## NATIONAL INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS AT NOTTINGHAM

26 March to 2 April, 2016

## **DAY THREE - MONDAY, 28 MARCH**

# LINE STILL FINDS A LENGTH



Anne Pearce, Margaret Darkin and Wendy Line from Suthampton's Atherley club

Wendy Line (R), who won the English outdoor singles and pairs titles in 1982, and memorably achieved a Commonwealth Games gold medal in the women's singles in 1986, made a triumphant return to the green yesterday, when she partnered her Atherley (Southampton) clubmates Anne Pearce and Margaret Darkin through to the quarter finals of the women's two-wood triples.

Leading a Bounds Green trio skipped by Una Harman, 11-6 after nine ends, they went on a scoring spree, and compiled a lethal 1-4-3-3-2-2 sequence to lead, 26-6, before dropping two singles for a massive 26-8 victory. Jean Collier, Sue Cooke and Alex Jacobs, from the Chippenham-based North Wilts club, and Josie Lloyd, Wendy Anderson and Janet Willis, from the Westlecot in Swindon, travelled up from Wiltshire what was essentially a local derby - the two clubs are only 21.5 miles apart. North Wilts won, 19-8.

The Atherley trio were involved in a close encounter with Huntingdon's Jane Baldwin, Dina Barlow and Nicky Verlander, who scored a single on the 18th end to edge home, 11-10, a defeat that may spell the end of a distinguished career for the 81-year-old Wendy Line, who has spoken of retiring.

North Wilts, however, went on the rampage to beat Boston, 23-9, York's Joan Jackson, Carol Instone and Helen Walker stormed to a 26-5 win over Tilbury, and Carol Smith, Jean Williams and Jean Munden, from the Swanley-based White Oak club, toppled Harpenden, 18-8.

In tomorrow's semi finals, York will play North Wilts, and Huntingdon will face White Oak.

## Women's O50 Triples - results...

### Last sixteen

Joan Jackson, Carol Instone, Helen Walker (York) bt Ros Coombes, Moira Webber, Barbara Bellamy (Torquay United) 20-10; Sue Clark, Jackie Hadley, Carole Riley (Tilbury) bt Rachel Clarke, Maureen Wright, Margaret Draper (Beccles) 22-8; Janet Vinter, Jill Smith, Jean Thompson (Boston) bt Chris Hobbs, Bridget Collins, Betty Spicer (Arun) 17-9; Jean Collier, Sue Cooke, Alex Jacobs (North Wilts) bt Josie Lloyd, Wendy Anderson, Janet Willis (Swindon Westlecot) 19-8; Anne Pearce, Wendy Line, Margaret Darkin (Atherley) bt Rhoda Young, Pamela Harber, Una Harman (Bounds Green) 26-8; Jane Baldwin, Dina Barlow, Nicky Verlander (Huntingdon) bt Gill Long, Ann Warrington, Pat Bourne (Croydon) 15-13; Carol Smith, Jean Williams, Jean Munden (White Oak) bt Sue Lemon, Thelma Stubbs, Eva Radford (Melton Mowbray) 23-12; Jennie Redford, Beryl Birch, Lucy Ratcliffe (Harpenden) bt Margaret Docherty (sub), Christine Wharton, Eleanor Gass (Cumbria) 21-14.

### Quarter finals:

York bt Tilbury 26-5; North Wilts bt Boston 23-9; Huntingdon bt Atherley 11-10; White Oak bt Harpenden 18-8.

# **HOLDERS MAKE DO AND SURVIVE**



## Men's O50 Triples

Defending champions Kingsthorpe launched the defence of their title with aplomb, and sailed into the quarter finals of the over 60 men's triples with a 19-5 win over a Torquay United trio.

Kingsthorpe's path to the national finals has been eventful, because Mick Sharpe, who skipped the winning team last year, underwent a knee replacement operation and had to drop out after the first round of the regional play-offs.

His place was taken by Andy Manton, who gained his first cap for England in the recent home internationals in Llanelli, but Sharpe was persuaded to come back into the team last night, when Jim McKee, who helped Northants win the national over 60 team title yesterday, hurt his back and declared himself unfit to play.

Peter Malloy, at lead, is the only ever-present in the team, which now features Sharpe mid-rink and Manton at skip - and the new-look trio were far to good on the day for Lloyd Roberts, Bob Condon and former England star John Evans..

Cumbria, without a home green since the floods, were swamped by Essex County, 22-10, Lincoln beat Bounds Green, 17-11, Glenn Skipp's Hartlepool outfit accounted for Moonfleet 2000, skipped by Barry Patterson, 17-8, and Beccles overcame a 9-0 deficit to beat Bedford Borough, 17-14.

Further along the green, Wey Valley beat Christie Miller, 19-10, Folkestone sank the Isle of Wight, 17-10, and Swindon-based Westlecot, skipped by Mel Biggs, were always in control against Blackpool Newton Hall, winning with something in hand, 16-9.

The four quarter finals were all tense affairs that generated exciting finishes, but the biggest drama came on the rink where Folkestone took on Westlecot - and scored a sensational six on the penultimate end to take the lead at 17-15.

A double for Westlecot tied things up at 17-17, and the extra end produced more drama when Folkestone skip Roger Herridge sent the jack to three of his team's back bowls, and set up a 20-17 victory.

In tomorrow's semi finals, Lincoln's Phil Grimes, Alan Watts and Danny Brown face Graham Catchpole, Mark Todd and David Wood, from Beccles, and Kingsthorpe face a Kentish challenge from Folkestone's Arthur McCaughan, Colin Elson and Roger Herridge.

## Men's O50 Triples - results...

#### Last sixteen:

Steve Mahoney, John Stewart, David Dar (Essex County) bt Billy Adam, Ronnie McMath, Rick Gallagher (Cumbria) 22-10; Phil Graves, Alan Watts, Danny Brown (Lincoln) bt Colin Mason, Ken Malcolm, Alan Harman (Bounds Green) 17-11; Dale Oram, Ian Jackson, Glenn Skipp (Hartlepool) bt Doug Rumble, Ron McCarthy, Barry Patterson (Moonfleet 2000) 17-8; Graham Catchpole, Mark Todd, David Wood (Beccles) bt Tony Peck, Graham White, Mark Curtis (Bedford Borough) 17-14; Peter Malloy, Jim McKee, Andy Manton (Kingsthorpe) bt Lloyd Roberts, Bob Condon, John Evans (Torquay United) 19-5; Bill Short, Paul Vamvacopoulos, Ian Ross (Wey Valley) bt Chris Easton, Nigel Price, Andy Moore (Christie Miller) 19-10; Arthur McCaughan, Colin Elson, Roger Herridge (Folkestone) bt Alan Cawdell, Peter Furmidge, Keith Beckett (Isle of Wight) 17-10; Terry Walton, Dave Snell, Mel Biggs (Swindon Westlecot) bt Steve Airey, Eric Wallace, Eric Rawcliffe (Blackpool Newton Hall) 16-9.

#### **Quarter finals:**

Lincoln bt Essex County 17-16; Beccles bt Hartlepool 16-13; Kingsthorpe bt Wey Valley 20-17 Folkestone bt Westlecot 20-17.