



April 2023

Read on for the latest news from Kent Tennis, and details of what's coming up. And you can keep up to date with the news as it happens on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)

It's been an exciting time for tennis, with Kent players of all ages in action from under 8s to over 80s. Activity is ramping up as we move into the summer season and the start of our inter-club and National summer league matches, which saw record entries of 685 teams from 68 Kent clubs, plus schools competitions and the Seniors County Cup.

Our 9U and 8U Kent teams are in action this weekend, with the 8Us playing at Bromley Tennis Centre on Saturday 22 April, so come along and give them your support. Play starts at 2.30pm.

Kent Tennis plans to become a charity

We're now planning the next stage of the move away from the loose legal structure of the Kent County Lawn Tennis Association to begin operating as a charity. If changes are approved by our members, we'll be able to claim Gift Aid for donations from individuals, benefit from funding opportunities only open to charities and greater donations from sponsors, who tell us they would give more if we were a charity.

This will help us open up tennis to more people in Kent and set Kent Tennis up for the future.

We've been moving forward over the past few years with the support of our members - registered clubs, venues and Kent Tennis Councillors - and now need their approval to move into the new structure at the start of 2024.

We're holding an **Extraordinary General Meeting** on 22 May at 7pm, when we'll be asking our members to vote. We're getting in touch with our members to invite them and provide information about who can vote and the decisions they need to make. Anyone is welcome to attend the EGM, which will be held on Zoom. [Register here for the EGM](#)

There's more [information on our website](#) and if you have any questions, please contact our Treasurer, [Nigel Jordan](#)

Kent success in the LTA Regional Awards

We're delighted that three of our Kent Tennis Award winners for 2022 have been selected as **South East Regional winners** and now go through to the LTA National Finals. National winners will be announced on 4 July at the National Tennis Centre in Roehampton.

Congratulations to **Zane Cheeseman** (Development Coach of the Year), **The North School** in Ashford (School of the Year) and **Whitstable LTC** (Tennis for All Award). [Click here for details of the Kent Tennis Awards, as well as the Regional winners](#)

Our regional winners are pictured below, on next page:



Opening up tennis for all in Kent

Nick Marsden from Bexley Mencap runs very successful weekly tennis sessions for players with learning disabilities at **Bexleyheath LTC**, and he has some tips for ways to make tennis more inclusive for people with learning disabilities.



He adapts tennis by using soft balls and a slightly lowered net for players just starting out, followed by intense practise of forehand and backhand. “It’s all about building up small elements of the game then players can work up to a volley,” says Nick.

Nick firmly believes that sport has the power to change lives and that all disabled people should be able to play the sports they love.

In addition to running the inclusive sessions, Nick is keen to learn more, so he’s been taking part in a 6-month Nike sponsored Sport England Disability Sports Coach’s Inclusive Activity Leaders Programme to become a fully qualified multisport activity coach.

For more information on Disability Sports Coach please go to their website [Disability Sports Coach](#)

Take a look at the resources and funding available to help make tennis more accessible: [Open Court Tennis Programme \(lta.org.uk\)](#)

[Apply for a Grant - Dan Maskell Tennis Trust](#)

[LTA Tennis Foundation](#)

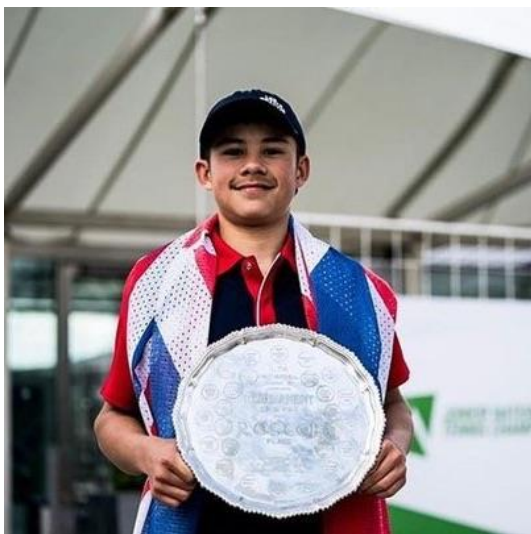
[Quick Access Loan Scheme for tennis facilities \(lta.org.uk\)](#)

[Allianz Sports Fund](#)

Kent Junior player and team success

Ben Gusic-Wan from Canterbury is the new **National 16U Boys Singles Champion**, securing him a place in the Boys Singles main draw at Wimbledon this year. **Hugo Coquelin** from Sevenoaks was runner up in the 18U Boys Doubles, and Bromley Wendover and Bromley Tennis Centre's **Lois Newberry** beat the UK No.1 to reach the semi-finals of the 16U Girls Singles event.

Ben Gusic-Wan and Kent Boys 18U Team pictured below.



Kent's **18U Boys** are **National Champions** for the second year in a row, with our 18U Girls gaining promotion to Division 1.

Our Kent **9U Girls and Boys** teams won their qualifying groups, going through to the National Finals on 22 (Girls) and 23 (Boys) April at Bath University.

Kent's **14U Boys and Girls** teams are also through to the National Finals, to be played

at Nottingham Tennis Centre on 12-14 May.

You can [read more about all our Junior County Teams.](#)

Our youngest players have also been in action. The **8U Sandi Procter Winter County Championships** saw an entry of 53 players from around the county, with this year's winners, **Hannah Mariotte** in the Girls event and **Nico Rezapour** in the Boys event.



In Schools tennis news, the Kent secondary schools **Years 11-13 Annual Doubles Championships** saw 38 teams competing from 10 schools in Kent, with **Sevenoaks School A** winning both the Boys and Girls events, defeating Bromley High School in the Girls final and Sevenoaks B in the Boys.



Kent's Seniors tennis news

Kent players were in action at the **National Indoor Championships** in Wrexham. **Jasper Cooper** from Canterbury won the **2023 Men's 70s Singles and Doubles**, defeating fellow Kent players, **Niall Sweeney** in the singles final and **David Willan** in the doubles final. Horsmonden's **Zane Cheeseman** was runner up in both the Men's 40s Singles and Men's 35s Doubles.

Zane Cheeseman (40s) and **Paul Salter** (50s) represented Great Britain this year at the **World Team Championships** in Turkey.

Jasper Cooper and David Willan with their partners after the 70s National Indoor Final and Zane and Paul at the World team Championships pictured below.



Our **Seniors Open Events** had a great turnout from players in Kent and beyond, with 178 taking part in the age groups ranging from 40s to 80s across the Ladies and Men's events. It was the first year of our over 80s Men's Doubles event, won by **Denis Costelloe** and **Brian Jelley** in a 3rd set championship tie-break match.

Pictured are Denis Costelloe/Brian Jelley (Champions), Dave Clements/John Cresswell (runners up) and Mary Evans, Kent Tennis President and Nayla Solh/Patricia Pinnington (Ladies 50s Doubles Champions) with Keith Clark (Competition Organiser).



Here's the full list of winners and runners up:

Events

- 45s Mens Singles
- 45s Mens Doubles
- 55s Mens Singles
- 55s Mens Doubles
- 60s Mens Singles
- 60s Mens Doubles
- 65s Mens Singles
- 65s Mens Doubles
- 70s Mens Singles
- 70s Mens Doubles
- 75s Mens Singles
- 80s Mens Doubles

Champions

- Jason Baker
- Gareth Jones & Dave Smyth
- Dino Skeete
- Stefani Santini & Dave Scott
- John Watton
- David Bulgin & Colin Coombes
- Tony Ferdinando
- Rob Andrew & Robin Garratt
- Bob Whitehead
- Keith Clark & Bob Whitehead
- Keith Clark
- Denis Costelloe & Brian Jelley

Runners Up

- Alvaro Arturo Quesada Perez
- Nick Lambrou & Gary Le Pla
- John Watton
- Paul Margetts & Paul Obey
- Paul White
- Nigel Jordan & John Watton
- Adrian Youseman
- Alan Cleaver & Adrian Youseman
- David Willan
- Chris Mackenzie & David Willan
- John Clay
- Dave Clements & John Cresswell

Events

- 40s Ladies Doubles
- 50s Ladies Doubles
- 60s Ladies Doubles
- 70s Ladies Doubles

Champions

- Jacqueline Bowen & Mary Elder
- Hazel Lindfield & Patricia Pinnington
- Anne Gibbs & Sarah Van-Doren
- Myra Hunter & Kay Mileham

Runners Up

- Karen Attard & Maria Perfect
- Lisa King & Louise Nicholas
- Jane Bell & Vanessa Johnson
- Mariska Adamson & Pat Way

The **Seniors County Cup** starts soon for Kent Men's and Ladies teams from over 40s to 80s. Our Seniors Coordinators, John Watton and Hazel Lindfield, will be overseeing things with the team captains organising the matches and teams.



Our thanks go to Life Vice-President, **Stephen Woodley**, who stepped down recently after many years as the Men's Seniors Coordinator. Stephen is our longest serving county player, this year marking 60 years since his first match for Kent (in the Men's Summer County Cup). An astonishing 195 matches later for Men's and Seniors teams, our Men's 80s Captain, Brian Jelley, hopes Stephen will join him on court to represent the county this summer. You can find out [more about Stephen and his enduring commitment to Kent Tennis here](#)

Click here for [more info about Kent Seniors Tennis](#)

What's coming up?

All are welcome at our next **Kent Tennis Virtual Coffee Morning on Tuesday 25 April** at 10am. Discussion topics include Developing your Workforce, Safeguarding Committee Training and the London Hearts Defibrillator offer. Request the Zoom link from [Janice White](#)

Canterbury's **Seniors Clay Court Tournament** on 7-12 May. [More information can be found on the ITF Masters website](#)

Look out for news on our social media for upcoming **Junior County Cup** events:

8U Mixed – 22 April at Bromley Tennis Centre

9U Finals – 22 April (Girls) and 23 April (Boys) at Bath University

14U Boys and Girls - 12-14 May at Nottingham Tennis Centre

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The advertisement features two cylindrical containers of Head Tour tennis balls. The top container is shown with its lid removed, revealing the balls inside. The bottom container is shown with its lid on. A yellow tennis ball with 'HEAD TOUR' printed on it is in the foreground. The background is a dark green with a white tennis ball graphic at the top.

AT THE SURFACE OF SPORT

Trevor May - designing, building, resurfacing and upgrading tennis courts and their surroundings.

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TrevorMay
AT THE SURFACE OF SPORT

The advertisement is a collage of images showing various tennis court surfaces: Poraflex (acrylic), TigerTurf (artificial grass), and Advantage RedCourt (red clay). It includes contact information for Trevor May and logos for the different surface types.



SUPPORT THE WINNERS
COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES

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



jdm Estate Agents are a leading agent in the Bromley borough and SE London.

“*Excellent throughout our sale, they were quick to find us an offer from a good buyer and helped to progress the sale in a timely manner. All the staff were very polite and friendly and someone was always available to talk to.*

I had my property listed with 4 estate agents in total over the period of 18 months and jdm pulled through where others failed. Always kept me updated and progressed the sale incredibly quickly (less than 8 weeks). Clearly, know their craft and never gave up. Great work.

The whole team is not just professional, efficient and well-informed, but also friendly and instantly available. They help you through the thorny process of selling and buying a property with a smile and genuine interest. The whole team was a joy to work with!

They always thought 'out of the box' and had answers to every problem that occurred along the way. I do not think I would have reached a successful conclusion to my property sale with another estate agent. They were brilliant! ”

For a friendly, professional and reliable service you can trust please contact us.



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.



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