

# 2017

## AGM Report





# Contents

<b>MESSAGE FROM TONY BRITTEN</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>AGM AGENDA</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>MINUTES OF AGM 2016</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>WELCOME BACK! - THE STIRRUP CUP</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE – TREASURER’S REPORT</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>FY 2017 CASH FLOW IN LEAGUE ACCOUNT</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>NORTHANTS OPEN &amp; 4-PIN 2017 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>NORTHANTS MASTERS IV (2017) - FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>JIM WILSON 2017 - FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>SOCIAL EVENTS 2017 - FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>THE MOMENTUM OF CHANGE – LEAGUE SECRETARY’S REPORT</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>WINTER LEAGUE 2017/18 CALENDAR OPTIONS</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>COMPETITION SECRETARY’S REPORT</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>COUNTY SECRETARY’S REPORT</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>INTER AREA ‘C’ TEAM REPORT – KEITH THOMSON</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>SOCIAL SECRETARY’S REPORT</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>PROPOSAL’S TO AGM</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>WINTER 2017/18 FIXTURE LIST</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<b>34</b>



# Message from Tony Britten

Dear Friends,

Firstly, I would like to 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 is no exception.

Speaking personally, it has been a good year where I have been more than adequately supported by all my fellow committee members, and I have dodged several bullets especially recently when I was reminded that we usually have a golf day and when is it and as normal I had completely forgotten and again as last year, Lorin very kindly took over my only real duty of the year organising the annual golf day, and for that Lorin I thank you. We wait to see if my golf after my annual years rest between rounds.

What I am particularly pleased with, during my time in this position, was the continuation of the success of the Northants Open which was again a great success and again 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 (again). It's seamless organisation was 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 again next year!"

Not only was it a very enjoyable weekend, 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.

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 Britten*

Meeting Opened by Tony Britten at 20:38pm - Tony welcomed all attendees:

Jim Thomson  
Tony Britten  
Lorin Clough

Gary Tipping  
Karen Biseker  
Michelle Coleman

Mary Leeming  
Stevie Anscombe  
Stephen Coleman

Simon Coleman  
Sean Getty



Tony Britten, Chairman  
Northants Bar Billiards

Apologies

Minutes from previous AGM - 2016

League Resources and Fiscal Management

League Secretary's Report

Competition Secretary's Report

County & Inter Area Review

Social Secretary's Report

Election of Committee

Proposals to AGM

Any Other Business

## AGM Agenda



## Apologies

Many thanks to those who have advised that they are unable to attend despite their eagerness to do so.

Apologies were received from: Jason Dunkley, Dawn & Ted Dunkley, Keith & Sandy Thomson, Alan Taylor, Damian Coates, Jason Neal, David Wilton, Chris Brewer and Sue Thomson.

## Minutes of AGM 2016

The minutes of the 2016 AGM were published on the Northants Bar Billiards League website on the 19th September 2016. They remain available for review at this address:

<http://northantsbarbilliards.com/committee/>

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

Minutes Accepted Yes/No **Unanimously accepted.**

# Welcome back! - The Stirrup Cup

After an absence of more than a decade it is a delight to be part of the Northants Bar Billiards League once more. We are thrilled to have a table back in this thriving and lively pub and I am sure that we can contribute a team or two very soon.

I have had some very pleasing feedback already from patrons old and new about the table and many comments from those who used to play many years ago. I am optimistic that some of them can be persuaded to play again soon and to maybe join a team.

The table looks fantastic and I am sure that the unusual colour cloth only adds to the overall appeal – I am certain that this, along with the warm and enthusiastic welcome, will be a couple of the many reasons why we will be memorable for Northants Bar Billiards League members.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon and being part of the league. Most of all, we hope you enjoy your visit and your game.

Best wishes,

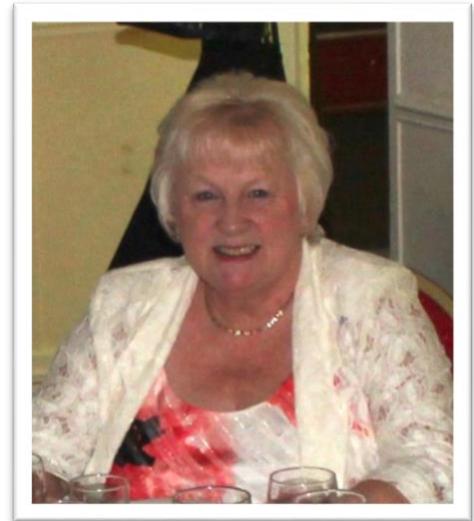
*Mark Hindwood*



**Mark Hindwood, Proprietor  
The Stirrup Cup**



# Resources and Financial Performance – Treasurer's Report



Sue Thomson, Treasurer

This year has been one of our busiest ever from a financial perspective with lots of activity. I regard this as a very good sign because this is a strong indicator that we are keeping ideas, competitions and social events at the front of our minds and, as such we continue to generate revenue so that we can invest in the league to stabilise our future.

This year we saw a bigger and better Presentation Evening, we have started to realise some revenue from our table assets and we have invested in a new table to strengthen this position. As is the case with many organisations of our type, we are too reliant on sponsorship to survive. In the last year, we have sought to drive revenue from a range of sources and, in particular, by realizing revenue from our table assets. It is essential that this model continues so that we may weather the inevitable storm of one or more sponsors falling away.

The league is grateful to those who have given their time, energy and especially their sponsorship to ensure we continue to operate on a sound financial footing.

The key elements of our financial performance are summarised on the following pages.

Best wishes,

*Sue Thomson*

# FY 2017 Cash Flow in League Account

Balance at Bank as at 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016 - £1,186.73

<i>INCOME</i>		<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
<b>League Sponsorship – T Britten</b>	£500.00	Purchase of table	£650.00
<b>Team Subs for 2016/17 Winter League</b>	£600.00	<b>Trophies</b>	
<b>Outstanding Subs from 2015/16 (C&amp;A Cobblers)</b>	£60.00	<i>Outstanding 2015/16 invoice</i>	
<b>Northants Masters IV Entry Fees</b>	£440.00	<i>2016/17 new, replacement and repaired trophies</i>	£1,420.87
<b>Sponsorship of Masters Trophies – L Clough</b>	£169.80	<i>Northants Masters IV – Prize Money</i>	£550.00
<b>Income from Tables in host venues</b>	£257.50	<i>County &amp; Inter Area Team costs</i>	£134.00
<i>Northants Open</i>		<i>Tables for Northants Open &amp; 4-Pin</i>	£480.00
<b>Northants Open Income from 2016</b>	£612.45	<i>Jim Wilson &amp; Grand Finals Day</i>	£1,041.00
<b>Sponsorship for Northants Open – Selecta Tyre</b>	£200.00	<i>AEBBA &amp; Inter Area Subs</i>	£84.00
<b>Northants Open 2017 Receipts</b>	£752.27	<i>Presentation Evening Meal costs</i>	£1,000.00
<i>Other Events</i>		<i>Presentation Evening Disco</i>	£50.00
<b>Jim Wilson Receipts</b>	£481.00	<i>Flowers for Funeral &amp; Presentation Evening</i>	£80.00
<b>Quiz Night Proceeds</b>	£108.00		
<b>Race Night Proceeds</b>	£400.00		
<b>Presentation Evening Ticket sales</b>	£990.00		
<b>Auctioned Table Decorations – Presentation Evening</b>	£130.00		
		<b>£5,701.02</b>	<b>£5,703.72</b>

Balance at Bank as at 8<sup>th</sup> August 2017 - £1,184.03

# Northants Open & 4-Pin 2017 Financial Performance

<i>REVENUE</i>		<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
<i>Sponsorship</i>			
<b>Selecta Tyre</b>	£200.00	Table Hire	£480.00
<b>Longmarsh</b>	£100.00	AEBBA Van Fund	£81.00
<b>Mary Leeming</b>	£10.00	Prize Money	£420.00
<b>Stevie Anscombe</b>	£10.00	Trophies	£137.95
<b>Alan Taylor</b>	£10.00	Raffle Prizes	£96.78
<b>Tony Britten</b>	£20.00	Misc.	£5.95
<b>Keith Thomson</b>	£20.00		
<b>The Cock Hotel</b>	£40.00		
<i>Other Receipts</i>			
<b>Raffle Receipts</b>	£401.00		
<b>4-Pin Entry Fees</b>	£173.00		
<b>3-Pin Entry Fees</b>	£533.00		
<b>Practice Tables</b>	£53.00		
<i>Total Revenue</i>	<b>£1,570.00</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,221.68</b>
<b><i>EVENT PROFIT</i></b>	<b>£348.32</b>		

# Northants Masters IV (2017) - Financial Performance

<i>REVENUE</i>		<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
<b>Entry Fees</b>	£440.00	Masters T-Shirts	£367.38
<b>Sponsorship for T-Shirts – L Clough</b>	£367.38	<b>Prize Money</b>	
<b>Sponsorship for Trophies – L Clough</b>	£169.80	Premier - Winner (£60); R/up (£30); High Break (£10); High Agg (£10)	£110.00
		Div1 - Winner (£60); R/up (£30); High Break (£10); High Agg (£10)	£110.00
		Div2 - Winner (£60); R/up (£30); High Break (£10); High Agg (£10)	£110.00
		Div3 - Winner (£60); R/up (£30); High Break (£10); High Agg (£10)	£110.00
		Div4 - Winner (£60); R/up (£30); High Break (£10); High Agg (£10)	£110.00
		Trophies	£169.80
		Engraving	£35.00
 <i>Total Revenue</i>	 <b>£977.18</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,122.18</b>
		<b>EVENT LOSS</b>	<b>£145.00</b>

# Jim Wilson 2017 - Financial Performance

<i>REVENUE</i>		<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
<b>Entry Fees</b>	£175.00	Raffle Tickets	£5.00
<b>Sponsorship</b>	£170.00	Raffle Prizes	£80.00
<b>Raffle Receipts</b>	£309.00	Prize Money	£140.00
<b>Practice Tables</b>	£52.00	Table Hire	£480.00
<i>Total Revenue</i>	<b>£706.00</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£705.00</b>
<b><u>EVENT PROFIT</u></b>	<b>£1.00</b>		

## Social Events 2017 - Financial Performance

<i>REVENUE</i>		<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
<i>Quiz Night Profit</i>	<b>£108.00</b>		
<i>Race Night</i>			
<b>Tote</b>	£226.00	Race Night Fees	£175.00
<b>Auction</b>	£158.00		
<b>Winnings</b>	£190.00		
<b>Donation</b>	£1.00		
<i>Race Night Profit</i>	<b>£400.00</b>		
 <i>PRESENTATION EVENING</i>			
<b>Ticket Sales</b>	£930.00	Westone Manor Hotel	£1,000.00
<b>Auction of Table Decorations</b>	£130.00	Lighting, Staging & Projection	£601.80
<b>Sponsorship of Lighting, Staging &amp; Projection – L Clough</b>	£601.80	Disco	£50.00
		Table decoration cost	£50.00
<b>Presentation Evening Income</b>	<b>£1,661.80</b>	<b>Presentation Evening Expenditure</b>	<b>£1,701.80</b>
		<b>Presentation Evening Loss</b>	<b>£40.00</b>
 <b><u>TOTAL CONTRIBUTION FROM SOCIAL EVENTS</u></b>	<b>£468.00</b>		

All accounts were reviewed and unanimously accepted.

# The momentum of change – League Secretary's Report



Lorin Clough, League Secretary

I get a tremendous sense of pride each time I write an AGM report as it reminds me of the privilege it is to serve on the committee of this wonderful association. Through both the good times and the through the challenges I always remember how fortunate I am to be associated with Northants Bar Billiards and how I have been given both the opportunity and responsibility to safeguard and to develop our league.

I am more optimistic than ever that the changes we make in our league are for the better – to provide a stable and sustainable future to protect the league and to encourage a future with new players. This year is no exception as we have completely reformed our website to a standard envied by the entire Bar Billiards community, we have greatly improved how our social events deliver financial benefit to the league and we have very recently welcomed a new host venue. Furthermore, our message is getting out there - we will soon have a return friendly with a team from Stevington, following a hugely enjoyable 'away' match, and I hope they will soon join the fold.

As ever, it has not been plain sailing – things are not always as harmonious as I'd like it and so we saw some unfortunate behavior this year that was far from meeting the standards in which we take so much pride. I am confident that we will not see a repeat of this moving forward as I was reassured by the almost universal support the committee received in managing this unfortunate situation.

It is also true to say that not everyone completely enjoys all of the changes that have been made. The feedback presented to the committee regarding the recent Presentation Evening was disappointing and so I will urge the committee to take an alternative approach moving forward. Just because we have made changes, does not mean that they should not be refined further – I shall play my part in that regardless of what that means. We should not lose sight of some of the elements of our league that have been popular for many years – such as the Summer League. I am aware of a loss of focus on this part of our activity and that is a pity. Perhaps a renewed focus on this along with an

opportunity to explore a little more 4-Pin activity may prove attractive – further discussion is most certainly required here!

As is consistently the case, we remain heavily reliant on sponsorship to continue on the path of sustainability. This is far from ideal and whilst we are more grateful than ever to those who give their time, energy and particularly their cash I look forward to a time where the burden is spread more widely so as to mitigate the risk attached to our current model.

That said, sponsorship has ensured that both the Jim Wilson and the Northants Open competitions delivered a profit to the league as did our social events. It is disappointing that this year the Northants Masters did not and so we are faced with a dilemma. Should we scale back on the competition in order to lower the cost base but meanwhile diminishing the unique character of the event or can we look at another way of making this at the very least cost neutral. My own view is that I would be reluctant to move straight into reducing the costs of the event without exhaustively looking at revenue generative options first – nevertheless, it presents an early challenge for 2017/18.

On a far more positive note – the league is starting to see a yield from our table assets. Whilst that may have only represented approximately 5% of our total income it is a base upon which we can build. I am certain that this yield will increase in the coming year and we must keep a close eye on developing and maintaining a plan for this.

I mentioned last year how delighted I was with the level of engagement that we enjoy from our membership – this remains so but I feel it important to underline that we cannot afford to take this for granted. There are some who do much and others that do little – this is ok and moreover this is commonplace in every organisation. However, when those who do most move on it is incumbent on others to take up the strain. I would far rather see a move to rebalancing the effort soon so that we are not endangering our league through a sense of ‘things seem to be ok so I guess they don’t need my help’ – let me say clearly, we do need your help. So, if you have not attended a social event in the last year, please make sure you do this year. If you didn’t enter competitions last season, please make sure you do this time around. These are the lifeblood of our league – we want you to be part of it.

I also mentioned last year that we needed to develop a new plan – my own view is that we should set a target of having twenty teams in our league by the end of 2020/21 season. I am convinced that this is possible but it will require considerable effort, new ideas, additional drive and maybe even new leadership. We must embrace the changes that this objective would demand and have a united committee pursuing that aim.

If I am re-elected to this role for one more year I will encourage the league to formalise a development plan that commits us to this goal and others – after all, as a committee we need to maintain the momentum that change creates because whilst it can help drive you

forward, without careful and organised stewardship it can lead to a loss of control and an eventual crash. Again, we need to set targets and make clear plans on how to achieve them. This can start with a focus on 'B' teams for each table which would swiftly deliver five more teams and bring our total to sixteen – not a bad aspiration as a starter.

My challenge to you this year is to think about your role in this development plan – what is it that you will specifically offer to help your league move forward. With the wide a varied skills, knowledge and contacts that we have amongst our membership, we are sure to be able to make this happen if we are focused – so let us redouble our efforts once more.

Best wishes

*Lorin* – Lorin summarised the year in review and highlighted challenges with fixture calendar and presented two options as below. These were discussed briefly and put to a vote as follows:

Calendar A: 0 votes

Calendar B: 9 votes

Abstentions: 2

# Winter League 2017/18 Calendar Options

One of the positive challenges presented by the enthusiasm of league members and teams that we enjoy is how we fit everything into the limited number of weeks available. It is important that we allow enough time to ensure that each competition can be organised and completed effectively, whether it be League, Masters or Summer League.

In order to respond positively to the request, as outlined in the AGM Proposals, to provide more focus on the Summer League – I would recommend some calendar changes as the most effective way of making this possible. After careful consideration of a number of options, I have concluded that this is the only way to ensure that no competitions are lost but that ample time is given to each. This has only been made possible as a result of changes that may be adopted through the AGM proposals.

Given the desire to reinstate the Summer League to its previous format with a ‘home & away’ fixture list – we must change things elsewhere. I have illustrated this below by setting out how, if we change nothing, the Summer League (based on seven teams competing as is the case in 2017) would not be completed until mid-October. The effect of this is a delayed start to the subsequent Winter League.

	Option A - current format					Option B - all Cups on Thursdays				
	League	Comps	Cups	Masters	Summer	League	Comps	Cups	Masters	Summer
18-Sep	League 1					League 1				
21-Sep										
25-Sep	League 2					League 2				
28-Sep										
02-Oct	League 3					League 3				
05-Oct										
09-Oct	League 4					League 4				
12-Oct		Indivs R1						TKO R1		
16-Oct			TKO R1			League 5				
19-Oct										
23-Oct	League 5					League 6				
26-Oct		Pairs R1					Pairs R1			
30-Oct	League 6					League 7				

02-Nov											
06-Nov	League 7						League 8				
09-Nov		Blind Pairs R1						Indivs R1			
13-Nov	League 8						League 9				
16-Nov											
17-Nov	QUIZ NIGHT					QUIZ NIGHT					
20-Nov			NC/Prem R1				League 10				
23-Nov								Blind Pairs R1			
27-Nov	League 9						League 11				
30-Nov											
04-Dec	League 10						League 12				
07-Dec		2nd Div Indivs R1						2nd Div Indivs R1			
11-Dec	League 11						League 13				
14-Dec											
18-Dec	League 12						League 14				
21-Dec									NC/Prem R1		
25-Dec	Bank Holiday					Bank Holiday					
01-Jan	Bank Holiday					Bank Holiday					
04-Jan		Indivs R2									
08-Jan			TKO QF				League 15				
11-Jan								Pairs R2			
15-Jan	League 13						League 16				
18-Jan									TKO QF		
22-Jan	League 14						League 17				
25-Jan		Pairs R2						Indivs R2			
29-Jan	League 15						League 18				
01-Feb											
05-Feb	League 16						League 19				
08-Feb		2nd Div Indivs R2						2nd Div Indivs R2			
12-Feb			NC/Prem SF				League 20				
15-Feb									NC/Prem SF		

19-Feb	League 17					League 21				
22-Feb							Blind Pairs QF			
26-Feb	League 18					League 22				
01-Mar		Blind Pairs QF						NC/Prem Final 1st leg		
05-Mar	League 19					PREP WEEK				
08-Mar										
12-Mar	League 20								M 1	
15-Mar		Pairs QF						TKO SF		
19-Mar	League 21								M 2	
22-Mar								NC/Prem Final 2nd leg		
26-Mar			NC/Prem Final 1st Leg						M 3	
29-Mar		2nd Div Indivs QF					Pairs QF			
02-Apr	Bank Holiday					Bank Holiday				
05-Apr										
09-Apr	League 22								M 4	
12-Apr		Indivs QF					Indivs QF			
16-Apr			NC/Prem Final 2nd Leg						M 5	
19-Apr							2nd Div Indivs QF			
23-Apr			TKO SF						M 6	
30-Apr				M 1					M 7	
05-May	Grand Finals					Grand Finals				
06-Jun	Jim Wilson					Jim Wilson				
07-May				M 2						S 1
14-May				M 3						S 2
21-May				M 4						S 3
28-May	Bank Holiday					Bank Holiday				
04-Jun				M 5						S 4
11-Jun				M 6						S 5
18-Jun				M 7						S 6
25-Jun	PREP WEEK									S 7

02-Jul				S 1					S 8	
07-Jul	Presentation Evening					Presentation Evening				
09-Jul				S 2					S 9	
16-Jul				S 3					S 10	
23-Jul				S 4					S 11	
30-Jul				S 5					S 12	
06-Aug	Bank Holiday					Bank Holiday				
13-Aug				S 6					S 13	
20-Aug				S 7					S 14	
27-Aug	Bank Holiday					Bank Holiday				
03-Sep				S 8		PREP WEEK				
10-Sep				S 9	Winter 18/19 - 1					
17-Sep				S 10						
24-Sep				S 11						
01-Oct				S 12						
08-Oct				S 13						
15-Oct				S 14						

# Competition Secretary's Report

I would like to start with congratulations to all the winners of each of the competitions.

This year we had it all, 2nd Division Individuals favourite Stevie Anscombe won it for his 2nd year running and 'underdogs' Simon and Ian won the final of the Pairs. Ted, who just loves the Blind Pairs won it again with Mick Haynes beating current champions Simon and Phil. This is now Ted's third win of this trophy in the five years it's been running – some achievement. Fortunately for everyone in the coming year, he only seems to win it every other year! In the Individual Knockout it was a repeat of last year's final with Simon playing Andy, unfortunately for Andy it ended up with Simon winning again for the 3rd consecutive year which is now his 8th Northants Individual title.



**Simon Coleman,  
Competition Secretary**

Onto the teams and in the Nene Cup we saw The Headlanders use all their experience to edge out The Cock 'C' in a strongly contested final. Meanwhile, the Premiership saw The Storm beat the Cock 'A', although the Cock 'A' got their revenge in the Team Knockout Final with Mary handling all the pressure to secure a 3 2 win.

The Jim Wilson this year was held at The Cock Hotel for its first time and we had an overwhelming response of positive feedback, we realise it is a bit tight when playing or spectating but I think that people are happy to accept that due to the many other positive points of the venue. Great food and drink at cheap prices, a typical pub atmosphere and very helpful and welcoming of the Staff are uppermost in people's messages of support.

This year as ever saw some big guns taking on each other in the first round, for the second year running Simon beat Lorin in the first round. Lorin therefore took his usual place in the plate, although he did show his superiority to take the competition on and win it. It was not as easy as expected though as in the final he played Shaun and with Lorin having a 3K+ advantage Shaun didn't give up and came back and took the lead and with chances to win it but unfortunately, he fell at the last hurdle with Lorin potting the last ball for a draw. It did go to a playoff with Lorin taking the victory. Keith eagerly watched every minute of the final with a slight tear in his eye with Shaun coming so close to taking the trophy, but I'm sure it was still a very proud moment.

In the main event we saw Jason Neal get to the final by knocking out Simon in the 2nd round to secure his place. Meanwhile, in the other half Stephen played Andy, Andy played superbly in the first leg getting the highest break of the day of 13k+ but then in the second leg saw Stephen break down at 11k with Andy to miss and Stephen getting the break straight back to clinch the place in the final. The Final was played on a tough table with both getting chances but Stephen played the most consistent and managed to clinch his own first Northants Major trophy. He has proved to us all over the last few years he was good enough to secure a result like this and now he has proved to himself so watch out everyone next year!



We also had the 4-Pin Open and The Northants open which again was a massive success, it was held at The Cock Hotel once again. It is now an annual event on our calendar which brings in all the top players from across the country proving their worth. With numbers down across the country in opens this year we did extremely well to be up there on the highest number of entries. Again we had fantastic feedback from a lot of people and everyone looking forward to playing again next year. Northants players had

success in the tournament with Andy Chambers reaching the Semi-Finals of the 4 Pin tournament and Simon reaching the final of the 3-Pin and just missing out against the No.1 in England who also is England captain.

I would like to personally thank over the Jim Wilson and Open Weekend everyone for supporting it, the sponsors as without them we could not go ahead. Tony, John and Jim for help with the lifting and setting up. Lorin for helping with behind the scenes stuff and web support, Rob and Liz for being made so welcome and letting us have the run of the pub, Michelle and Leanne who ran the raffle and once again made a massive amount of money and finally Stephen and Jason who basically run the day while I just sit back and drink all day!!!

Last but not least we have The Masters, the competition everyone keeps check on all winter season to find out which division they will end up in. The enthusiasm for this seems to get better each year. It's a challenge to become the Masters champion of your own division - which is calculated from all your winter's scores and wins. Division 4 was won again this year by Shaun, with Karen coming a very close 2nd as she only dropped three legs on her way. Shaun also won the Highest Score and Aggregate prizes. Kevin Ayres took the title in Division 3 with a new record amount of points with 17 so very well done

to him – however, in 2nd place was a very unlucky Rob who was runner up even though he'd won all his games. Jason Dunkley won the 2nd Division for his 2nd time with Jon coming a close 2<sup>nd</sup>, which was a great performance given he had come up from Division 3 the previous year as champion. John Tyson was only one game from winning the division when he lost to Jon on his own table. Nevertheless, he did secure the highest score and aggregate prizes as consolation. Chas had a good year with a new record points tally to win Division 1. Matthew came a very close 2nd with a points total which in any other year would have won the division. Tony did very well to get the highest break and Chas grabbed the aggregate. The premier league again was being contested for the top spot with a different winner so far each year. Lorin started very strongly winning his first three games but it then went downhill from there and allowed others to catch up. On the last day we could have had any one of four players winning it, just to show how close it was Damian could have won the Premier but after his last game he finished 7, with Damian and Stephen losing on the last night it allowed Simon to become another name on the Master's trophy without even playing. Lorin ended up with winning the highest aggregate for the 2nd year running and the highest break for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in succession. Jason Neal ended the competition as Runner Up continuing the pattern that the winner from the previous year has always finished second in the year following their success.

### *Simon Coleman*

Simon summarised his report and added his disappointment that numbers for the Jim Wilson event had slipped below our aspiration quite significantly. This is against a backdrop of good levels of participation elsewhere.

For the forthcoming year key dates are:

Jim Wilson weekend – 6<sup>th</sup> May

Northants Open weekend – 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> May

# County Secretary's Report

## County Championships Division 1

After promotion from the second division last season, it was our challenge to stay up this year against the very strongest teams in the country. The division was made up of five other sides which included Sussex 'A', Kent 'A', Oxon 'A', Berks 'A' and Surrey. The team selected to represent Northants A was Stephen Coleman, Simon Coleman, Damian Coates, Jason Neal, Ian Street and Jason Dunkley.

Northants first game was a difficult game against Kent A, in our usual form we started poorly and only managed to win one of the first seven legs with a win for Ian Street. That game in itself was enough to pretty much write us off with a chance of winning the division, but our goal of staying up was still very much possible. Game 2 was not much better with a 2-5 loss to another strong side in Oxford 'A'. This time Stephen added to another win for Ian to give Northants their 2 points, some big performances would now be required to keep us up. Thankfully by Game 3 we found some form and managed to beat Surrey 5-2, and given they were also competing to stay up this was a massive match in putting some points between us. Wins came from Stephen, Ian, Lorin, Simon and Damian.

Sussex who are quite possibly the favourites to win the division were next and this was a vital game to not ruin all the hard work from the previous match. A respectable 4-3 loss with a couple of games which could have gone either way, meant Northants was still a few points ahead of Surrey and could concentrate on their ambition of staying in Division 1. The final game of the day was against Berks 'A', and Northants had a 4-point gap from Surrey who footed the table. This meant that, when including the aggregate score we had compiled, only three legs against Berks would guarantee safety. In the last game Northants rekindled their form and secured five legs and made sure they will be in the top division for next season! The final Scores were:-

Kent A	6 v 1	Northants
Northants	2 v 5	Oxford A
Surrey	2 v 5	Northants
Sussex A	4 v 3	Northants
Northants	5 v 2	Berks A



Stephen Coleman,  
Northants County Captain

## Individual Aves

Player	P	W	L	AGG	AVE
Ian Street	5	4	1	39430	7886
Stephen Coleman	5	4	1	32550	6510
Damian Coates	5	3	2	26890	5378
Lorin Clough	5	2	3	27730	5546
Simon Coleman	5	2	3	22340	4468
Jason Neal	5	1	4	24370	4874
Jason Dunkley	5	0	5	11260	2252

## Main Inter-Area Comp 2016

A quick recap of the 2016 competition which started with a Round 1 match against Northants 'C' with a 9-1 win over both legs. Then in the second round we had what seems to have become our annual game against Reading 'A' and after a comfortable 5-0 home win and two legs away it was enough to put us into Round 3. Oxford 'A' would be our opponents in the third round and although it would be a difficult game Northants managed to take a 3-2 advantage back to Oxford. In the away leg we managed to take two of the first three legs meaning we only required one more leg to get the win. Unfortunately Oxford took both legs and after Mark Trafford scored over 13,500 it meant Oxford went through on aggregate with a difference of 940!!!

## Main Inter-Area Comp 2017

Northants 'A' started this year with our normal game against Reading 'A' and the first leg was played at The Cardigan Arms, and wins from Lorin, Andy and Stewart Greenaway meant we could take an advantage back down to Reading. We also won the first two legs away meaning that as long as we could keep their aggregate down we didn't need any more legs. The match finished 5-5 but we went forward with a 13,000 higher aggregate. In Round 3 we would play High Wycombe 'B' and decided a venue change for the home leg, with Rushden being selected. This was a great decision from the captain and Northants managed to secure a 5-0 win in the first leg, and although maybe some complacency set in we won a leg away meaning we got through and are awaiting the results to find who we play in the Semi Finals which is to be played over Aug-Sep.

Thanks

*Stephen*

Stephen summarised his report and added that we are now delivering consistent performances at the highest levels of the game. Dates will be published soon for future County & Inter Area events.

# Inter Area 'C' Team Report – Keith Thomson

It's been a great start to the Inter Area 'C' team's year having already won two out of three matches with aggregate score victories. I am very pleased with this and I am sure that this shows a massive improvement compared to last year's results. This in itself shows that the team as a whole have improved massively and continue to do so.

I am pleased to have been able to add quality to my team with the introduction of Dunc Harris, Andy Jarvie and Nick Faulkner who are all a great contribution for the team. With the games that we have played so far everyone has played really well and can't wait to see how we get on in the rest of the season.

As a team we play well together and are all very supportive of each other. Team members are trying to help each other improve their games which is great to see. I am continuing to enjoy my time being the captain which I hope to carry on for another year, and again I can't say how pleased I am with the team.

When it comes to the Inter Area cup for 2017 unfortunately we were knocked out of the first round by Witney 'A', but we are in the second round of the C-team shield which is where our efforts are truly focused.

I also plan to arrange a couple of friendly games between our regular matches - I know this will be great fun for everybody and will help toward improving our game.

My expectations and targets for the upcoming season and next year is to ensure that we continue to improve as team and to build on the consistency that they are starting to show. I will ensure that the players will be playing 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.

I definitely feel that we are continuing to move in the right direction, I know that the rest of the season will be a successful one.

Kind regards

*Keith Thomson*



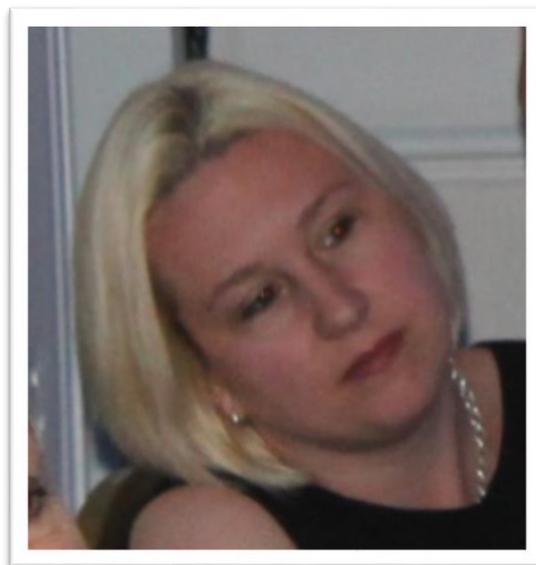
Keith Thomson, Inter Area  
'C' Team Captain

# Social Secretary's Report

The 2016/17 year has been a busy one and overall has gone well.

The Golf day took place last summer and had some great feedback from those who attended. Likewise, November's Quiz Night was well attended and had lots of positive feedback.

In February we had our annual Race Night which again was well attended and raised even more money for the league than we had in the previous year which was a fantastic achievement. These events are crucial to us as they ensure our viability each year.



Michelle Coleman, Social Secretary

This year's Presentation Evening saw the return of it being separate social event with a lovely meal. There was a slight increase in the attendance and it generally received positive feedback.

I would like to add that although I say all events have good attendance there are still teams that show little or no support, which is disappointing. The events we have are arranged for the continual support and funding of the league. It is important that the teams that fought to save the league when the tables had to be bought and those who value the opportunity to voice their opinions on how the league is organised must continue to show their commitment by attending and supporting the events.

Hoping we get the support of all this year.

Thanks

*Michelle*

Michelle summarised her report adding a further plea for all teams and as many players as possible to support the important fundraising events that we hold.

# Election of Committee Officers

The committee continues to function effectively and it is clear that the league is reaping the benefits of this in its management and leadership. The committee continues to work hard to innovate whilst balancing the sustainability of the league.

It is our intention to continue this in the next year 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 2017/18.

Sadly, Alan Taylor will be standing down from Committee duties as he has competing priorities this year and so it would be great if someone else could spare their time and enthusiasm. All members of the league are invited to stand for the committee however there were no responses received by the League Secretary expressing interest.

Meeting attendances for the last four years have been as follows:

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>
Chairman	Tony Britten	100%	100%	100%	88%
County Captain/Vice Chairman	Damian Coates	78%	50%	N/A	N/A
Vice Chairman	Ian Jellis	56%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vice Treasurer/Vice Chairman	Jim Thomson	78%	75%	67%	50%
Secretary	Lorin Clough	100%	75%	89%	88%
Treasurer	Sue Thomson	11%	13%	0%	13%
Competition Secretary	Simon Coleman	100%	100%	100%	100%
Social Secretary	Michelle Coleman	67%	100%	44%	63%
Ordinary Member/County Captain	Stephen Coleman	33%	63%	78%	100%
Inter Area 'B' Captain	Jason Dunkley	100%	63%	56%	38%
Inter Area 'C' Captain	Keith Thomson	78%	50%	89%	75%
Ordinary Member	Iestyn Pocock	67%	25%	33%	N/A
Ordinary Member	Mary Leeming	N/A	75%	44%	75%
Ordinary Member	Alan Taylor	78%	88%	78%	50%
Ordinary Member	Gary Tipping	100%	75%	67%	63%
Ordinary Member	Stevie Anscombe	N/A	N/A	56%	50%
Ordinary Member	Ray Crawford	N/A	N/A	N/A	50%

Given that no notifications were received of league members wishing to contest Committee roles this year, it is proposed that those standing for committee posts shall be elected en bloc.

Proposal Accepted Yes/No **Accepted Unanimously**

New members voted onto the committee as follows:

**Sean Getty was nominated to join the committee as follows:**

**Proposer: Mary Leeming**

**Seconded by: Tony Britten**

**Vote: Unanimous in favour**



## Proposal's to AGM

### **PROPOSAL 1 (Committee Proposal) – Payment of Team Subs – Amendment to Rule 31**

In order to eliminate the delay of the receipt of team subs (often running into many months), these shall now be payable on the occasion of the first Winter League match of the season.

Proposed by: Committee  
Seconded by: Committee

Votes for: **Unanimous**  
**Proposal carried**

Votes against:



Green  
Red  
Blue

7x white and 1x Red  
7x yellow and 1x blue  
7x white and 1x Red

Proposed by: Lorin Clough  
Seconded by: Simon Coleman

Votes for: 7

Votes against: 3

Proposal carried.



# Winter 2017/18 Fixture List

It is anticipated that we will have a minimum of 11 teams for the forthcoming Winter League season and they shall be split as follows:

## Division 1

Rushden Cons  
The Cock 'A'  
Storm  
The Cardigan Arms  
The Red Lion

## Division 2

Headlanders  
The Cock 'C'  
Crown & Anchor Cobblers  
Crown & Anchor Saints  
St Jimmy's WMC  
The Stirrup Cup

## Fixtures

Team numbers were selected at random and are as follows:

- 1 The Red Lion
- 2 Rushden Cons
- 3 C&A Saints
- 4 Headlanders
- 5 St Jimmy's
- 6 The Cock 'C'
- 7 The Stirrup Cup
- 8 C&A Cobblers
- 9 Storm
- 10 BYE
- 11 The Cock 'A'
- 12 The Cardigan Arms

Wk 1	Wk 2	Wk 3	Wk 4	Wk 5	Wk 6	Wk 7	Wk 8	Wk 9	Wk 10	Wk 11
1 vs 2	1 vs 3	3 vs 2	1 vs 5	4 vs 3	1 vs 7	5 vs 4	1 vs 9	6 vs 5	1 vs 11	7 vs 6
3 vs 11	2 vs 12	4 vs 1	2 vs 4	5 vs 2	2 vs 6	6 vs 3	2 vs 8	7 vs 4	2 vs 10	8 vs 5
4 vs 10	8 vs 7	5 vs 11	3 vs 12	6 vs 1	3 vs 5	7 vs 2	3 vs 7	8 vs 3	3 vs 9	9 vs 4
5 vs 9	9 vs 6	6 vs 10	9 vs 8	7 vs 11	4 vs 12	8 vs 1	4 vs 6	9 vs 2	4 vs 8	10 vs 3
6 vs 8	10 vs 5	7 vs 9	10 vs 7	8 vs 10	10 vs 9	9 vs 11	5 vs 12	10 vs 1	5 vs 7	11 vs 2
12 vs 7	11 vs 4	12 vs 8	11 vs 6	12 vs 9	11 vs 8	12 vs 10	11 vs 10	12 vs 11	6 vs 12	12 vs 1

**Fixtures are then reversed for the second half of the season**

The above fixture list and league division split was accepted by all and shall be adopted for the 2017/18 season.

## Any Other Business

None.

Meeting closed – 21:40.

Thank you for attending and supporting your league.

We hope you enjoy and have a successful Winter League Season!

