



# KLT ONLINE

December 2023

Welcome to the last KLT of 2023 and the final edition before Kent Tennis becomes a charity on 1 January 2024. We'll be electing our new officers and trustees at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 9 January. Read on to find out more.

We are looking to recruit an **Honorary Treasurer** - [more details can be found on our website here](#). If interested, please contact Nigel Jordan or [nigel@nigeljordan.com](mailto:nigel@nigeljordan.com)

We've recently welcomed **Jane Parish** to the Kent Tennis Office Team as Operations Manager - and we're sure many of you will come across Jane in the days and months to come.

**The Kent and LTA Awards** nominations closed on 30 November and we'll be announcing the shortlist for each category on 19 December.

In player news, **Kent Ladies** had a great result in the Winter County Cup recently, securing convincing wins over Nottinghamshire, Essex and Hertfordshire to come top of their division and go back up to the first division next year.

Our Seniors have been very successful too, with **Kent's Men's over 60s and over 70s** teams winning their County Cup National Finals to become National Champions in their age groups, **Jasper Cooper** from Canterbury becoming a World Doubles Champion, and **Walmer LTC Ladies 55s** team winning a bronze medal at the Tennis Europe Seniors Club Championships.

We hope you have an enjoyable festive period and we'll be back in touch in 2024.

Scroll down for more news from Kent Tennis. You can keep up to date with the news as it happens on Instagram and Facebook.



Share the KLT with friends, subscribe [HERE](#)

---

## WINTER COUNTY CUP

**Kent's Ladies** won their division, beating Nottinghamshire 8-1, Essex 7-2 and Hertfordshire 5-4, to secure their immediate return to division 1 for 2024. Captained by Holly Richards, vice-captain Jacqueline Darby, the players were: Alice Gillan, Alessia Popescu, Chloe Cleaver, Leticia Romanova, Eloise Newberry, Elina Popescu, Daisy Rowland, Olivia Parson, Kate Green, Phobe Ecuyer-Dale.

**Kent's Men** were playing in a strong top division and lost 4-5 to Lancashire, 0-9 to Essex and 0-6 to Yorkshire, meaning they will be relegated to division 2 next year. Captained by Alistair Filmer, vice-captain Sean Thornley, the players were Nick Brookes, Lewis Burton, Hugo Coquelin, Angus Howard, James Markiewicz, Sebastian McDonnell-Palomares, Matt Short, Joshua Ward.



## KENT'S LEARNING DISABILITY TENNIS REGIONAL TOUR

17 players from across Kent and as far away as Nottingham competed in singles, doubles and mixed events. It's an annual event open to anyone with a learning disability no matter their playing standard, run by Virtus Leisure Management at Bromley Tennis Centre - and one of only six events held nationally.

- Oliver won the Men's Yellow Singles event, with Ben as runner up
- Kathryn won the Women's Green Singles, with Maria as runner up
- Luke won the Men's Green Singles, with John as runner up
- Oliver and Ben won the Men's Doubles
- John and Elizabeth, who plays at Bromley Tennis Centre, won the Mixed Doubles

For anyone interested in taking part in future events, we'll be sharing information nearer the time about the Learning Disability Competition and Inclusive Tennis Festival at the Kent County Championships in the summer, and next year's Learning Disability Tennis Tour event.

[Click here to find out more about disability tennis across Kent](#) or contact [Tom Defrates](#), Kent's Disability Tennis Lead



## NATIONAL YOUTH TENNIS LEAGUE AWARD NOMINATIONS

---

Two people very active in tennis in the county, Kent Tennis Councillor **Karen Hodgson** and Kent Seniors Captain **Dino Skeete**, have been nominated for the Paul Hutchins Commitment Award for going above and beyond in organising National Youth Tennis League teams. Karen has been nominated for her work with Deal Parochial School and Dino for his work in the London Borough of Lambeth.

[Find out more about LTA National Youth Tennis Leagues here.](#)



## KENT TENNIS COACHES FORUM

---

Led by Tom Carlton and Jess Downs, the forum was attended by 28 Kent coaches and run in collaboration with Virtus Coach Education Centre and the LTA at Bromley Tennis Centre. It focused on grassroots doubles play, offering coaches insights into the LTA tactical development framework and its application to doubles, opportunities to network and sessions on personal development and business growth for coaches.

If you're interested in finding out more about getting involved in coaching, [take a look at further information on Coach Education](#)



## LTA AND KENT 2023 AWARDS SHORTLIST ANNOUNCEMENT

---

On 19 December, the shortlisted nominees will be revealed at the virtual Kent Tennis Coffee Morning, as well as in emails to the successful shortlisters and posted on Kent Tennis' Instagram and Facebook.

All are welcome to join the Coffee Morning from 10-11am on Zoom. A discussion about Venue Registration is also on the agenda. [Contact Janice White](#) for the Zoom joining link.



## FIRST FEMALE EAST KENT LTA PRESIDENT IN ITS 60 YEARS

---

**Vanessa Webb** is the first female president in the year of the East Kent LTA's 60th anniversary, following on from being the first female President of the Kent LTA (appointed in 2018). She's the East Kent representative for Kent Tennis, the EKLTA League Organiser and EK Championships Tournament Organiser and Referee.



## SUNDRIDGE PARK PADEL IN THE FT

---

'England's lawn tennis clubs gripped by padel fever' was the headline of a recent Financial Times article looking at the increasing popularity of padel in the UK, featuring The Sundridge Park Club and quoting Club Manager, Jo Powlson, who says about the club's experience of its two courts: "It's going from strength to strength in a very short space of time. The padel courts are the courts that are always busy. It's brought a new vibrancy to the club; we've got a completely new mix of people coming in." [Click here if you're interested in finding out more about padel or get in touch with Anna Wilson, the Kent Tennis Board member for padel.](#)



**Kent's 8U Girls, Boys and Mixed** teams competed in the 8U Regional County Cup in Middlesex, finishing 3rd in their groups following close matches against tough opposition from Essex, Middlesex and Surrey. Captained by Greg McNally, with and vice-captain, Lucy Morice-Jones, the players were:

- Boys - Harvey, Joseph, Nico and Adam
- Girls - Hannah, Olivia, Harriet and Olivia
- Mixed - Emma, Giulia, Ben and Maximus



## ENCOURAGING YOUNG PLAYERS TO STAY IN TENNIS

---

With a high drop-out rate for players aged 14+, County Performance Manager, Craig Allen, is working with Kent Tennis to create specific activity to encourage teenagers to stay in the sport, alongside their education and career. Here's what we're doing:

- **16U county training sessions** introduced to give opportunities to players not at the level for the 18U squad and/or have never been involved in county tennis before.
- **Tennis and further education presentations** for parents and players have taken place, with plans to run the sessions again in future years. [More information can be found here about tennis at British universities](#)
- **Careers in tennis presentations** coming up to cover coaching and officiating – details to follow in 2024

**Craig's tip for young players age 14+:** get involved in the adult teams at your club to build your competitive doubles experience, which is more and more important as you get older. If you go to university and play for a team, doubles will be a key part of this.

Get in touch with [craig.allen@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:craig.allen@kenttennis.org.uk) if you'd like to know more.



## KENT'S MEN'S OVER 60s AND 70s NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Five Kent Seniors teams reached the Seniors County Cup National Finals, and all age groups' teams, except one, are in the top division for 2024.

The **Men's 60s**, captained by Keith Gill, won promotion to the top group last year and defeated Leicestershire in the national final this year.

Captained by Chris Morgan, the **Men's 70s team** won their national title without dropping a single rubber, defeating Dorset in the final.

**The Ladies 55s** (captain, Nayla Solh) and **Men's 75s** (captain Keith Clark) both lost to strong Surrey sides in the finals. Captained by Tom Knight, who is non-playing until he reaches 45, **Kent's Men's 45s** lost to Cheshire in a close Championship tie-break in the final rubber, as Cheshire won the final 3-2.

[Full results of the Seniors County Cup Finals can be found here](#)



## CANTERBURY'S JASPER COOPER IS WORLD CHAMPION

---

Having won 6 of the 7 available National over 70s titles in 2023, **Jasper Cooper** (partnered by Dorset's Boyd Brackstone) won the Men's 70s Doubles title at the ITF Masters World Championships in Spain and the bronze medal in the Mixed 70s Doubles. Kent's **Niall Sweeney** won bronze medals in both the Men's and Mixed 70s Doubles.



## WALMER LTC LADIES 55s WIN EUROPEAN BRONZE MEDAL

---

The team of Jane Gentle, Caroline Griffiths, Sally Holmes and Linda McSorley secured third place to win a bronze medal at the Tennis Europe Seniors Club Championships in Turkey. Hazel Lindfield played in the qualifying matches but was unable to travel to play in the final stages of the event.





# KENT TENNIS EGM AND AGM IN 2024

On 1 January 2024 Kent Tennis becomes a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and will be electing the officers and trustees at an online **Extraordinary General Meeting** at 7pm on Tuesday 9 January. [Information on the EGM can be found here on our Governance page](#)

The **Annual General Meeting** of both the CIO and the closing unincorporated Association, including the presentation of inter-club league shields, will be on Monday 29 April 2024.

## WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **Tuesday 19 December:** Kent Tennis Coffee Morning. [Contact Janice White](#) for more details.
- **Tuesday 9 January at 7pm:** Kent Tennis Charitable Incorporated Organisation Extraordinary General Meeting [Information on the EGM is on our website here](#)
- **Saturday 10 February:** Kent Tennis Annual Awards Dinner at the Tudor Park Hotel, Maidstone. Further information to be released soon – [please check our website here](#).

## OUR SPONSORS

**AT THE SURFACE OF SPORT**

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

**PORAFLEX**

**TIGER TURF**

**ADVANTAGE REDCOURT**

**FENCING / FLOODLIGHTING / DEVELOPMENT PLANS / INDOOR STRUCTURES**

**poraflex®**  
HIGH PERFORMANCE ARTIFICIAL GRASS SURFACES

Acrylic like performance but with porosity and high quality cushioning, so great for the UK climate both outdoors and in seasonal airials.

**TigerTurf™**

Advantage Pro is currently the top choice for many clubs selected from the wide range of artificial grass tennis surfaces we supply and install.

**Advantage RedCourt**  
Artificial Surfaces

The ultimate surface for near year round play, giving high performance and easily managed maintenance. It is ideally suited to upgrading existing courts and is widely used for matches, tournaments and coaching. Where green is better suited to the courts location, we have done that too.

Call now: +44 (0)1233 740574 or e-mail: [enquire@trevormay.co.uk](mailto:enquire@trevormay.co.uk)  
[www.trevormay.co.uk](http://www.trevormay.co.uk)

**TrevorMay**  
AT THE SURFACE OF SPORT

**SAME BALL  
NEW PACKAGING  
HEAD TOUR**

REUSABLE LID

SHORTER SLEEVE & LESS INK

LESS PLASTIC & EASIER TO RECYCLE

RECYCLING SYMBOL

RECYCLING SYMBOL

RECYCLING SYMBOL

**HEAD TOUR**

**HEAD**  
.COM



**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.



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

## KEY CONTACTS

Jane Parish (Operations Manager) [jane.parish@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:jane.parish@kenttennis.org.uk)

Phil Lynch (Office Manager) [phil.lynch@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:phil.lynch@kenttennis.org.uk)

Janice White (Club & Coach Engagement) [janice.white@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:janice.white@kenttennis.org.uk)

Siobhan Butler (Competitions & Performance) [siobhan.butler@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:siobhan.butler@kenttennis.org.uk)

Craig Allen (County Performance Manager) [craig.allen@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:craig.allen@kenttennis.org.uk)

Office Telephone Number: 01689 880757



Copyright (C) 2023 Kent LTA. All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is: Kent LTA Avebury Road Orpington, Kent BR6 9SA United Kingdom

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)