



KLT Online – February 2023

Introduction from this month's guest editor: Vanessa Webb

Vanessa is our County Press Officer reaching out to 67 newspapers on a weekly basis covering every corner of the county from Thanet to Greenwich. Her articles can also be seen on Kent online sports media, heard on the radio with KMFM and regular news stories with familiar Kent faces taking part on the KMTV Channel. Vanessa has a good relationship with her contacts at BBC South-East and ITV Meridian who also cover Kent stories.



I was thrilled to be asked to be guest editor for this issue of the KLT. What a

great way to kick off 2023 with some exciting news stories. We welcome not one, but two lady presidents, player and team successes in the seniors, plus a Disability report and we still have half a dozen more issues this year!

Next month will be our Kent LTA Awards Presentation with lots more success stories to follow around the county.

Happy Reading

Mary Evans - Kent Tennis President



Mary Evans became the second lady President when she was appointed at the Kent LTA Annual General Meeting on 16 January. This is a proud moment and a great honour for Mary, after 28 years on the Association's Council. A role she will take on with much enthusiasm and get great enjoyment from.

Mary commented: *"It is a privilege to be a small cog in the highly successful wheels of Kent Tennis, and giving something back to the County Association"*.

Having joined the Kent LTA Council in 1995, Mary became Chairman of the Junior Development Committee. In 2005, she was invited to help set up the

first event for presentation of the County Awards and since then her role developed. She is now chair of the Awards Committee. In 2015 the LTA recognised that this was a good way to identify and reward those who have helped develop the game at the grass roots and performance levels and introduced their national awards scheme. Mary received the Charles Bailey Lifetime Achievement Award at the Kent LTA Awards in 2010.

The short list has already been released for 2022 and the Annual Awards Dinner will take place on Saturday 11 February at the Delta Tudor Park Hotel and Country Club in Bearsted when the winners will be announced. Mary plays a key part in the set up of the awards evening and is a co-host presenter. However, this year, she will also be presenting some awards in her new role as Kent LTA President.

[You can read all about Mary's colourful career here](#)

Sandi Procter Appointed LTA President

Sandi Procter is the LTA's 24th President. Her appointment was confirmed at the LTA AGM last year, with her taking up the position from the start of 2023.





Sandi steps up from her previous role as LTA Deputy President of the national governing body to become the most senior volunteer representative in tennis in Britain and will serve a term of three years, succeeding current LTA President David Rawlinson whose term ended in December. Sandi becomes the second female to hold the role of LTA President after the late Cathie Sabin OBE, who served in the role from 2014-16. Tennis has historically been a pioneer for women and girls in sport, and her appointment to one of the organisation's three most senior roles will help drive further progress as the LTA puts a special focus on women and girls tennis this year.

[You can read all about Sandi's illustrious rise to the top here](#)

Nigel Jordan Appointed DTAG Chair

Yet another person from Kent is contributing at the very heart of tennis. Nigel Jordan joined the LTA Board on 1 January 2023 as a Non-Executive Director by

Jordan joined the LTA Board on 1 January 2023 as a Non-Executive Director by virtue of his appointment as the Chair of the Development Tennis Advisory Group (DTAG) for an initial term of 3 years. Nigel has supported grass roots tennis for most of his adult life - as a player, team captain, committee member and club Chair.



DTAG is an advisory forum which drives collaboration between grass roots tennis and the LTA. It adds value by facilitating volunteer input to the implementation of some strategic activities and changes that support the LTA strategy. In short, it is the means by which Councillors who represent all the counties and some other tennis organisations engage with the LTA on specific topics and projects – such as safeguarding, competitions, padel or governance.

Nigel previously represented Kent on the LTA Council from 2019 – 2022 and is now replaced by Keith Gill. Nigel continues his role on the Kent Tennis Board of Management and our Treasurer – leading the transformation of Kent Tennis as we become a charity. Nigel has been a member of the Management Board at Bromley Tennis Centre for many years too.

Whitstable Lawn Tennis Club Disability Programme

Whether it's walking, wheelchair, sensory, dementia friendly or pan disability tennis that's required, Whitstable Lawn Tennis Club have made a huge success by accommodating all forms of conditions. The club is passionate about making tennis as inclusive as possible and runs an ever expanding and exciting disability programme. An important part of this is their outreach programme. Whitstable LTC say - If you can't come to our courts, then we will come to you.



Whilst the sessions are delivered by Inclusive Sport CIC, Volunteers from the club source grant funding, and support and coach the weekly sessions. Inclusive Sport runs three weekly sessions in partnership with Whitstable Lawn Tennis Club. 'ACE IT' tennis for adults with additional needs which runs on a Monday morning and 'ACE IT' for children with additional needs which runs on a Thursday afternoon, both sessions are popular, the adults and children enjoy attending and the coaches look forward to the sessions. The main idea is to have fun, improve tennis skills and get to know new people along the way.

From September 2022, Whitstable LTC introduced a third tennis session, wheelchair tennis, on a Monday morning. This is growing nicely and hopefully

will continue.

Whitstable LTC would like to give thanks to the Kent County LTA who provide us with so much support and our funders; The Dan Maskell Trust, Kent Sports Every Day Active and Tackling Inequalities funds and The Cantiacorum Foundation.

We are pleased to share the films that GoForth Films produced for Kent County Council, following their visit to one of Whitstable's Disability Tennis sessions last year.

Project Film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJ3F8ib-nRA>

Participant Film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TigJERLCdB4>

[You can find a more about Whitstable's Disability Programme here](#)

Zane Cheeseman World Team Championships Captain

Zane Cheeseman has been selected to captain Great Britain over 45's Team at the World Team Championships in Turkey in March. He is looking forward to making his world Championships debut with the added bonus of being offered the captaincy. He is staying on in Turkey to play in the World Individual Championships taking place the following week. Zane has previously captained England in the four nations in Wrexham.

The summer of 2022 was the start of a success story for Zane that saw him win five senior titles. Amongst those was being crowned Champion in the 40's Singles and 35's Doubles at the prestigious National Seniors Grass Court Championships at Wimbledon. He was also in the Kent County Cup team that were Runners Up in the over 35's National title in Eastbourne.



Before he leaves for Turkey in March Zane will be collecting his Kent Player of the Year award at the Annual Kent LTA Awards Presentation evening in February. He has also been shortlisted for the Development Coach of the Year having won it previously in 2012 for his coaching at Horsmonden Tennis Club. This time his nomination will be for running his own coaching business and school, delivering tennis at five venues. He operates a coaching programme at

school, delivering tennis at five venues. He operates a coaching programme at various schools including school for Special Educational Needs as well as wheelchair Tennis.

Zane is constantly developing his skills and after completing his LTA Level 5 Coaching, he is now undertaking the Coach Tutoring Qualification in an effort to cater to his immense passion for developing up-and-coming coaches and enthusiasts.

Kent Mens 70s Celebrate At Wimbledon

Kent Mens 70s team were National Champions in 2022 but were unable to be presented with their winners medals with other winning teams in October, as their opponents withdrew in advance of the final.

Instead, arrangements were made for a game of tennis at the All England Club followed by a splendid lunch kindly arranged by two of Kent's Life Vice-Presidents, Stephen Woodley and Stuart Smith.

Well done to the team pictured below with Kent's long term Seniors Coordinator, Stephen Woodley.

Left to right: (below) Bob Whitehead, Jonathan Potter (Captain), David Willan, Peter Pharo, Stephen Woodley, Chris Mackenzie, Sir Keith Ajegbo, Stuart Smith and Keith Clark .



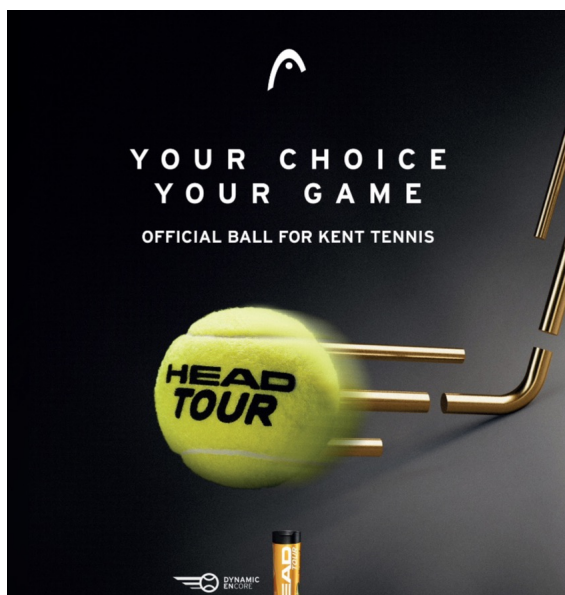


Some Important Dates

Dates for your diaries

- Sat 11 February – Kent Tennis Annual Awards Dinner
- Thu 16 February – Kent Tennis Club Night In
- Tue 28 February – Kent Tennis Coffee Morning
- Tue 28 March – Kent Tennis Coffee Morning

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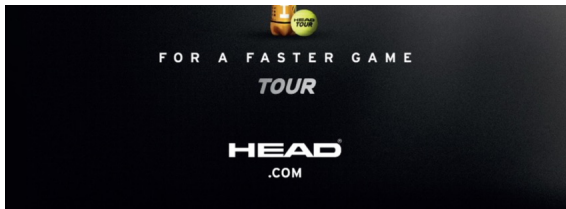
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We're here to help as many people as possible get involved with tennis, across the whole of Kent and with your support we can achieve our aim.

CONTACT Kent Tennis Office
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If you know someone who would like to receive this communication in the future, please contact the Kent Tennis Office at info@kenttennis.org.uk



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