strong side, but a team Northants has always performed well against, and this was not going to change, with an amazing 5-0 win in the first leg at home. Although we could see the finish line, we still had to secure a leg and although we lost 3-2 away we had done more than enough to win 7-3 and over 30,000 aggregate lead. So we made it to the Quarter Finals and confidence was growing, we now had Oxford 'A', with the first leg being at home at The Cardigan Arms. Simon was up first against Allan Lacey, and he played exceptionally well to win 15,800 to 0. Next was Lorin but he struggled and Stuart Florey levelled the game 1-1 to win by 3,000. I unfortunately didn't really stand a chance with Kevin Godfrey scoring over 9,000 before I had a shot. This meant we were now 2-1 down but equal on aggregate. Damian made the most of the break to easily beat Keith Hollis by over 11,000 meaning it was back to 2-2 with Andy Chambers to play last. Alan Oliver struggled to get to grips with our table and Andy made the most of it to give us the win, this meant we would take a 3-2 advantage but also 17,000 difference on aggregate, worth almost a leg on its own. The away leg was played from Kennington and 3 legs would secure the win, however 2 and a close aggregate would also do. Damian was unavailable for the away leg so in stepped Chas, and to put pressure on him, he was drawn out 5th, in what would turn out to be the pivotal leg! Oxford started strongly with Alan Oliver putting 11,000 past Andy Chambers and eating up most of our aggregate lead. Lorin was second and looked good until he pegged a 4.5k break. Stuart Florey didn't do much with his chance and Lorin got the break back and secured the win this time banking his 7k score. Simon played 3rd and this was an important leg, we needed the win, but we also needed to try and get some aggregate back for insurance. Simon banked a 4k break early on and when Allan Lacey couldn't get the ball back, Simon did and looked comfortable. Unfortunately, like Lorin when he got to 4,000 he lost his break, but still had enough to secure the leg. This meant we could lose the final two legs but would have to stay within 17,000 points of them, an achievable task you would think! I played 4th against Keith Hollis, who started with a few thousand, but gave me a chance, I couldn't get the break back though and by the end of the game after a few 2-3k breaks by Keith we were staring down the barrel at 5-4 up with a 9,000 lead. So in stepped the sub Charlie Peel, but his opponent would be ex-World champion and current No.1 in the rankings Mark Trafford. Charlie had the break and started well with a few grand, but unfortunately Mark got the break straight back and was easily chasing down the difference. The game finished and we ended up losing by 940! It is definitely a game we will look back on and say we should have won. We were slightly unfortunate on the night with a few double kisses which didn't go our way, and they had a few pins which didn't fall, but had we kept all our scores we would have won, but wouldn't hindsight be a wonderful thing!

Just to finish off, leading back to what I said at the start, winning division two and being disappointed with only reaching the quarter finals, shows how far we have come as a county and I am already looking forward to starting our campaign next year already. I would also like to thank Jason Dunkley and Keith Thomson for all their hard work in the 'B' & 'C' Sides.

## **Northants 'B' team report** (written by Jason Dunkley)

### **Inter area cup**

After a good 2015 we were looking forward to continued improvement but were brought back earth with a crushing defeat to an under full strength Oxford 'A' side. The home leg at the Cock Hotel was quite an embarrassment with no home players scoring over 1,310, while Oxford A averaged 6,000 a man.

So we headed to Oxford 5-0 down with a point to prove and face to be saved and promptly got smashed 5-0 again, on average we scored better but unfortunately so did they.

You may notice I haven't mentioned any names (you know who you are!!) but putting the performance to one side would like to thank my team for the commitment shown even in these circumstances.

### **Supplementary Cup**

So we went into the Supplementary Cup on a downer only to face a fast improving Northants 'C' team at the Cock Hotel, frankly feeling quite concerned. This seemed fully justified when an excellent game for Mark Dickerson gave 'B' team captain Jason no chance while posting an aggregate deficit of 5k.

Tony Britten then edged out Shaun Thomson to level things, Martin Atwill then put the 'C' team back ahead with victory over Matt Thomson.

The fourth game proved to be a turning point as Jim secured a win over Mary Leeming by only 40 points when it looked as if Mary would win the tie for the 'C' team. Jon Coe completed the night with a win over Alan Taylor.

With the tie balanced at 3-2 there was all still to play for at the Headlands, with the first leg being a repeat of the first leg Jason got his revenge over Mark but in a much closer game. In the battle of the Thomson's Jim won an important leg against Shaun, meaning the 'C' team would need the last 3 legs with some decent scores to win the tie on aggregate. They certainly gave it a go with Mary narrowly beating Dawn.

The fourth game went down to the last ball with Kevin Ross needing the 200 against Jon Coe but the black pin gave the game and the tie to the 'C' team. Tony continued his fine form beating Martin Atwill.

An extremely close game with a flattering 7-3 result.

I would like to thank everybody who has played so far for their commitment to the team and willingness to travel, even when there seemed to be no chance of victory.

## **Northants 'C' team report** (written by Keith Thomson)

I really do enjoy my role as Captain and, although I haven't had the best of seasons personally, I know that everyone is always supportive to ensure that I remain the Captain for the 'C' side as they feel I am doing a good job, which has persuaded me to continue with the captaincy if elected to do so.

I definitely feel that, as a team, we are moving in the right direction, I can't mention enough how well the players are doing in the Inter-Area competitions and in the League and I feel the team have really come together well as a whole which makes a good atmosphere to be in. I couldn't ask much more from the team.

To summarise the County 'C' team year I feel it has been a very consistent performance for each member of the team, looking over results from the previous year and up out current matches we have mainly drawn most of our matches and losing out just by aggregate, lost and won the odd match which I feel is a good year for us as a team. I have recently signed John Tyson to the 'C' team; he should gain good experience from going up against other county sides. I am always supportive to all the players as they are to me also, I find that all the players help each other out in how they can improve in the way they play which has become beneficial in county and league games when I see them play.

The team has clearly improved on the performances of 2015 with each of the players improving their game every time they play. When it comes to key performances I believe the team as a whole have all had their own key performances, as I mentioned before they are always continuing to improve each other's game which has made a real difference to the team morale knowing they can trust each other's judgment.

One of the key improvements I would like to make to the team is suggesting that we meet up more often during the county season and try to schedule friendly's against other side's so we can get more playing time against other county teams which would benefit us as a team.

Our opening game this year in the 'C' Team Shield was against Wallingford 'C' and was a good start to the season winning 6-4 in aggregate.

My expectations and targets for the upcoming season and next year are to ensure that we continue to improve as team. I will seek to ensure that the players continue to play to the best of their abilities and I will encourage the team to set their own personal goals on how they can improve throughout the season.

# Election of Committee Officers

The committee is functioning well and the league is enjoying the benefits of stability, commitment and innovation. We see this through the new competitions, the additional teams and venues along with the much improved prizes all in recent years.

It is our intention to continue this trend and so we are always seeking new ideas, contributions and improvements. If you feel you can contribute we would like you to consider standing for a committee post. We hope to retain all existing posts and maintain a committee of a similar size in 2016/17. All members of the league are invited to stand for the committee however there were no responses received by the League Secretary expressing interest.

Committee attendances remained strong in 2015/16 across the nine meetings which were held.

Meeting attendances were as follows:

Role	Name	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Chairman	Tony	100%	100%	100%
County Captain/Vice Chairman	Damian	78%	50%	N/A
Vice Chairman	Ian	56%	N/A	N/A
Secretary	Lorin	100%	75%	89%
Vice Treasurer/Chairman	Jim	78%	75%	67%
Treasurer	Sue	11%	13%	0%
Competition Secretary	Simon	100%	100%	100%
Social Secretary	Michelle	67%	100%	44%
Ordinary member/County Captain	Stephen	33%	63%	78%
Inter-Area 'B' Captain	Jason	100%	63%	56%
Inter-Area 'C' Captain	Keith	78%	50%	89%
Ordinary Member	Iestyn	67%	25%	33%
Ordinary Member	Mary	N/A	75%	44%
Ordinary Member	Alan	78%	88%	78%
Ordinary Member	Stevie	N/A	N/A	56%
Ordinary Member	Gary	100%	75%	67%

The election of officers and committee members shall take the form of a ballot (show of hands) where the candidate with the highest number of votes shall prevail.

The committee extends its heartfelt thanks to those committee members resigning from committee duties this year.

Role:	<b>Chairman</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Tony Britten</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Tony Britten</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Vice Chairman/Treasurer</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Jim Thomson</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Jim Thomson</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Treasurer</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Sue Thomson</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Sue Thomson</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Secretary</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Lorin Clough</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Lorin Clough</b>	Tony Britten	Simon Coleman	

Role:	<b>Competition Secretary</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Simon Coleman</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Simon Coleman</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Social Secretary</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Michelle Coleman</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast:
<b>Michelle Coleman</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>County Captain</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Stephen Coleman</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Stephen Coleman</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Inter-Area 'B' Captain</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Jason Dunkley</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Jason Dunkley</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Inter-Area 'C' Captain</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Keith Thomson</b>
Candidate	Proposed by:	Seconded by:	Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>
<b>Keith Thomson</b>	Lorin Clough	Tony Britten	

Role:	<b>Ordinary Members</b>	2015/16 Holder:	<b>Gary Tipping</b> <b>Mary Leeming</b> <b>Stevie Anscombe</b> <b>Alan Taylor</b> <b>Iestyn Pocock</b>
Candidate		Votes Cast: <b>Unanimous</b>	
<b>Gary Tipping</b>			
<b>Mary Leeming</b>			
<b>Stevie Anscombe</b>			
<b>Alan Taylor</b>			
<b>Ray Crawford</b>			





**PROPOSAL 3 - Removal of automatic promotion for Northants Masters Division winners – new rule to be adopted**

With the qualification criteria for the Northants Masters competition consistent each year, the additional reward of automatic promotion to a higher division for the Division Winners should be removed. Qualification each year should be based solely on the published qualification criteria.

Proposed by: Jon Coe  
Seconded by: Jason Dunkley

Votes for: 7

Votes against: 12

## Any Other Business

The Northants Open

Lorin/Simon

Winter League fixtures

Lorin

Meeting close: 21:48

Thank you for attending and supporting your  
league.

We hope you enjoy  
the forthcoming  
Winter League  
Season!

