

During National Volunteers Week we celebrated the work of some of our fantastic volunteers around the county. A big thank you to everyone who gives us their time to open up tennis in Kent.

If you'd like to volunteer, we're looking for a [Secretary for Kent Tennis](#). It's an exciting time to get involved in the work we do as a county, and we need someone with great administrative skills, ideally with a background in compliance or governance, but not essential.

At our EGM in May, Kent Tennis members agreed that the Association could press ahead with plans to become a charity from 1 January 2024.

Scroll down for more news from Kent Tennis, and what's coming up. And, follow us on Instagram and Facebook



Kent volunteers recognised for their work

Former GB international players, Barry Cowan and Julie Salmon, and John Golding, LTA South-East Regional Manager, made calls to three of our volunteers to thank them for their contribution to tennis:

Jason Baker

from Tunbridge Wells LTC

Jason's in his 11th year as a Kent Tennis Councillor, having served 8 years as Hon. Secretary and 9 years as a Board member, chairing the Kent Tennis Competitions Committee, Officials Network and refereeing the Kent Tennis County Championships.

Andy Candler

from Meopham LTC

Andy's the driving force behind opening up tennis to more people and inspiring greater diversity at the club, leading the delivery of a game-changing facility project for members and the wider local community to play tennis all year round and attracting new members

Hazel Lindfield

from The Parklangley Club and Sevenoaks LTC

Hazel's been a Kent Tennis seniors' ladies captain for 21 years and the Kent Tennis Ladies Seniors Co-ordinator for over 5 years.

Kent Tennis Board members personally thanked a further 7 volunteers nominated by clubs around the county. [Click here to find out for more about the volunteers.](#)



Photo: LTA

Kent's new Wheelchair Tennis World Champion

Congratulations to 16-year-old Ruben Harris from Canterbury, winning 7 out of his 8 matches as part of Great Britain's junior team, which defeated France, Netherlands, Belgium, Australia and USA to win the Wheelchair Tennis Junior World Team Cup last month. Ruben has now reached 12 in the ITF World Junior Rankings – a career high.



Kent's latest padel court opened in Wye

Over 100 members and visitors joined Sandi Procter, LTA President, Mary Evans, Kent LTA President, and local MP, The Rt Hon Damien Green, at Wye Tennis Club for the official opening of their new padel court. Spectators enjoyed an excellent exhibition match featuring GB padel player, Abigail Tordoff.

[Learn More about Padel](#)

Photo: Lucy Mohr / @lucymohrstudio

Tim Henman supporting tennis in East Kent

Hythe LTC hosted an afternoon of coaching for Year 3 and 4 pupils from local schools last month, which was run by the club's Head Coach, Chris Hollands, and the coaching team, with special guest, Tim Henman OBE, lending his support. It was part of the East Kent Community Tennis Programme, which aims to get more young people involved in tennis.



Developing our younger players

County Performance Manager, Craig Allen, is offering his support to coaches and clubs across Kent to increase the number of 6 and 7 year olds reaching the 8U County Programme level.

He's already visited Avenue Tennis, Oakwood Tennis Club, Bexley LTC, Martin Dene Tennis Club, Margate LTC, Broadstairs and St Peters LTC, Ramsgate, Faversham Tennis Club, Herne Bay LTC, Deal Indoor Tennis Centre, Canterbury LTC, South Eastern Tennis in Maidstone, talking to the coaches about how Kent Tennis can support them - and he's keen to hear from other coaches and clubs.

Contact Craig for more info

Kent's junior player and team success

8U

Our 8U Girls team won their south east regional County Cup event, and our 8U Boys team were runners up in their event.



9U

The 9U Boys and Girls teams had won through the qualifying stage to reach the National (South) Finals, where the Boys were runners up and the Girls came third.



10U

Kent's 10U Boys team won their regional qualifying group to reach the National (South) Finals, while our 10U Girls team were runners up in their group.



14U

Both our 14U Boys and Girls teams qualified for the National Finals, where our Boys finished as runners up, and the Girls finished in 6th place.



Annual Secondary Schools Doubles

This year's Championships saw 118 boys and 114 girls from across Kent and our 4 London Boroughs competing for the titles.

In the Boys championship, Eltham College won the Years 7 and 8 event, and Sevenoaks School A team triumphed in the Years 9 and 10 competition.



Sevenoaks School A team won the Years 7 and 8 event and Newstead Wood School won the Years 9 and 10 competition in the Girls championship.



New Seniors County Cup record

The Men's 80s County Cup event is new for this year, and Canterbury's Stephen Woodley played in the Kent Men's 80s team in their first match of the season, bringing the number of matches he's played in seniors tennis to 130, a new record for the Kent men – well done Stephen!

So far, Kent's Seniors County Cup teams have seen wins for Kent's Men's 60s (v Surrey), Men's 75s (v Sussex) and Ladies 55s (v Essex), and losses for Kent Men's Over 80s and Over 65s to Essex and Dorset respectively.

[Follow seniors teams here](#)

British Open Masters Clay Court Championships

Kent players were in action from over 30s through to over 85s age groups, with 7 Kent players reaching finals of the national event in Bournemouth.

In the singles, Toby Churchill won the over 30s, Zane Cheeseman was runner up in the over 40s, Niall Sweeney won the over 70s, defeating Jasper Cooper in the final, and Bob Milner won the over 85s.

The doubles competitions saw Niall Sweeney and Jasper Cooper play each other again in the over 70s, with their respective (non-Kent) partners, Jasper on the winning side this time. Terry Coles and Peter Kiss were runners up in the over 45s.

What's coming up?

Kent Tennis Primary Schools Annual Doubles Championship finals to be played on 16 June at Bromley Tennis Centre.

11U Boys and Girls

Kent's 11U Boys and Girls are playing in the County Cup National Finals in Wrexham on 7-9 July.

LTA Youth Division 2

LTA Youth Tennis Division 2 Finals on 20 June (Girls) and 21 June (Boys) at Canterbury LTC.

County Closed Championships

Early reminder that our County Closed Championships will be from Monday 21 to Sunday 27 August at the Bromley Tennis Centre. [Click here for more info.](#)

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Kent Tennis are actively seeking new commercial partners to help raise the profile of Tennis in Kent and to help support our Teams, Leagues, Schools, Players and Clubs.

We're here to help as many people as possible get involved with tennis, across the whole of Kent and with your support we can achieve our aim.

CONTACT Kent Tennis Office
info@kenttennis.org.uk
01689 880757

If you know someone interested in keeping up to date with Kent Tennis news, they need to email info@kenttennis.org.uk and ask to be added to the KLT mailing list.

Key contacts

Phil Lynch (Office Manager)
phil.lynch@kenttennis.org.uk

Janice White (Club & Coach Engagement)
janice.white@kenttennis.org.uk

Siobhan Butler (Competitions & Performance)
siobhan.butler@kenttennis.org.uk

Craig Allen (County Performance Manager)
craig.allen@kenttennis.org.uk

Office Telephone Number:
01689 880757



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