NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Founded 1906

NORTHAMPTON BOWLING ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS, 1972

President:
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Senior Vice-President:
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Hon. Competition Secretary:
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Hon. Indoor Bowls Secretary:
W. F. OATRIDGE, Esq., Queen Victoria Hotel, Rushden.
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Past Presidents:

1947 B. D. Harries, 1 Chipsey Avenue, Northampton. Phone: 33723.
1948 F. W. Goodwin, 3 St. Mary's Road, Kettering. Phone: 3324.
1954 C. A. Chown, 21 Abington Park Crescent, Northampton. Phone: 32546.
1956 F. C. L. Carress, 3 Midland Road, Thrapston. Phone: 359.
1960 G. Robinson, Croyland Road, Wellingborough. Phone: 401.
1963 Rev. A. V. Wintersgill, St. James Vicarage, Harlestone Road, Northampton. Phone: 51164.
1964 C. F. Thorneloe, 1 Scotland Street, Kettering. Phone: 3762.
1966 G. F. Wright, 146 Northampton Road, Rushden. Phone: 4178.
1967 A. E. Mandeville, 21 Cedar Way, Wellingborough. Phone: 3374.
1968 D. E. Cooper, 17 Garfield Street, Kettering. Phone: 82402.
1969 J. A. Hodson, 23 Saxon Rise, Duston, Northampton. Phone 52598.
1970 W. F. Oatridge, Queen Victoria Hotel, Rushden. Phone: 2189.

E. O. Allen, 33 Debdale Road, Wellingborough. (Benovolent Fund Secretary).
L. J. Clarke, 392 Fulbridge Road, Peterborough. Phone: 71508 (Area Secretary).
J. Conquest, 6 Masefiled Road, Kettering. (Selector).
J. A. Harvie, 32 Kelvin Grove, Corby, Phone: 3112 (Selector).
S. Hawkins, 8 London Road, Wellingborough. (Selector).
C. F. Jones, 105 Bedford Road, Rushden. Phone: 2006 (Area Secretary).
R. H. Stenhouse, Park Hospital, Wellingborough. Phone: 3433. (Life Member).
W. C. Thorp, 109 Beatrice Road, Kettering. Phone: 3877 (Life Member).
P. Wooding, 153 Kingsley Avenue, Kettering. Phone: 3657 (Area Secretary).

ALSO

One Nominated Delegate from each Affiliated Club.

Representatives to the English Bowling Association

C. A. Chown (Past President E.B.A., M.C.B.A., N.B.A.).
G. F. Wright (Past President M.C.B.A., N.B.A.).
G. W. J. Cooper (Hon. Treasurer N.B.A., Patron N.H.V.P.A.).

Representatives to the Midland Counties Bowls Association

N.B.A. President—F. Mason.
N.B.A. Past President—A. E. Mandeville.
N.B.A. Past President—W. F. Oatridge.
Ex-Officio M.C.B.A. Past Presidents—C. A. Chown, Rev. A. V. Wintersgill, G. F. Wright.

Life Members

F. W. Goodwin
G. W. J. Cooper
C. A. Chown
J. A. Hodson
W. C. Thorp
R. H. Stenhouse

Emergency Committee

President F. Mason, G. F. Wright; Hon. Secretary; Hon. Treasurer.

Selection Committee

President F. Mason, J. Conquest, J. Harvie, J. A. Hodson, W. P. Wilford, A. Strickland, S. Hawkins, W. Oatridge.

Area Secretaries

Kettering: P. Wooding.
Northampton: J. A. Hodson.
Peterborough: L. J. Clarke.
Wellingborough: C. F. Jones.

Area Committees

Kettering: P. Wooding, J. Conquest, A. Burton.
Northampton: T. Nicholson, J. H. Clipstone, W. J. Jennings.
Peterborough: J. B. Weston, A. Gray.
Wellingborough: H. Tingle, E. Tipler.

Greens Committee

Kettering: P. Wooding, J. Harvie, A. N. Other.
Northampton: Hopewell, W. J. Jennings, W. Miles.
Peterborough: A. Strickland, J. Weston, A. Gray.
Wellingborough: E. Tipler, C. Jones, F. King.

Rules and Constitution Committee

President F. Mason, G. W. J. Cooper, R. S. T. King, W. P. Wilford, L. Knights, L. Hough.

Benevolent Fund Trustees

Rev. A. V. Wintersgill (Chairman), E. O. Allen (Secretary), B. D. Harries, G. F. Wright, A. E. Mandeville.

RECORD OF PAST OFFICIALS

Presidents :

1906–1921	J. Manfield	1950	A. Fletcher
1922–1923	Sir James Crockett	1951	J. C. Halliday
1924	F. Tyler	1952	G. T. Dunkley
1925	G. Bull	1953	T. A. Lovell
1926	G. Wright	1954	C. A. Chown
1927	A. Allebone	1955	D. Gamble
1928	M. E. Goldsmith	1956	F. C. L. Carress
1929	E. Everard	1957	H. T. Bye
1930	J. W. Turner	1958	T. Roberts
1931	R. R. Brown	1959	H. Wills
1932	W. Munks	1960	G. Robinson
1933	H. W. Caswell	1961	D. Wilson
1934	G. S. Bull	1962	H. W. Dawson
1935	J. A. Harris	1963	A. V. Wintersgill
1936	J. H. Sharpe	1964	C. F. Thorneloe
1937	W. Roddis	1965	P. A. Talmage
1938	H. C. Roberts	1966	G. F. Wright
1939–1945	W. C. Tarry	1967	A. E. Mandeville
1946	W. J. Moore	1968	D. E. Cooper
1947	B. D. Harries	1969	J. A. Hodson
1948	F. W. Goodwin	1970	W. F. Oatridge
1949	F. Tye	1971	L. Hough

Treasurers :

1906–1921	F. Ellen	1945–1957	W. C. Smith
1921–1944	M. E. Goldsmith	1958–	G. W. J. Cooper

Secretaries :

1906–1912	G. Harper	1931–1946	W. J. Moore
1913–1920	G. E. Holmes	1947–1956	R. Knight
1921–1930	J. Papworth	1957–1967	W. C. Thorp
		1968–	D. R. Baker

Auditors :

1932–1937	T. P. Beeston	1945–1967	V. J. H. Harris
1938–1939	W. H. Allman	1968–	R. S. T. King

Editors :

1969–	L. Knights

Charlie Mason that grand old English International, bowler exceptional Northants. Middleton Cup player and Kettering Conservative B.C member has had a wonderful year basking in the reflected glory of his Sons' bowling achievements. In particular the efforts of his eldest son Fred who has shouldered the responsibilities of the highest honour Northants can offer, that of County President. The harmony and good fellowship which has prevailed during this year in Northants. bowling circles has stemmed from the example set by our President. No effort has been spared no chore beneath his dignity, he has given of his time and energy to the full and we acknowledge with gratitude the manner in which he has maintained the reputation of Northants. in the bowling world. The Mason family has for a long been known throughout the Country where bowls is played under the E.B.A. banner, their record is unique and their ability proven. Father and four sons, all bowlers, they can claim two full Internationals and two International Trialists and for the record, there is a sister Kitty who can give most males a good hard game. No wonder then, with such support our President Fred Mason has had such a successful and enjoyable year.

It is a pity that with such notable leadership the County bowlers have not collected any major honours in the Middleton Cup, National Competitions or Midland Counties Championship although the records will show that the County has not been entirely without some success. In what is usually regarded as the premier award, the Middleton Cup, Northants progressed as far as the Quarter Finals, when the County lost to Durham at Pickering in Yorkshire by 27 shots. This game could have gone either way, for at 15 ends the two Counties were 84 shots each. Durham to their credit finished strongly and notched up a comfortable win, urged on by a strong contingent of Yorkshire and Durham supporters. Loud vocal support is something new to bowls and as I remember was very much prevalent at Mortlake last year when Hampshire won the Middleton Cup. Perhaps County Selection Committees should also look to adequate support from their own members if they are to get the best out of their Middleton Cup Players, maybe there is a lesson in psychology here for the result is certainly effective. Another point arising from these observations is, should a quarter final be played within the Group area of one of the participants. We congratulate Durham on reaching the final of the Competition and acknowledge the efforts of a very worthy team.

As mentioned, the County did not, this year, achieve any noteable result in the National Championships, which is unusual for in the past our players have progressed well in one or another of the four competitions. Past successes may lead one to expect too much all the time, but it is worthy of mention that the Semi-finals and Finals at County level provided exceedingly good bowls and entertainment.

In the Midland Counties Championship, Northants finished third of the seven Counties participating. Winning four matches and losing to Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire. The Francis Burton trophy was won by Nottinghamshire for scoring the highest number of points in the Competition and we extend our congratulations to our old friends in Notts.

Once again I criticise the oragnisation of the Midland Counties Championship and point out that if the Competition is to be run fairly those those Counties who play each other in the Middleton Cup Competition should not be allowed to count the result of that Competition for the Midland Counties Competition. Each of the seven Counties should play each other. At the present time three Counties play twice and four Counties only once and yet there are two separate and distinct Competitions. The excuse which is put forward is congestion of fixtures. Surely, if the Midland Counties Championship is worthy of competition it should stand in its own right.

The World Bowls Championships at Worthing was the outstanding event of this bowling year. It is pleasing to record that Northants exceeded the contribution asked for by the E.B.A. towards the expenses of the Championships. The County once again received some of the reflected glory on the honour bestowed on Mr. R. H. (Bob) Stenhouse, Northants current International, who was appointed England's Team Manager for the Championships. A position he filled with dignity and great ability and for his efforts received considerable praise both fom the E.B.A. hierarchy and visiting officials. What a tremendous asset this man is to bowls, may he long be spared to continue his efforts, particularly for Northants.

Having dealt in the preceding paragraphs with the major Competitions this is a fitting time to say a word of thanks to those Clubs who have have allowed the use of their greens and Club facilities. The whole success of Northants as a County Association depends on the goodwill and co-operation recieved from the affiliated Clubs. On behalf of the County Executive I thank all those concerned and much appreciate all the support and encouragement which has been so freely given.

The Competitions Secretary, in his report expresses his thanks to the Clubs in similar terms, but he does not mention his retirement after fifteen years as the County's Competition Secretary. Praise for Past President John Hodson has already been voiced but I would like to record for posterity in the Handbook a sincere appreciation for the long and painstaking way, dedication and sportsmanlike manner he has conducted the County Competitions. His great ability during his year of office as the County President in 1969, the arrangements he supervises for the various County Presidents' tours, together with the wise council he invariably offers to all levels of Council and Committee work of the Association. Northants is indeed fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and hard working official and although he is now relinquishing office it is pleasing to know that the Association will continue to have the benefit of his support.

Friendly fixtures with other Counties is one of the most enjoyable aspects of our annual programme. The opportunity to represent the County is the goal of most bowlers and these friendly fixtures provide the stimulus for competitive bowls at a good standard. The selection for these games is spread over all Clubs affiliated and provision made for non-badged players to qualify for the County Badge. Eighteen such matches were played and although only six matches were won, considerable

enjoyment was experienced by those taking part. The amendment to the Associations' Rules, now approved, provide for N.B.A. badged players to apply for selection without the necessity for nomination by their own Clubs. This facility should allow more badged players to find it convenient to put forward their names for friendly games and thereby improve the standard of representative teams. In the past the Selection Committee has never been aware of the availability of some of our more seasoned players and it has not been practicable to make numerous enquiries in relation to a particular match. The statistics for the matches played are included elsewhere in the handbook.

Congratulations are extended to the Abington B.C. on winning the Manfield Cup, particularly as this is the Club's Jubilee Year and most appropriately because the Club President is also our County Hon. Treasurer Mr. G. W. J. Cooper. We are all very happy that his year of office should be crowned by this success.

The Annual Dinner and Dance, held at the Overstone Solarium in October was a full house and much appreciated by all who attended. The function was honoured by the presence of the E.B.A. President, Mr. C. Leslie Smith, O.B.E., and Mrs. Smith and the Midland Counties President Mr. F. L. Owen, together with Representatives from seventeen Counties. Northants is grateful for the support and good fellowship received from our neighbouring Counties and values highly the reputation maintained in bowling circles.

Inevitably a report of this nature must include a series of thanks to all those who do so much towards making an Association function successfully. It is not possible to record names of all concerned, but let it be said, whether the contribution be large or small, the particular effort is acknowledged and appreciated. The Rules and Constitution Committee under the Chairmanship of our President has done stirling work in carrying out the revision of the Rules - a long and tedious job. The Selection Committee has been in almost continuous weekly session throughout the Summer. Much time and travelling has been freely given by those members, often at personal inconvenience. The Assistant Hon. Secretary has been a tower of strength, especially with the supervision of matches and nominations for matches. A very worthy effort by our George Wills which has contributed much towards a happy year. As usual the Hon. Treasurer Joe Cooper has kept the financial affiairs in perfect order and together with his two colleagues Messrs. C. A. Chown and G. F. Wright has represented the County at E.B.A. level in a most commendable manner. We are indebted to all these Gentlemen for the continued progress of the Association and whereas they expect little for their efforts, everyone likes a word of praise occasionally. If not named specifically please accept this word of thanks with our gratitude.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I have much appreciated the honour of being elected the County Secretary this past five years. During this period I have made many friends in Northants and elsewhere, received much assistance from many people, particularly the various Presidents I have been priviledged to serve. In stepping down from this office I record my personal thanks to all concerned and take the opportunity of wishing my successor every success for the future. Dennis Baker.

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT—1972

In direct contrast to 1971, the early months of this year's Bowls season had awful weather. Many competitions started in reasonable conditions then came the rain and a soaking was poor consolation to either winners or losers. It is therefore a tribute to everyone concerned that in all Areas the final dates found all matches completed and the final stages played in better weather conditions. Entries were again a record number with youth and experience blending together in the various final formations. It must be a very encouraging sign to the younger Clubs to note the various successes of the Roade Club against players with greater experience.

Again we must thank the various Clubs who, sometimes at very short notice, provide the greens for competitions:—County Ground, Abington, Wellingborough Town, Rushden, Kettering Lodge, Timpsons and the two Clubs at Corby and all other Clubs who assist whenever possible. To all Area Secretaries, a special word of thanks for a difficult job well done. A little co-operation with them is all that they require.

John Hodson.

BENEVOLENT FUND REPORT—1972

The resignation of Past President, Ben Harries has been received with regret. He has served as a Trustee since the formation of the fund in 1946 The Committee gratefully acknowledge the services he has rendered for so long.

The claims on the funds have been few this year. This has resulted in an increase in the balance of £163.

The Trustees feel that more members may be in need of Christmas grants and it would be appreciated if secretaries would send in names in these cases.

Many thanks to the members of all Clubs who have continued to support us.

Edgar Allen

HON. VICE-PRESIDENTS ASSOCIATION — CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 1972

My first reactions on compiling this report must be to account for the success we have attained on the Green. Of the matches played, we have won Eleven and lost Seven. Shots for, 2,227, against, 2,146 a good achievement.

We have had a most wonderful spirit of friendliness, that has prevailed all through the season, which has made this a most memorable year for me

To all the members who have played, and contributed to this, I thank them, to George Wills who has made this possible in arranging the matches notifying everyone, and not a slip up, to Aubrey Mandeville who is always at hand when you need him, and our Patron Joe Cooper (Treasurer) - he loves giving receipts even for 2 pence. I thank them most sincerely.

The past Chairman Clarrie Austin, and the Vice Chairman Frank Bates, have also worked hard for the benefit of the Association, and deserve a mention, the Local Clubs who loaned their Greens, Wellingborough Town who provided us with a Committee Room for all our Meetings, and to the Ladies of all the Clubs who give so much of their time in providing us with the meals, my grateful thanks.

The Harris Cup played at Corby Stewart & Lloyds this year for the first time, was a huge success, although the number of Rinks were smaller (due to Jubilee Celebrations) the amenities were first class, and I'm sure with permission this will be the venue for many years; the winners were Daventry Town. Congratulations, and to Ernest who shows a great interest on this his Cup Day.

The Tour to Southsea kept up the standard, we are now expecting with good weather, meeting and making new friends and having a good time, this I think we attained. The Ladies results were, Played 5, Won 3, lost 2. The Men's were 100% winning all 6 matches, some pretty close, even on the last end. Altogether throughout the season a very happy one for me, trying with others to make everyone happier.

May you all enjoy your 1973 Bowling.

Arthur Frost

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) Also British Isles Championship Finalists
1964	Semi-Finalists	J. West, D. Houghton, F. Mellows, E. Smith (Finedon Town)

N.B.A. HONOURS BOARD - 1972

ENGLAND TEAM MANAGER—World Bowls Championship–Worthing 1972
R. H. Stenhouse (Wellingborough Town).

COUNTY SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Winner—J. Forster (Wellingborough Town B.C.).
Runner-up—J. Davies (P.S.L. B.C., Roade).
Semi-Finalists—R. Donoghue (Kettering Conservatives B.C.) and J. B. Weston (Brotherhood Works B.C., Peterborough).

PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP

Winners—C. Howe and F. Heath (County Ground B.C.).
Runners-up—G. Tyler and H. Pinnock (Irthlingborough W.M.C. B.C.).

TRIPLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Winners—A. Flinn, E. Smith, J. West (Wellingborough Town B.C.).
Runners-up—C. Haynes, W. Thorneycroft, F. Forbes (Express Lifts B.C.).

FOURS CHAMPIONSHIP

Winners—M. W. Wright, C. P. Haggett, T. Barnes, J. T. Reeve (P.S.L. B.C., Roade).
Runners-up—H. Drage, H. Sturgess, G. Bollard, R. Brook (Wellingborough Town B.C.)

C. MASON 'CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS' CUP

Winner—G. T. Wills (Rushden Town B.C.).
Runner-up—R. Gargate (Abington B.C.).
Semi-Finalists—F. Wilson (Peterborough and District B.C. and N. Humphrey (Rothwell Manor Park B.C.).

SECRETARIES CUP

Winner—G. T. Wills (Rushden Town B.C.).
Runner-up—G. Bruce (S. & L. B.C., Corby).
Semi-Finalists—E. Letts (West End B.C.) and B. Ireson (P.S.L. B.C., Roade).

MANFIELD CUP

Winners—Abington B.C., Northampton.

I regret that, owing to my not having been supplied with the necessary information, I am unable this year to supply lists of Middleton Cup and Midland Counties players.

Len Knights.

N.B.A. Honours Board—continued

The following were awarded their **County Blazer Badges** in 1972, having played their 6th game in County Friendly Matches, or reached Finals in County Competitions.

H. W. Allen (Thrapston)
D. J. Adams (Kingsthorpe)
W. Askham (Earls Barton)
D Boston (Kettering Cons.)
W. Boys (St. Crispins)
F. H. Busby (Thrapston)
T. Barnes (P.S.L., Roade)
V. Cooper (Abington)
W. Checkley (Kettering Cons.)
A. C. A. Colton (Rushden Town)
R. Chester (Kettering Lodge)
L. Coleman (British Timken)
W. Crabb (Kettering Lodge)
E. J. Chester (Rothwell M.P.)
J. K. Davies (P.S.L., Roade)
J. Frisby (Wellingboro' Town)
C. E. Farmer (Abington)
W. B. Harris (Abington)
L. J. Hand (Kettering Lodge)
C. P. Haggett (P.S.L., Roade)
L. O. Howells (Abington)
N. Humphrey (Rothwell Cons.)
C. Haynes (Express Lifts)
A. J. Ingram (Kettering Timpsons)
G. Ingham (Peterboro' & District)
C. Johnson (New Inn, Peterboro')
A. W. Johnson (Watney Mann)
R. Mackey (Peterboro' & District)
J. Smart (County Ground)
F. Stevenson (Kettering Park)
A. G. Simons (Abington)
W. A. Sturgess (County Ground)
K. Taylor (Stewart & Lloyds)
J. Vickers (Kettering Lodge)
J. B. Weston (Peterboro' Brotherh'd)
R. Webb (Kettering Cons.)
J. Warwick (West End)
J. M. Watson (Stewart & Lloyds)
M. Wright (P.S.L. Roade)

The following were awarded their **Colts Lapel Badges** in 1972, having played their 1st game in County Friendly Matches.

T. Andrews (Kingsthorpe)
M. Baker (Peterboro' Westwood)
G. Bean (Daventry Town)
W. J. Blencowe (Brackley)
P. Barlow (Kingsthorpe)
A. W. Buckby (Rothwell Cons.)
N. Cochrane (P.S.L. Roade)
H. W. Coe (Kettering Lodge)
L. F. Coe (Rothwell Cons.)
K. Court (Brackley)
M. Centrella (West End)
J. Conner (West End)
R. Dunckley (Dav. British Timken)
D. Dunkley (West End)
T. Dunlop (West End)
A. S. Davis (Brackley)
P. Donohoe (Watney Mann)
R. Dicks (St. Crispins)
C. E. Edwards (Earls Barton)
T. Faulkner (West End)
A. French (Earls Barton)
D. Griggs (Peterboro' Westwood)
D. Goodman (Rothwell Cons.)
T. Green (Kettering Lodge)
F. Grapes (Rothwell Cons.)
E. W. Holt (Peterboro' & District)
A. R. Harris (County Ground)
P. Heath (Kingsthorpe Nonds.)
B. F. Harrison (Brackley)
H. Howes (Rushden Town)
C. Haynes (Express Lifts)
K. Morris (Peterboro' Westwood)
S. Newall (Keettring Timpsons)
I. A. Oakey (P.S.L. Roade)
F. H. Oatridge (Rushden Town)
L. C. Pickering (Stewart & Lloyds
G. Patterson (Stewart & Lloyds)
A. M. Parker (Peterboro' & District)
F. Phillips (County Ground)
H. P. Paige (Watney Mann)
R. Plant (Peterboro' & District)
E. Ryan (Abington)
C. Short (P.S.L. Roade)
G. Shears (P.S.L., Roade)
E. A. Scott (Brackley)
J. Smith (Stewart & Lloyds)
A. Stowe (British Timken, Daventry)
E. F. Smith (Peterboro' & District)
A. C. Tanner (Brackley)
J. Thompson (Stewart & Lloyds)
E. Tredwell (Kingsthorpe)
R. Warner (Daventry British Timken)
L. Ward (Rushden Town)
A. C. R. Walton (Earls Barton)
R. Wilford (West End)
R. C. Worth (Kingsthorpe)
B. Wheeldon (Abington)
M. Wright (P.S.L., Roade)

If there is anyone who qualified for inclusion in the above lists, but has not, in fact, been included, I apologise most sincerely – records supplied to me have not been as comprehensive as in previous years.

LEN KNIGHTS.

ANALYSIS OF THE RESULTS OF MATCHES PLAYED, 1972

MIDDLETON CUP

24.6	Hertfordshire	110–103	W.	Won 3	Shots for 465
8.7	Bucks.	128–106	W.	Lost 1	Against 459
15.7	Oxfordshire	125–121	W.		
29.7	Durham	102–129	L.		

MIDLAND COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP

Middleton Cup matches above to count for M.C.B.A.

20.5	Leics.	112–110	W.	Won 4	Shots for 692
27.5	Worcs.	123–109	W.	Lost 2	Against 679
3.6	Lincs.	111–119	L.		
17.6	Warwks.	116–105	W.		
1.7	Notts.	100–123	L.		
22.7	Derbys.	130–113	W.		

COUNTY FRIENDLY MATCHES

6.5	Bucks.	99–120	L.	Won 6	Shots for 1977
10.6	Beds.	98–129	L.	Lost 11	Against 2009
19.6	Cardigan T's	152–105	W.		
29.6	Middlesex	104–121	L.		
6.7	London Parks	154– 83	W.		
13.7	Norfolk	106–109	L.		
27.7	Cambs.	115–110	W.		
9.8	Surrey	106–129	L.		
12.8	Herts.	113–134	L.		
16.8	Lincs.	114–110	W.		
24.8	Met. Police	100 122	L.		
2.9	V.P.'s Assn.	129–126	W.		
9.9	Gloucs.	110–130	L.		
14.9	Durham T's	107–118	L.		
16.9	Warwks.	121–122	L.		
23.9	Berks.	116–122	L.		
23.9	Park Royal	133–119	W.		

COUNTY EXECUTIVE MATCHES

21.6	Earls Barton	105– 99	W.	Won 3	Shots for 556
14 6	Rushden T.	114– 89	W.	Lost 2	Against 563
20.7	Wellingboro'	122–138	L.		
5.8	Kingsthorpe	97–130	L.		
14.8	Silver Imps	118–107	W.		

POTTED HISTORIES

KINGSTHORPE BOWLING CLUB - NORTHAMPTON

The Kingsthorpe Bowling Club is the oldest club in Northampton and the second oldest club in Northamptonshire. It was founded on Monday February, 17th 1896, at a meeting of 10 worthy local gentleman, including the Mayor of Northampton, (F. Ellen Esq.') who was elected the first President - and was named "The Northampton and County Bowling and Tennis Club". The minutes of this meeting and of all subsequent meetings to this day, are still in the Club's possession and highly valued. The minutes during these early years make very interesting reading, and when one sees entries such as Brandy - 4/- (20p) per bottle, Whiskey - 3/6d (17p) per bottle, gin - 2/6d (12p) per bottle, and the fact that the first barman was engaged at 7/-d (35p) per week, one realises exactly how far inflation has gone.

In 1905 the Club joined the Midland Counties Bowling Association, and in 1906 was a founder member of the Northamptonshire Bowling Association. In 1912 the Club were winners of the Manfield Cup.

On June 23rd 1926, the Bowling Green and Tennis Courts (hitherto rented), were purchased at an Auction for £1,030, the majority of the money being raised by the taking up of Debentures by Club Members. Many of these holders used regularly to forego the annual interest on these Debentures, and many made gifts of them to the Club at the time of redemption. This is an example of the spirit which has prevailed throughout the years, and indeed still prevails.

On the 3rd November 1926, THE KINGSTHORPE BOWLING CLUB LIMITED was Incorporated under the Companies Acts, and the six current Directors are:— J. P. Foran, E. R. P. Smith, R. R. Hodson, L. Knights, R. H. Attwell and A. J. Roberts.

Good bowling, good fellowship, and relaxation continued behind the old stone wall and tall trees at the corner of Welford Road - from the days when Kingsthorpe was a village outside of Northampton; while year by year and decade by decade the march of progress pushed the town further and further out, to the time when Kingsthorpe became a very busy and thriving district of the Borough. Still the green retained its attractiveness, and indeed became a peaceful refuge in the midst of the hurly-burly of traffic etc. The green however, had always had one big drawback - there were only four rinks, bowling one way only - and as it was now obvious that this corner site was a very valuable one for development, it was, not without much heartsearching and regret, decided that a new site should be sought, and ultimately a piece of land of $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, just outside of the Borough boundary, at Central Avenue, Whitehills was found.

The old site was duly sold to a Development Company, for a supermarket shops, etc., for a sum which could modestly be described as a "fair price", and it was then a case of "all systems go".

The Old Club
1896-1971

The New Club
1971-1973

The
Management
Committee
1972-1973

The new Club House is 90 feet long, and contains dressing rooms and toilets for gents and ladies (a Ladies section has been formed), kitchen, storeroom, Committee room cum "Snug", a good bar (of course) and the full length of the front of the building is unpartitioned, and overlooks the green. The green is, of co urse, full sized, of Cumberland turf, and is already bowling quite well. Steps have been laid to another full sized space which has been levelled for a second green, which it is hoped will be laid in 2/3 years time. There is a Car park for approximately 50 cars, and a space which eventually will be turned into a rose and shrub garden.

Club membership has increased greatly during the past two years, and now stands at nearly 100 bowling members and nearly 80 social members. There is an enormously enthusiastic Committee, composed of a good mixture of the urgency of youth tempered by the caution of age, and it is generally realised that the Club must be run as a business, if it is to prosper Dances are held monthly, with attendances of around 150; socials, whist drives, carpet bowls, 300 club, raffles and other fund raising activities ensure a healthy balance sheet and funds for continued improvements.

It should not be thought, however, that the game of bowls is secondary. Enthusiasm for the Game is tremendous, and the Club has without doubt a very rich future bearing in mind the large number of young, talented bowlers who have joined the Club in the past year or two, and who are making a very cheeky habit of lifting the Champioship Cups recently! There are a few players holding County Badges, and there will undoubtedly be many more in the next few years. The Club has also played its part in County administration, from Mr. F. Ellen who held the post of County Hon. Treasurer from 1905-1921 to the present day; Len Knights holding the post of County Handbook Editor and serving on the County Rules and Constitution Committee; and Club President Jim Foran serving on the selection Committee.

So we see a complete transition from the old to the new. The Kingsthorpe Bowling Club, whilst still proud of its age and tradition, is more interested in the future. It enters a new, vigorous and virile phase which will undoubtedly put it into the forefront of Northamptonshire bowling clubs. but far more important than size, wealth, importance or position is the essential spirit of comradeship which puts the game of bowls in its unique sporting position. The Kingsthorpe Bowling Club has always been renowned more than anything for its friendliness to other clubs and other bowlers, and this spirit must and will remain unimpaired by the wind of change which has so altered the fortunes of the club.

Len Knights.
Kingsthorpe Bowling Club.

POTTED HISTORIES

WELLINGBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB

The origins of the Wellingborough Bowling Club go back to before the beginning of the century. The green was then situated at the rear of the Station Hotel in Midland Road and a Minute Book recording the meetings is still in the possession of the club.

It contains some very interesting items which give an idea of the conditions etc., in those days. It records, for instance, the Minutes of the A.G.M. for 1901 at which it was stated that "the club had had a very successful year, and the Deficit had been reduced from £2-12-6 to £2-10-0". A Minute of a further meeting recorded that the Green was in a very bad state and unless something was done it would probably not be possible to play bowls on it the following season. A "ways and means Committee" was thereupon formed to consider methods of raising the necessary cash to put the Green in good order—viz. £5

In spite of these 'financial crises' however, the club survived and in 1912 the Wellingborough Bowling Club Ltd., was formed and the present site in Hatton Street was purchased. It was most fitting and gratifying therefore that 1972 - the Diamond Jubilee Year - should see the opening of the Indoor Bowling Centre.

Wellingborough has always claimed to be one of the strongest clubs in the County, and has, for a number of years supplied, on most occasions, at least one third of the Northants Middleton Cup Team.

It has produced a host of famous bowlers in the past, including the "Bull Brothers" G. S. and A. H. who played for, and captained the England Team over a period exceeding 20 years. Other well known Internationals from the club include G. Coe, W. Mitchell and T. Lee. Incidentally, Tommy Lee, who is the son of the late T. Lee has resided in South Africa for many years—but is still an active Member of the club and flies home regularly to join us in our summer games.

The club's most famous present Member is of course, R. H. (Bobby) Stenhouse, whose bowling prowess is known and recognised throughout the bowling world—and this is meant in its literal sense—throughout the world.

Bobby has brought a host of honours to the club, too numerous to mention—an International for the past ten years—and culminating in 1972 with his appointment as Manager of the England Team at the Worthing World Championships. A Member of whom Wellingborough is justly proud.

The club has won the Manfield Cup on six occasions and has provided numerous County Presidents—the most recent being Mr. Aubrey Mandeville in 1967, and Mr. Leslie Hough in 1971.

The Ladies Section was formed in 1954 by Mrs. A. Ireland and has gone from strength to strength under her leadership. "Alice"—as she is affectionately known to all of us, was honoured with the Presidency of the E.W.B.A. a year or so ago, and is still actively engaged in all aspects of the management of our club.

Northamptonshire Bowling Association

Fixture List for 1972 - as Amended to Decmber, 1971

1972

JAN.	S. 15	E.B.A. Council	London
FEB.	S. 5	M.C.B.A. Annual Meeting	Notts. H.Q.
"	F. 25	M.C.B.A. Annual Dinner	Grange Farm, Toton
MAR.	S. 4	M.C.B.A. versus Northants.	Peterboro' Indoor
"	F. 10	N.B.A. Council Meeting	Kettering Cons.
APRIL	S. 1	M.C. and M.C.B.A., Nominations from Clubs close.	
MAY	S. 6	Buckinghamshire B.A., 3 p.m.	Away
"	S. 13	Northants. Middleton Cup Trial, 3 p.m. ..	Home
"	S. 20	M.C.B.A. LEICESTERSHIRE B.A. ..	Home
"	S. 27	M.C.B.A. WORCESTERSHIRE B.A. ..	Away
"	S. 27	E.B.A. International Trial Match	London
"	S. 27-3 JUNE	N.B.A. President's Tour to Sussex ..	Eastbourne
JUNE	S. 3	M.C.B.A. LINCOLNSHIRE B.A. ..	Away
"	M. 5-17	World Bowls Championships	Worthing
"	S. 10	Bedfordshire B.A., 3 p.m.	Away
"	W. 14	Executive v. Rushden Town—50th Anniversary, 6.30 p.m.	Rushden
"	S. 17	M.C.B.A. WARWICKSHIRE B.A. ..	Home
"	M. 19	Cardigan B.A., President's Tour Side ..	Home
"	W. 21	Executive v. Earls Barton—50th Anniversary, 6.30 p.m.	Earls Barton
"	S. 24	Manfield Cup	Home
"	S. 24	M.C. HERTFORDSHIRE B.A. ..	Home
"	Th. 29	Middlesex B.A.	Away
JULY	S. 1	M.C.B.A. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE B.A.	Away
"	M. 3-8	International Matches and B.I.B.C. Championships	
"	Th. 6	London Parks B.A.	Home
"	S. 8	M.C. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE B.A. ..	Home
"	Th. 13	Norfolk B.A., 2.30 p.m.	Away
"	S. 15	M.C. OXFORDSHIRE B.A.	Awzy
"	Th. 20	Executive v. Wellingborough Town—60th Anniversary, 3 p.m.	Wellingborough Town
"	S. 22	M.C.B.A. DERBYSHIRE B.A.	Home
"	Th. 27	Cambridgshire B.A.	Home
"	S. 29	Middleton Cup Quarter Finals	
"	S. 29	Suffolk B.A.	Home
AUG.	W. 2	Executive v. Abington B.C., Golden Jubilee, 3 p.m.	Abington
"	S. 5	Leicestershire B.A.	Away
"	W. 9	Surrey B.A.	Away
"	S. 12	Hertfordshire B.A.	Away
"	M. 14-25	NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ..	London
"	W. 16	Lincolnshire B.A.	Away
"	M. 14	Executive v. Silver Imps, 3 p.m.	Rushden
"	Th. 17	M.C.B.A. v. Eastern Counties	
"	S. 19	M.C. team and Under 40's match	Home
"	Th. 24	Metropolitan Police, 3 p.m.	Home
"	S. 26	Middleton Cup Semi-Final and Final ..	London

Fixtures *(continued)*

SEPT.	S.	2	M.C.B.A. v. London & Southern Counties	
"	S.	2	Northants. Vice-Presidents Assn., 3 p.m.	Home
"	S.	9	Gloucestershire B.A.	Home
"	W.	13	Essex B.A., 2.30 p.m.	Home
"	S.	16	Warwickshire B.A.	Away
"	S.	16	M.C.B.A. Singles Championships	
"	F.	22	N.B.A. Council Meeting, 7.15 p.m. ..	Kettering
"	S.	23	Berkshire B.A., 3 p.m.	Home
"	S.	23	Guinness B.C., 3 p.m.	Park Royal
OCT.	S.	21	N.B.A. Annual Dinner, 7 p.m.	Overstone
"	S.	28	E.B.A. Council	London
NOV.	S.	4	N.B.A. Council, 2.30 p.m.	Abington
DEC.	S.	2	E.B.A. - A.G.M. and Annual Dinner ..	London
"	S.	9	N.B.A. Annual Meeting, 2.30 p.m. ..	Abington

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. Willson, 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. Crossan, 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)
		Also British Isles Championship Finalists
1964	Semi-Finalists	J. West, D. Houghton, F. Mellows, E. Smith (Finedon Town)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BOWLING ASSOCIATION

1971 STATISTICS

Membership Range	No. of Clubs	No. of Players	N.B.A. Subs.	E.B.A. Subs.
			£	£
Not more than 30	40	1,035	80	50
31–50	22	958	55	38
51–100	10	707	35	23
Over 100	3	364	15	9
	75	3,064	185	120

G. W. J. COOPER, *Hon. Treasurer.*

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, 195
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 196
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 196 Captain of England, Commonwealth Games, Edinburgh, Scotland, 1970.
Stow, F.	(County Ground)	1909-10-11-13
Wright, G.	(Kettering Lodge)	1913-19-20-21-22-28

INTERNATIONAL TRIALISTS

Northamptonshire men (apart from Internationals—see list facing) who have played International Trials.

arter, S. H.	(Wellingborough Town)	1965-66-67
rage, H.	(Wellingborough Town)	1969
argate, R.	(Abington)	1960-61
larris, J. A.	(Rushden Town)	1930-33-34
ing, R. S. T.	(Abington)	1971
night, A. F.	(Abington)	1946-47-58-59
night, H. E.	(Rushden Town)	1938
ee, 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

The series of International Trials commenced in 1924. Records for 1924, 1925, 1927, 1929 and 1931 are not available; if there are any additions for those years, I should be glad to have them. *Editor.*