



Founded 1906

Year Book 1974

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS 1974

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SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1974

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to submit this brief report of the events of 1974.

Our President

Sadly, ill-health has denied to Arthur Strickland much of the pleasure of his year as the President of our Association. Arthur suffered illness shortly after taking office and was then unable to take any part in our activities until early September when he was able to join his colleagues at Thrapston for the Under 40's match, and to see some enterprising and enjoyable bowling in a gale-force wind.

We congratulate our President on his recovery and give him our best wishes for continued and speedy progress to full health and strength.

Affiliated Clubs

We began 1974 with 76 affiliated clubs and for a few weeks following the September Council Meeting, the number stood at 78: we are pleased to welcome Wittering B.C. and Kislingbury B.C. into our Association and wish them a long and happy future with us.

As I write this, I have learned that the Kettering G.U.S. Club will leave the N.B.A. this year: however, many of the members will be bowling with other clubs in the Kettering area in future years.

County Matches

During the season we have played a total of 26 matches, of which 17 were friendly games: the results were as follows:—

	P	W	Td.	L	Shots	
					For	Agst
Middleton Cup	3	2	—	1	367	336
Midland Counties	6	5	1	—	761	640
Friendly	17	9	2	6	1977	1981

In the Middleton Cup, we lost what proved to be the vital game against Herts.—and Herts. went forward to the Quarter Finals.

The Midland Counties Championship produced a lot of very keen bowling. In two matches the result remained in doubt until the final wood was bowled. Against Worcestershire, 2 shots on the final end tied the game for us. Against Warwickshire, 2 shots on the final end gave us a victory by that margin.

Our friendly matches continue to provide good bowling and new friends wherever our fixtures take us: the popularity of the matches is proved by the support they receive. For one match in 1974, the Selection Committee had the task of nominating a team from a list containing 148 names.

County Competitions

Success eluded Northamptonshire bowlers in the National Championships, but within the County, the Competitions provided much very competitive bowling, and the 1974 Competition winners include a blend of established names and new faces. In 1974, eight players qualified for the County Badge by reaching the final of one of the Competitions.

The President's Tour

Very early in the year, the Emergency Committee had to decide whether to proceed with the 1974 Tour as it became known that our President would be prevented by illness from taking part.

With the support of three Past Presidents, and the Chairman of the Vice-Presidents' Association, a plan was prepared so that these gentlemen, together with the Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents, would each preside on one day of the Tour.

The touring party enjoyed a week of splendid weather in Devon and won four of their six matches, and came home decorated with a "limited-edition" tie apiece. The President received a present from the Touring Party as a memento of the Tour he was unable to share.

Annual Dinner and Dance

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held at Wicksteed Park on October 23rd, with D'Arcy Drayton, Senior Vice-President of the E.B.A., and Midland Counties President Jack Jarvis as our principal guests.

The evening was very successful within the limits of the support received: including our guests, only 172 were present and of 76 affiliated clubs, only 15 were represented at the Dinner.

May I take this opportunity to thank my friend, Past President and Toastmaster George Robinson, for the very considerable help he gives me on these occasions.

International Trial Match

As usual, our full quota of nominations for the International Trial was submitted: if your Selectors were surprised by one omission from the Trial Teams, they were pleased that George Wills was again recognised, and delighted when.

after three Trials, he was selected for the England team. Congratulations to George, and best wishes for future years.

The Selection Committee

The Selection Committee met on 20 occasions. This year we are indebted to Wellingborough Town, West End, Kettering Conservative and Pianoforte Supplies Clubs, who provided facilities for Selection Committee Meetings. In addition to these meetings, the Selectors are present in force at all Middleton Cup and Midland Counties Matches, and also at the Middleton Cup Trial and the "Under 40's" match.

Much time is devoted to trying to achieve the happy balance which will provide a strong and representative team for friendly matches, while providing an opportunity for Club bowlers to qualify for their County Badge. In 1974, 40 bowlers received their County Badge after playing six times for their County: 40 bowlers were presented with the Colts Badge.

County Year Book

The Association owes much to Arthur Frost for his valiant efforts in editing and arranging for the printing of the 1974 Year Book. Arthur took over this onerous task at very short notice and had to overcome a long series of obstacles before a 1974 edition was assured. The N.B.A. Year Book sets a very high standard—for which the credit must go to the Honorary Editor.

Other Items

Many things contribute to the successful running of our Association. A major factor is the co-operation received from the member Clubs. The N.B.A. is indebted to all those Clubs whose facilities are so freely made available to us for matches and meetings and to their members and ladies who do the backstage work to prepare for the game, and provide the teas.

May I also thank publicly, the Officers and friends who have helped and supported me through the year: Senior Vice-President Bob Stapleton, Junior Vice-President Clarrie Austin, who have had so much extra to do this summer: Honorary Treasurer Joe Cooper, who continues his sterling service to the N.B.A.: Competition Secretary Jack Hodson: the Area Secretaries: the Past Presidents who deputised on those occasions when neither our President nor his deputies was available. And a special word of thanks to my Honorary Assistant George Wills who does much of the secretarial work of the Selection Committee and is a tremendous help at all times. To these and to all my colleagues whose help and co-operation has ensured another happy year—thank you.

GEORGE SHEARS, Honorary Secretary.

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT 1974

With the entries for 1974 about the same as 1973, it was just as well that the weather was good in the early part of the Season.

All the Competitions were completed on time for the Quarter Finals and the weather was still reasonable. Some of the best and keenest bowling for many years was seen in the later stages. It was, therefore, very disappointing that the form shown in the Finals was not reproduced at Worthing. No doubt some of the new faces seen in three Finals will benefit from the experience.

Once again Clubs were very generous in loaning their Greens for the final rounds of the Competitions, with West End and Thrapston joining the other Clubs who have been so generous in the past.

The four Area Secretaries have again done a splendid job for the County and I would like to express my thanks to them all for their willing co-operation.

JOHN HODSON (Competition Secretary).

BENEVOLENT FUND REPORT 1974

The income for the year increased by £24 due to increase in the interest received, but Grants rose from £160 to £215. The funds increased by £31 to £2211.

The Trustees thank members of Clubs who subscribe to the Fund for their continuing support.

EDGAR ALLEN.

CONGRATULATIONS

To George Wills, our Assistant Secretary, who was honoured by being chosen as the winner of the Arthur Nicholson Individual Trophy Award by virtue of his selection in the English International Bowls Team.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION

COUNTY BLAZER BADGES AWARDED 1974

The following were awarded their County Blazer Badges in 1974 having played their 6th game in County Friendly Matches, or reached Finals in County Competitions.

Anderson, H. C. (County Ground, N'pton)	Holt, E. W. (Peterborough & District)
Barnsby, H. C. (Daventry Town)	Hunter, M. (Kingsthorpe, Northampton)
Bayes, B. (Rushden Town)	Johnson, F. (County Ground, N'pton)
Beasley, M. (E.M.E.B., Kettering)	Johnson, V. (Pianoforte Supplies, Roade)
Bee, B. (County Ground, Northampton)	King, P. W. (British Timken, Duston)
Beeby, L. (Rushden Town)	Knighton, E. (Alumasc, Burton Latimer)
Brown, A. W. (Abington)	Kyle, J. (Stewarts & Lloyds, Corby)
Buckby, A. W. (Rothwell Conservative)	Mackay, R. (Peterborough & District)
Campen, W. (Wellingborough Town)	Miller, A. (Earls Barton)
Coe, H. W. (Rothwell Conservative)	Oatridge, F. H. (Rushden Town)
Coe, L. F. (Rothwell Conservative)	Parkes, C. (Wellingborough Town)
Conner, J. (West End, Northampton)	Parker, A. M. (Peterborough & District)
Cook, H. E. (Wellingborough Town)	Patterson, J. (British Timken, Daventry)
Dunkley, D. R. (West End, Northampton)	Plant, R. (Peterborough & District)
Earnshaw, M. (Thrapston)	Roberts, J. (Rothwell Conservative)
Edwards, C. E. (Earls Barton)	Smith, D. (E.M.E.B., Kettering)
Essam, E. (E.M.E.B., Kettering)	Spencer, A. E. (Kingsthorpe, N'pton)
Glew, R. (British Timken, Daventry)	Townsend, H. G. (Kettering Lodge)
Grapes, F. (Rothwell Conservative)	Warner, R. L. (British Timken, Daventry)
Gray, G. F. (Rushden Town)	Watt, P. M. (County Ground, N'pton)
Gunn, R. (Kettering Lodge)	West, G. (Rothwell Conservative)
Harrison, B. F. (Brackley & District)	Wilson, D. A. (Kingsthorpe, N'pton)
Heath, P. (County Ground, Northampton)	Worth, R. C. (Kingsthorpe, N'pton)
Hiscock, S. (British Timken, Daventry)	Zenda, A. (Rothwell Conservative)

COLTS BADGES AWARDED 1974

The following were awarded their Colts Lapel Badges in 1974, having played their 1st game in County Friendly Matches.

Anker, H. (Wellingborough Swanspool)	Loasby, A. (Kettering Lodge)
Armstrong, A. (British Timken, Daventry)	Marshall, A. (Oundle)
Barden, D. (British Timken, Duston)	McGovern, D. (British Timken, Daventry)
Battle, P. L. (County Ground, N'pton)	Moore, E. A. S. (Kettering Lodge)
Black, A. (Stewarts & Lloyds, Corby)	Newman, S. (Express Lifts, N'pton)
Blencowe, R. (Brackley & District)	Nunn, P. (Kettering Conservative)
Botwood, R. S. (Pianoforte Supplies, Roade)	Odell, D. (Wellingborough Town)
Charlton, W. B. (Wellingborough Town)	Pinnock, T. (N'pton & County Police)
Checkley, R. (West End, Northampton)	Prentice, R. (Wellingborough Town)
Collins, D. (West End, Northampton)	Reid, J. (Earls Barton)
Essam, D. (Earls Barton)	Spencer, R. (Wellingborough Town)
Essam, L. (Earls Barton)	Starsmore, G. H. (Kettering Lodge)
Groom, G. (N'pton & County Police)	Taylor, G. (Wellingborough Town)
Haddon, J. T. (Wellingborough Town)	Thornton, R. (Kettering Lodge)
Hadnam, R. (Peterborough & District)	Tustian, B. (Daventry Town)
Harrison, L. (Earls Barton)	Wakefield, M. (W'boro' Swanspool)
Hoare, L. (British Timken, Duston)	Waters, R. (Alumasc, Burton Latimer)
Horsford, J. (Oundle)	Whitney, G. (Alumasc, Burton Latimer)
Ingles, C. (Stewarts & Lloyds, Corby)	Webb, C. (Kettering Conservative)
Johnson, K. (Oundle)	Youds, G. (Desborough Town)

English Bowling Association (E.B.A.)

Officers, 1974

- President: ERIC T. MARSH, Esq., "Greenways", 85 Wildernesse Road, Reading, (Berkshire).
- Senior Vice-President: L. D. A. DRAYTON (Surrey).
- Junior Vice-President: RALPH BENTLEY, Esq., "Little Manor", The Crescent, Woodlands Road, Ashurst, Southampton. Telephone: Ashurst 2161.
- Hon. Treasurer: RALPH BENTLEY, Esq., "Little Manor", The Crescent, Woodlands Road, Ashurst, Southampton. Telephone: Ashurst 2161.
- Secretary: J. F. ELMS, Esq., 4 Lansdowne Crescent, Bournemouth, Hants BH1 1RX. Telephone: Bournemouth 22233.
- Immediate Past President: A. SAWARD, Esq., 5 Lincoln Lodge, 21 Court Down Road, Beckenham. Phone: 01-650 3956. (Kent).

Midland Counties Bowls Association (M.C.B.A.)

Officers, 1974

- Hon. Secretary: KEN CLARK (Derbyshire). 30 The Paddocks, Nuthall, Nottingham. Telephone Kimberley 2617.

E.B.A. PAST PRESIDENTS FROM NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

- 1913 The Late ALFRED LEWIS (Kettering Lodge)
1925 The Late GEORGE WRIGHT (Kettering Lodge)
1961 CYRIL A. CHOWN (County Ground)*

M.C.B.A. PAST PRESIDENTS FROM NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

- 1952 The Late A. FLETCHER
1959 CYRIL A. CHOWN (County Ground)
1965 Rev. ALAN V. WINTERSGILL
(Peterboro' & District)
1971 GEORGE F. WRIGHT (Rushden Town)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Fixture List for 1974—Subject to amendment

Date			Venue
Feb.	S. 2	Midland Counties A.G.M.	Nottingham
	F. 22	Midland Counties Annual Dinner	Toton
"	S. 2	M.C.B.A. Champions v. Rest	Kettering
March	F. 8	Council Meeting, 7.15 p.m.	Kettering
"	S. 4	Buckinghamshire (F), 3.00 p.m.	High Wycombe
May	S. 11	Middleton Cup Trial, 3.00 p.m.	Wellingborough
"	S. 18	Leicestershire (M.C.B.A.), 3.00 p.m.	Westwood Wks.
"	S. 25	Worcestershire (M.C.B.A.), 3.00 p.m.	Away
"	S. 1	Suffolk (F), 2.30 p.m.	Stowmarket
June	S. 1	Lincolnshire (M.C.B.A.) 2.30 p.m.	Away
"	Tu. 4	N.B.A. Executive v. Musselburgh B.C., 3.00 p.m.	Abington
"	S. 8	International Trial	London
"	S. 15	Oxfordshire (M.C.), 2.30 p.m.	Oxford
"			(City & County)
"	Th. 20	London Parks B.A. (F), 3.00 p.m.	British Timken
"	S. 22	Warwickshire (M.C.B.A.), 2.30 p.m.	S. & L. Corby
"	Th. 27	Middlesex (F), 3.00 p.m.	Enfield
"	S. 29	MANFIELD CUP	
"	S. 29	Hertfordshire (M.C.), 2.30 p.m.	Wellingborough
"			Kettering Lodge
July	Th. 4	Cambridgeshire (F), 3.00 p.m.	Notts. H.Q.
"	S. 6	Nottinghamshire (M.C.B.A.), 3.00 p.m.	Hingham Retry
"	Th. 11	Norfolk (F), 2.30 p.m.	Wellingborough
"	S. 13	Bedfordshire (M.C.), 3.00 p.m.	
"	16-20	British Isles Championships and International Matches	Edinburgh
"	S. 20	Derbyshire (M.C.B.A.), 3.00 p.m.	County Ground
"	S. 27	Bedfordshire (F), 3.00 p.m.	Luton
"			Croydon
August	W. 7	Surrey (F), 3.00 p.m.	Hatfield
"	S. 10	Hertfordshire (F), 3.00 p.m.	Worthing
"	12-23	National Championships	Alumasc
"	W. 14	Lincolnshire (F), 2.30 p.m.	Road
"	S. 17	Northants V.P's. (F), 3.00 p.m.	Rushden
"	Tu. 20	N.B.A. Executive v. Silver Imp., 3.00 p.m.	
"	Th. 22	Metro. Police (F), 3.15 p.m.	Abington
"	S. 24	Middleton Cup Semi Finals & Final	Worthing
"	S. 31	Gloucestershire (F), 2.30 p.m.	West End
"			Eastbourne
Sept.	Sun. 1	Under 25's Singles Final Rounds	Thrapston
"	S. 7	Under 40's Match, 3.00 p.m.	County Ground
"	W. 11	Essex (F), 2.30 p.m.	Away
"	S. 14	Warwickshire (F), 2.30 p.m.	Folkestone
"	16-21	Over 60's Singles and Pairs Finals	Kettering
"	F. 20	Council Meeting, 7.15 p.m.	Park Royal
"	S. 21	Guinness B.C. (F), 3.00 p.m.	Earls Barton
"	S. 28	Berkshire (F), 2.30 p.m.	Wicksteed Park
Oct.	W. 23	Annual Dinner/Dance	Northampton
Nov.	S. 2	Council Meeting, 2.30 p.m.	London
Dec.	S. 7	E.B.A. A.G.M. & Annual Dinner	Northampton
"	S. 14	N.B.A. A.G.M., 2.30 p.m.	

NOTE:

(F) Friendly (M.C.) Middleton Cup
(M.C.B.A.) Midland Counties Championship

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SUCCESSES IN E.B.A. (NATIONAL) CHAMPIONSHIPS

SINGLES

1910	WINNER	F. Shatford (Kettering Conservative)
1926	Semi-Finalist	W. J. Mitchell (Wellingborough Town)
1938	Semi-Finalist	C. J. Keeler (Rushden Town)
1951	Semi-Finalist	B. Knowles (West End)
1963	Semi-Finalist	C. Mason (Jnr.) (Kettering Conservative)
1968	Semi-Finalist	R. H. Stenhouse (Wellingborough Town)
1969	Semi-Finalist	R. S. T. King (Abington)

PAIRS

1928	WINNERS	W. Pendered, W. J. Mitchell (Wellingborough Town)
1932	WINNERS	A. H. Bull, G. S. Bull (Wellingborough Town)
1938	Semi-Finalists	W. Dainty, T. Goode (Wellingborough Town)
1945	Runners-up	W. T. Lawton, A. F. Knight (Abington)
1949	Semi-Finalists	F. Mason, C. Mason (Snr.) (Kettering Conservative)
1957	Semi-Finalists	W. J. Stone, A. F. Knight (Abington)
1965	Semi-Finalists	S. H. Carter, R. H. Stenhouse (Wellingborough Town)
1967	WINNERS	T. L. Morgan, J. Hope (County Ground)
		Also British Isles Championship Finalists
1969	Semi-Finalists	G. T. Wills, D. E. Cooper (Rushden Town)

TRIPLES

1950	Runners-up	H. Wills, F. Tye, G. Fox (Rushden Town)
1953	Runners-up	F. V. V. Purser, A. F. Knight, C. J. Knight (Abington)
1964	Runners-up	S. H. Carter, R. Brook, R. H. Stenhouse (Wellingborough Town)
1965	WINNERS	E. Wilson, L. Coker, D. E. Cooper (Kettering Lodge)
1968	WINNERS	H. F. Sturgess, J. Forster, R. Crawley (Wellingborough Town)
1969	WINNERS	E. Randall, G. T. Wills, D. E. Cooper (Rushden Town)
1970	Semi-Finalists	S. Holden, L. J. Clarke, H. V. Goodwin (Peterborough and District)

FOURS

1909	WINNERS	J. T. Goode, C. Vorley, J. W. Bellamy, G. P. Coe (Wellingborough Town)
1912	WINNERS	A. J. Rowe, C. S. Jinks, T. Lee, C. C. Jinks (Wellingborough Town)
1921	Runners-up	S. Booth, R. Dexter, G. S. Bull, W. J. Mitchell (Wellingborough Town)
1946	Semi-Finalists	G. Gold, A. Bullock, A. Crossman, R. Dewar (Corby Stewart and Lloyds)
1950	Semi-Finalists	G. Main, G. Nimmo, A. B. Maltman, D. Fletcher (Corby Stewart and Lloyds)
1954	Runners-up	W. J. Stone, F. V. V. Purser, C. J. Knight, A. F. Knight (Abington)
1963	WINNERS	S. H. Carter, E. F. Marchant, L. Hough, R. H. Stenhouse (Wellingborough Town)
1964	Semi-Finalists	Also British Isles Championship Finalists
		J. West, D. Houghton, F. Mellows, E. Smith (Finedon Town)

INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS

Northamptonshire men who have played for England in recognised International Games, first established in 1903.

Bettles, J. H.	(Irthlingborough C.I.)	1956-57-58
	Gold Medalist in Fours, Commonwealth Games, Cardiff, Wales, 1958	
Bull, A. H.	(Wellingborough Town)	1926-27-30-33-34-35-36-37--38-39- 46-47-48-49
Bull, G. S.	(Wellingborough Town)	1926-27-28-30-31-32-33-34-35-36
Chapman, W. J.	(Kettering Lodge)	1946
Coe, G. P.	(Wellingborough Town)	1910
Cooper, D. E.	(Kettering Lodge)	1964-65-66
Played in Triples and Fours in First World Bowls Championships, Sydney, Australia 1966.		
Dobson, W. R.	(Kettering Lodge)	1924
Goldsmith, M. E.	(County Ground)	1928
Lee, T.	(Wellingborough Town)	1923
Mason, C. (Snr.)	(Kettering Cons.)	1935
Mason, F.	(Kettering Cons.)	1961
Mitchell, W. J.	(Wellingborough Town)	1929
Redhead, A. J.	(County Ground)	1912
Shatford, F.	(Kettering Cons.)	1910-11-12-14-19-20-21-22-24-25
Stenhouse, R. H.	(Wellingborough Town)	1962-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71
Played in Triples and Fours in First World Bowls Championships, Sydney, Australia 1966.		
Captain of England, Commonwealth Games, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1970.		
England Team Manager - World Bowls Championships - Worthing 1972.		
Stow, F.	(County Ground)	1909-10-11-13
Wright, G.	(Kettering Lodge)	1913-19-20-21-22-28
Forster, J. A.	(Wellingborough Town)	1973

INTERNATIONAL TRIALISTS

Northamptonshire men who have played in International Trials.

Carter, S. H.	(Wellingborough Town)	1965-66-67
Drage, H.	(Wellingborough Town)	1969
Gargate, R.	(Abington)	1960-61
Harris, J. A.	(Rushden Town)	1930-33-34
King, R. S. T.	(Abington)	1971
Knight, A. F.	(Abington)	1946-47-58-59
Knight, H. E.	(Rushden Town)	1938
Lee, F. J.	(Abington)	1950-51
Mason, Colin	(Kettering Cons.)	1964
Mason, N.	(Kettering Cons.)	1961-62
Morgan, T. L.	(County Ground)	1968
Richards, J. N.	(County Ground)	1926
Sturgess, H. F.	(Earls Barton)	1949
Underwood, H.	(Rushden Town)	1935-36-37
Wills, G. T.	(Rushden Town)	1971
Wills, G. T.	(Kettering Lodge)	1973
Forster, J. A.	(Wellingborough)	1973