



CHAMPIONS

The **Kent Regional squad** carried on where the South East left off by recording a triple victory at the EPA's Inter-Regional Championships.

Kent 1st Squad, managed by John Middleton, were crowned Inter-Regional Champions for the fourth year running.

Kent 2nd Squad, managed by David Blakely, retained the Challenge Trophy they won last year while our Juniors, managed by Tracy Turner, won the Division 1 Junior title for the second year running meaning that we had a clean sweep of the major awards.

With Kent players also figuring in the awards presentations for National Doubles, Triples, Over 50's, Junior Doubles and Junior Triples, the presentation ceremony was a Kent triumph.

Reporter: **John Middleton**, Photo: **David Baxter**

BELATED CONGRATULATIONS

Love certainly is in the air this year amongst you pétanquers. The latest couple to 'tie the knot' were **Sheena McLean** and **Paul Bishenden** of the **Beauty of Bath P.C.** who got married on 11th August. We wish them both the very best wishes.

Please note that Sheena (who is secretary of the **Beauty of Bath**) has changed her e-mail address accordingly. It is now Sheenabishenden@aol.com.

A BIT OF A DO!

GRFC Pétanque Section are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year and would like to invite all their pétanque friends to join in the celebrations.

Date : Friday 14th October
Time : 7.30 'til 12.00
Cost : £5.00 per person
Entertainment : Dancing to 'Late Night Radio'
and a Disco

Contact Cathy (01474 359511), Ian (01474 534840) or Glenys (01634 716683) for tickets or information.

PETANQUE-A-THON

The George P.C. will shortly be hosting a 24 hour pétanque-a-thon. The event is to raise money for the Cruse Bereavement Services. They are looking for people to join them in this worthwhile cause from **8pm on Friday 7th October**. You can play for as long or short as you would like. Sponsorship forms and more info can be obtained from **Sheila King** on **07843 386197** or thegeorgepc@ntlworld.com

A collection taken at Brean Sands got the event off to a magnificent start with **£186.30** donated.

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Sun 2nd – County Doubles Championship @ Tovil

Sun 9th – Compaid Doubles @ Crowborough

**Sun 16th – County Mixed Doubles
@ Hartley**

Sun 23rd - Cash Doubles @ Plough & Chequers

Local Open Competitions

County Events

IN-HOUSE HARTLEY

Info courtesy of www.hartleypetanque.org.uk

Over recent weeks **Hartley Country Club Pétanque Section** has been holding their inter-club events. On Sunday 21st August there were 14 club triples contesting the annual intra-club triples competition. The following weekend a "new" doubles competition format was introduced by **Jean-Louis Guiot** and tried out on Bank Holiday Monday. Twenty eight players turned out to be instructed in a form of "Mixed-Up" doubles. Finally the finals of the club Summer 2005 Singles and Doubles were held on Sunday 11 September. The final results were as follows:

TRIPLES:

Winners: **Alan Rush, Rae Wall & Babs Carr**

SHOOTING:

(23 took part in the shooting competition)

Ladies Winner: **Wendy Brooks**

Mens Winner: **Colin Senneck**

'MIXED UP' DOUBLES:

Winner: **Diane Bryant**

SUMMER SINGLES:

Winner: **Mick Nash**

SUMMER DOUBLES:

Finalists: **Peter Bryant & Geoff Fuller v Jean Louis Guiot & Ron Yates** to be played at a later date.

NEW PRESIDENT

After many years of loyal service to the BPA and, more latterly, the EPA, **Fred Stirland** has decided not to seek re-election for the post of EPA President. Therefore with just one nomination **Mike Pegg** will take over the reins at the forthcoming EPA AGM on 8th October.

With two applicants for the post of EPA Secretary there will be a postal vote for this position. Application forms have gone out in the post to each member's household so you should have received yours by now.

ENGLISH PETANQUE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Will be held on Saturday 8th October
At Denham Garden Village, Denham Green Lane,
Denham UB9 5CR
Commencing at 11am**

Members must show their current EPA Membership Card when signing in.

DIAMOND DUO MIXED DOUBLES

Report by **Jack Milner**

The "Diamond Duo Open Mixed Doubles" competition was held on Sunday 21st August at the Plough & Chequers, Gillingham. The winners from Southern Region, Worthing to be exact, were Angie & Lee Jamieson, who beat the Plough & Chequers pairing of **Michel Hourcastagnou** and **Tracy Turner** in the final to a tight 13 points to 10. The losing semi finalists were **Sarah & Richard Spillett** and **Diz & Phil Murray** (all **Plough & Chequers**). The plate part of the day was won by **Jodie Turner** and **Kevin Spillett** of the **P&C**, noting this was only the second time Jodie had played (who in the old term 'played her cotton socks off') and putting many much more experienced players to shame during the day. They beat **Jackie Selling** and **Paul Collins** from **Tovil** in the final.

Match Summary

Competition : Diamond Duo Mixed Doubles
Venue : Plough & Chequers
Date : Sunday 21st August
Winners : A & L Jamieson
Runners Up : Plough & Chequers
(T.Turner/M.Hourcastagnou)
No. of Teams : 8

RICARD CUP

Report by **Denise Williams**

A good turn out of 16 teams on a lovely warm Bank Holiday Sunday got the day off to a good start for the Harriers Ricard Cup competition. The main final was contested between father and son duo **Neville and David Hurren** (**Harriers/Plough & Chequers**) playing as the Bank House) and **Elaine Jackson** and **Barry Soilleux** (**Harriers**). An interesting and exciting final with good pointing and shooting on both sides. The **Harriers** eventually winning 13-9. The Plate final was played between **Andy Brown** and **Scott Ashby** (**Tovil**) and **Maureen & John Hines** (**Villager**). Maureen and John finally losing out to Andy and Scott 13-1. A good time was had by all. A donation will be given to the Junior Fund. A special thank you to **Paul Hardwick** at **Tovil Working Men's Club** for his continued support of our competitions.

Match Summary

Competition : Ricard Cup Doubles
Venue : Tovil Working Men's Club
Date : Sunday 28th August
Winners : Harriers (B.Soilleux/E.Jackson)
Runners Up : Harriers/P&C (N & D.Hurren)
No. of Teams : 16

COURAGE CUP

Report by **Peter Lake**

Nine teams competed in the last triple competition of the season. After the leagues Oxshott (Chris Wilcox, Gill & Andy Harrington) won a close final 13-10 against **Hartley** (**Norma Parkway, Barbara & Ken Potter**). Teams from **Seal** and **Tovil** were the Losing semi-finalists. **Steve Tait, Barbara & Dave Martin** (**Seal**) won the plate. A total of £85.00 plus trophies were presented as prizes.

Competition : Courage Cup
Venue : Seal
Date : Sunday 4th September
Winners : Oxshott
(C.Wilcox/G & A.Harrington)
Runners Up : Hartley (N.Parkway/B & K.Potter)
No. of Teams : 9

1ST CALL 4 DOUBLES

Report by **Jack Milner**

12 teams competed in the second annual "1st Call 4" doubles competition. The final was between the Rejects (**Dave Hurren and Matthew Horrigan**) and **Old Sheaf 1** (**Charlie and Matthew Shrimpton**). The final was a fine display of shooting and pointing by all the combatants. Having seen their 11-6 lead brought back to 11 all Charlie and Matt eventually managed to take the last 2 points to win the title. In the Plate **Old Sheaf's Teresa Williams** and **Chris Gillman** played the final against the **Cocks** duo of **Russell Brewis** and **Rob Booth**. This was a very quick final which the Cocks won easily.

Competition : 1st Call 4 Doubles
Venue : Old Sheaf
Date : Sunday 11th September
Winners : Old Sheaf (C & M.Shrimpton)
Runners Up : Plough & Chequers/Lordswood
(D.Hurren/M.Horrigan)
No. of Teams : 12

CHARITY DOUBLES

Report by **Pete Chappell**

16 players took part in the Dolores Rodriguez Charity Doubles. In the first round the winning teams made short work of their opponents with **Beauty of Bath** (**Paul & Sheena Bishenden**) and the **Windsors** (**Robert & Della Windsor**) making their way to the final. Here the **Windsors** made steady progress but the **Beauty of Bath** suddenly had two good ends and took the trophy 13 to 6.

Competition : Dolores Rodriguez Doubles
Venue : Crowborough
Date : Sunday 18th September 2005
Winners : Beauty of Bath (S & P Bishenden)
Runners Up : Crowborough (D & R Windsor)
No. of Teams : 8

INTER REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2005

(Continued from front page)

Nearly 1,000 players, officials and supporters turned out at Brean Sands over the weekend of 17-18th September for the EPA's blue ribbon event, the Inter-Regional Championships. Once again this turned out to be a superb weekend of boules played in a great spirits. Despite the change of date the organisers still managed to lay on some superb weather that saw some of us blending in with our spanking new red County kit.

DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONSHIPS:

A cautious start to the competition saw a 5 games to 4 win over Eastern Region before the squad relaxed and recorded 8-1 victories over East Midlands and Wales. These were followed by consecutive 6-3 wins over Isle of Wight, Northern, Chiltern and Southern Regions.

By the end of Saturday Kent had built up a commanding 10 games lead over their nearest rivals. Three more wins over the Isle of Wight, Southern and Northern followed on Sunday morning. Despite losing the last two rounds 4-5 on Sunday the title never looked in doubt as we finished 10 games ahead of second placed Chiltern.

Elsewhere newly promoted Northern Region consolidated their place in division 1 with an admirable fourth place finish, while the other newly promoted team, Wales, faced a quick return to division 2. The biggest surprise was that the normally formidable East Midlands Region, who finished second last year and are the only other Region to have won the title at Brean, were relegated.

DIVISION 1 TABLE:

Pos	Region	Wins	Pts Diff
1st	Kent	71	+222
2nd	Chiltern	61	+163
3rd	Southern	57	+90
4th	Northern	57	+35
5th	Isle of Wight	55	+14
6th	Eastern	54	-34
7th	East Midlands	49	-50
8th	Wales	28	-440

DIVISION 1 JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Our first string of **Kris Smith, Jennifer Cooter, Scott Ashby** and **Andrew Shiner** performed exceptionally well all weekend winning 10 of their 12 matches to run out winners two games ahead of Chiltern.

For the second year running the result hinged on a penultimate round match against their closest rivals from Chiltern Region and once again their nerve held in a very tight match to secure the title.



Pictured above Inter Regional Junior Champions 2005

DIVISION 2 JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Our second string juniors, **Alex Bruce, Philip Jarrett, Robert Cooter** and **Charles Fribbens**, improved on their performance last year by winning 8 of their 12 games to finish third.

JUNIOR TABLES:

Pos	DIVISION 1	Wins	Diff
1st	Kent	10	+43
2nd	Chiltern	8	+60
3rd	Northern	6	+13
4th	East Midlands	6	-8
5th	Eastern	6	-12
6th	Southern	5	-1
7th	Wales	5	-35
8th	Isle of Wight	2	-60

Pos	DIVISION 2	Wins	Diff
1st	Devon	10	+72
2nd	London	9	+59
3rd	Combined (Kent)	8	+37
4th	Thames Valley	8	+5
5th	Anglia	6	+5
6th	West Midlands	3	-42
7th	Kernow	2	-42
8th	Great Western	1	-94

CHALLENGE TROPHY:

Kent (nee South East) remained undefeated in any round for the second year running to retain the Pontins Challenge Shield. Solid performances by all four teams gave them a winning margin of 6 games over second placed Wales.



Pictured above – Team Manager **Dave Blakely** and members of the Pontins Challenge winning squad

Challenge Trophy Table:

Pos	REGION	Wins	Diff
1 st	Kent	31	+124
2 nd	Wales	25	+95
3 rd	Isle of Wight	24	+54
4 th	Southern	23	+43
5 th	Chiltern	22	+54
6 th	East Midlands	21	+31
7 th	Northern	17	-57
8 th	West Midlands	16	-47
9 th	Thames Valley	15	-38
10 th	Eastern	15	-99
11 th	Great Western	11	-160

COMBINED SQUAD:

As defending Inter Regional Champions the Region again had management and the lion's share of the teams in the EPA Combined squad.

The squad, made up of teams from Kent, East Midlands, Eastern and Chiltern Regions, was really on a 'hiding to nothing' competing against teams that finished much higher above them in their own Region's qualifiers. For instance **Jes Paine, Martin Pennell, Ron and Alex James** finished 15th in the Kent County Qualifying series but they faced the other Region's No.1 teams. Despite this obvious handicap they managed to win half of their 12 games.

The other teams fared similarly to leave the squad in a creditable sixth place.

DIVISION 2 TABLE:

Pos	Region	Wins	Pts Diff
1st	London	74	+361
2nd	West Midlands	66	+224
3rd	Thames Valley	61	+117
4th	Anglia	57	+62
5th	Devon	49	-107
6th	Combined	47	-109
7th	Great Western	43	-198
8th	Kernow	35	-350

(Tables courtesy of **Tiny Neville**)

TOP PERFORMERS:

As you'd expect from a squad that won three trophies there were a lot of good performances. However the pick of the bunch was from Challenge side Kent 1, **Charles Shrimpton, Steve Golder, Trevor Glenn** and "super sub" **Dave Woodman**, (pictured below) who won all 10 of their games to finish as best of the 44 teams competing in the Challenge event.

In the main competition Kent 5 (**George Jarrett, Dave Chalkly** and **Michel Hourcastagnou**), Kent 3 (**Bruno Bove, Leigh Maxey** and **Sylvan Borsi**) and Kent Juniors (**Kris Smith, Jennifer Cooter, Scott Ashby** and **Andrew Shiner**) all won 10 of their 12 games. While the juniors (**Alex Bruce, Philip Jarrett, Robert Cooter** and **Charles Fribbens**) were the best performers in the Combined squad with 8 wins.



Pictured above – Kent 1 top team in the Challenge competition receiving their awards.

A BIG THANK YOU

A big well done and thank you to the organisers and officials who once again gave up their weekend for the enjoyment of others. Despite a few 'glitches' it was another great weekend.

LEAGUE FOCUS

KENT LEAGUE FINALS NIGHT

Report by **Jack Milner**

The **Kent Pétanque League** Cup and plate finals were played at **The Villager**, Vigo on Friday 26th August. The cup final was an all **Plough & Chequers** affair between their first and second teams.

The first half games both took some time to complete as both teams were fully aware of the capacity of the other! There were several dead ends as the shooting was generally of a very high order. At the end honours were even at one game each, the scores being 13-9 and 3-13.

The second half was much quicker and the games were not as evenly matched as **Plough & Chequers 1** ran out easy winners - taking the last two games 13-8 and 13-3 to secure a 3-1 victory to become the 2005 Kent League Knockout Cup Champions. The winning squad consisted of **Kevin Wood, Trevor Gordon, Dave Hurren, Richard Spillett, John Saguato, Martin Bishop** and **David Lavelle**.

The Plate final was between two Division 4 sides **Tovil Treaclers** and **Hartley Eagles**. A very exciting game with some excellent pétanque played by both sides. The first half games both went to Tovil 13-8 and 13-12. The second game should have been taken easily much earlier by Tovil as they were way ahead, but Hartley crawled back point by point to 12 all - but Tovil just managed to take the last point to win the game!

In the second half **Tovil's John Middleton, Peter West** and **Barbara Middleton** had an 'off game' and were soundly beaten 13 - 6 in the third game. It was left to **Paul Collins, Jackie Selling** and **Ron Hill** to win the match taking the final game 13 - 8 to secure a 3-1 win to become the Kent League 2005 Plate Champions.

It was very hard most of the time to figure out who was playing for Hartley, for there was so many of them present - it seemed that all the Hartley Country Club had turned out to spectate along with much verbal support!

Both matches produced excellent pétanque and were played in a sporting and friendly manner with good support from the hosts, the Vigo club and Dave Little of the Villager PH.

NORMAN STANDS DOWN

Having done a sterling job for a number of years, **Norman Garrud** has decided to stand down as organiser of the **Maidstone & District Winter Pétanque League**. Thankfully another 'willing' volunteer in the form of **Joe Houlihan** (landlord of the Pilot P.H.) has stepped into the breach and agreed to run the league this year so that the rest of us can enjoy (I'm not sure that's the correct word) the sport through the winter months.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Once again there were mixed fortunes for Kent teams in the **National League**. In League 1 **Plough & Chequers 2** cemented their place in the semi-finals with their second 13 games to nil win, this time over Coventry Godiva. In the same division **GRFC** recorded their second win with a 7-6 triumph against the Prince of Wales on the Isle of Wight to take second place.

In League 2 the table topping decider was between Victorians and **Plough & Chequers 1** but a disastrous match saw P&C go down 3 games to 10 to leave them in second place, missing out on the semi-finals. **Hartley's** final League 3 game was also on the Isle of Wight against table toppers Ventnor 1. This game also ended in a 3-10 score line against the Kent side.

This means that the top four teams going into the play-off's at Crondall on 25th September are Victorians, **Plough & Chequers 2**, Ventnor 1 and best second placed team Coventry.

FAIRLY FASCINATING FACTS

All three league winners were the teams drawn in position 'A' which gave them all two home games out of their three matches. Any coincidence? Probably not as they were by far and away the best sides in the competition anyway.

234 games of pétanque were played over the three league weekends with a total of 4,486 points being scored.

AROUND THE WORLD

NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 23rd annual Nordic Championships were held in Norway over the weekend of 20-21st August. Each Nation had two teams in each of 4 triples events - mens, ladies, juniors and veterans. Denmark won the Gold in both the Junior and Veterans events while Sweden took Gold in the Open and Ladies events. Sweden also won silver medals in all four categories. The final medal tally was as follows:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Sweden	2	4	1
Denmark	2	0	0
Finland	0	0	2
Norway	0	0	1

Results courtesy of www.petanque.dk

SOUTH EAST OLD BOYS IN INTERNATIONAL ACTION

Ex **South East** and **Crown** member **David Lippard** will once again be representing his adopted Nation, New Zealand. This time it's at the World Championships in Brussels. Secretary of the **Crown Pétanque Club**, **Andy Mills**, informs me that David will be visiting Britain after the World Championships to catch up with friends and family. He will be at the Crown, Chislehurst for their "Club Night" on Tues 27th September. All who knew him are welcome to join them.

Two other South East old boys, **Phil Bradshaw** and **Graham Lewis**, have also been representing their country recently in Switzerland. See the report opposite for more info.

GUERNSEY OPEN CHAMPS

Diz and **Phil Murray** from the **Plough & Chequers** won the Guernsey Open Doubles on 10th September to add to the Triples title they won last year. They defeated club mate, **Martin Baker** and his wife Jan in the final.

ZURICH INTERNATIONAL GRAND PRIX

Report and Picture courtesy of **Mike Dow**

The Tri-Nation team of Phil Bradshaw, Mike Dow and Graham Lewis represented Great Britain at the Zurich International Pétanque Grand Prix between the 19th and 21st August 2005. On the Friday evening the players competed in the super m \acute{e} lée with some 300 boulists. Each of the GB players won 2 out of their 3 games and all were placed in the top 50.

Saturday morning saw the singles, Tete a Tete, competition with some 80 players taking part. The British players came 11th, 23rd and 30th. Saturday afternoon saw the main competition, the Grand Prix International triples with representative teams from 11 countries, Algeria, Australia, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Holland, Italy, Madagascar, Sweden and Switzerland. Some 150 teams competed. The Great Britain team won both their two games in the barrage to qualify for the final 64. They then went on to beat two strong Swiss teams to get to the last 16. However late into the evening they lost to the German team in the main arena.

On the Sunday Mike and Graham played in the International Doubles but did not qualify through to the last 32.

All competitions were played in pouring rain, the organisers considered this to be British weather. The British team would like to thank the organisers of a well run and enjoyable event and also thank their sponsor Edo, a musician, who paid for some of their accommodation costs.



Pictured above - Possibly the first truly "British" team to represent Great Britain in an International pétanque event, left to right Graham Lewis (English), Mike Dow (Scottish) and Phil Bradshaw (Welsh).

COMING SOON TO A VENUE NEAR YOU!

**The Kent County
Doubles Championships**
will be held at **Tovil Working Mens Club**
on **Sunday 2nd October 2005**

and

**The Kent County
Mixed Doubles Championships**
will be held at **Hartley Country Club**
on **Sunday 16th October 2005**

Registration 09:15-09:45
Entry fee is £6 per adult, £2 per junior

Both events are open exclusively to current members of the Kent Pétanque Association.

Members will be required to show their membership cards at registration and teams must be in matching tops.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

The Isle of Wight Region won the EPA's champion of champions event, which was held at Kenilworth on 11th September. The triple of Kevin Gifford, Sean Prendergast and Robert Binnie beat Eastern Region's Simon Bird, Sofiane Lachani and Ian Hall in the final. No teams from Kent participated in the event.

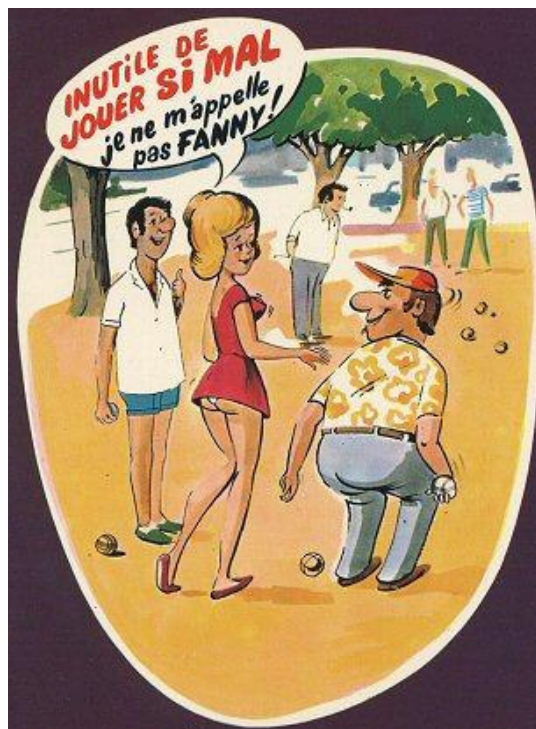
Played alongside this event was the EPA shooting championship. This was won by junior member Dean Seville from the East Midlands. Dean overcame Jerome Rousseau (West Midlands) in the final to take the title. Another GB Junior, Clare Brooks, just missed out on the play off places, finishing in fifth place after the qualifying round.

JUNIOR FUND

Another £20 has been kindly donated to the junior fund made up of donations from the Nord Maritime trip (£5), Harriers (£10) and Old Sheaf (£5). All were thanked frothier generosity.

Info from **Jack Milner**

SACRÉS BOULES



"You don't need to play that bad,
my name's not Fanny"

The cartoons in Sacrés Boules are brought to you courtesy of www.petanque.org

IN THE NEXT EDITION

In next month's edition our intrepid reporters will bring you news from pétanque's premier competition - the World Championships. But if you can't wait that long check out the results at:

www.brussels-petanque2005.be

We'll also be bringing you reports from County and local competitions as well as all the normal news and gossip. So don't miss it!

EDITORS NOTE

The views expressed in the **KENT PETANQUE GAZETTE** are those of the editor and contributors only. They do not, necessarily, reflect the views of the British Pétanque Federation, the English Pétanque Association or the Kent Pétanque Association.

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