



HERTS TENNIS

Double Delight for Herts  
at the Summer County Cup!



HERTS TENNIS

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Issue 16 November 2022

# Herts LTA 200 Club

## 200 Club winners HERTS LTA 2021-2022

### OCTOBER

£40 128 Mrs P Hall  
£30 99 Elstree TC  
£20 293 Mr M Knee  
£10 150 Mrs C Herbert  
£10 81 Mr G Westwell

### NOVEMBER

£40 125 Codicote TC  
£30 144 Mr C Borthwick  
£20 75 Mr L Rapa  
£10 44 Mr B Dixon  
£10 32 Mr R Sneesby

### DECEMBER

£40 127 Mr M Corrie  
£30 295 Mr M Knee  
£20 51 Mr G Westwell  
£10 86 Mrs P Hall  
£10 133 Mrs M Thomas

### JANUARY

£40 224 Mrs S Carter  
£30 13 Mr G Westwell  
£20 294 Mr M Knee  
£10 9 Mrs P Ayres  
£10 287 Lady F Masefield

### FEBRUARY

£100 3 Mrs J Alnutt  
£40 100 Mrs C Morris  
£30 122 Mr J Moring  
£20 238 Mr I Duncan  
£10 203 Codicote TC  
£10 85 Mr M Knee

### MARCH

£40 109 Mrs M Cartmell  
£30 93 Mr A Sheridan  
£20 29 Mr A Sheridan  
£10 162 Mrs E Mann  
£10 48 Mr B Hosier

### APRIL

£40 60 Mr J Hicklin  
£30 70 Mrs MA Thomas  
£20 119 Mrs M Power  
£10 33 Codicote TC  
£10 111 Mrs S Astley

### MAY

£40 238 Mr I Duncan  
£30 144 Mr C Borthwick  
£20 117 Mrs D Gaffney  
£10 150 Mrs C Herbert  
£10 206 Mr MHL Bowler

### JUNE

£40 189 Mrs C Herbert  
£30 90 Mr PA Cartmell  
£20 65 Mr AE Robinson  
£10 208 Codicote  
£10 233 Mr I Duncan

### JULY

£40 94 Mr N Lockett  
£30 153 Mrs C Herbert  
£20 117 Mrs D Gaffney  
£10 229 Mr I Duncan  
£10 211 Mr M Corrie

### AUGUST

£100 6 Mr B Havill  
£40 2 Mr JG Masterton  
£30 5 Mrs C Ayling  
£20 166 Mrs J Childs  
£10 292 Mr MW Knee  
£10 202 Mrs S Vallance

### SEPTEMBER

£40 235 Mr I Duncan  
£30 275 Mrs BM Hayward  
£20 112 Mr M Knee  
£10 7 Mr T Adamson  
£10 1 Mr JG Masterton

## Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association '200' club Direct Debit mandate

To \_\_\_\_\_ Bank

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay:	Bank	Branch Title	Sort Code
	HSBC	Harpden	40-23-11
For the credit of:	Account Name		Account Number
	Hertfordshire Lawn Tennis Association '200 Club'		31233556
the sum of:	Amount in figures	Amount in words	
	£		
commencing:	Date of first payment	Frequency	
		and thereafter every	until further notice

And debit my/our account accordingly

**PLEASE CANCEL ALL PREVIOUS STANDING ORDER MANDATES IN FAVOUR OF THE  
HERTFORDSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION '200 CLUB'.**

Account to be Debited (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

### A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARTNERS OF HERTS LTA AND ASSOCIATED EVENTS

**Peter Alexander Investments**  
**Pentland Group**  
**StoneX Ltd**  
**John Livock**  
**Channel Utilities Ltd**

And to the variety of other companies and organisations who generously support tennis in Hertfordshire in different ways.

### HERTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Lee Evans	President, Competition Lead
Helen Elliott	Honorary Secretary
Martin Corrie	Treasurer, past LTA President
Bridie Amos	LTA Councillor, Coaching, Development
Janet Corrie	Performance
Carole Draper	Community & Office Manager, Disability and Inclusion
Stuart Foster	Community
Tessa Terry	County Safeguarding Officer
Matt Willcocks	Participation

## Welcome to this year's Herts Newsletter!

**It has been an honour for me to be the President of Herts Tennis this year, a role I took on at last year's AGM when Trevor Adamson called time on his long association with tennis in the county.**

To say that Trevor deserved a rest – having dedicated a remarkable 46 years to the county – is somewhat of an understatement. Oh and before you ask....no, I don't plan to hang around for quite so long!

The dedication that so many people give to tennis in the county and beyond never ceases to amaze me, in particular the contributions of our wonderful volunteers where in Herts we appear to be blessed with a sizeable army!

We have witnessed examples of amazing contributions over the years and although I haven't got enough space to mention anything like the number I'd like to, I can't let this opportunity pass me by without talking about two special people whose contributions came beautifully into focus once more this year.

The first is Jeff Wayne. A lot of you will know Jeff from his musical prowess, but his tennis credentials are arguably even more impressive! He has now captained our Men's county team for a mind boggling 34 years, during which time he has overseen almost unbridled success. In the most prestigious county competition there is, the Summer County Cup, we've seen the team rise from the comparative depths of Division 4 to the very top, then go on to become National Champions in 2005 for the first time in our history. If that wasn't enough, the team has retained its seat at the top table ever since and following success this summer has now won the title an incredible 7 times out of the last 17 competitions played. Add to that the 8 Winter National titles the team has won under his stewardship and I guess you could say Jeff has done a pretty good job! It's not his job though. You only have to talk to him to know that Jeff does it because he loves it.

Is the success of the Men's team a fluke? Far from it! Not wishing to be outdone, unbelievably our Ladies team has been similarly successful in recent years and this summer completed a magical hat trick of successive National titles. Well done, Ladies, with special mention to captain fantastic, Amanda Elliott and Emily Arbuthnott, for winning all 15 of their matches!

The foundations for this success were set a long time ago now by some brilliant people within the county who were dedicated to developing every aspect of the game, from mini tennis upwards...and the good news is a number of those brilliant people are still involved.

Next July, why not join the growing band of Herts supporters who journey to Eastbourne every year and cheer on the teams as they look to defend their titles. I guarantee you will be so impressed you will make it one of the first things you add to your calendar each year.

I also wanted to mention the wonderful Eileen Cox, who this year finally called time on looking after the 200 Club for us. For those not in the know, the 200 club is a monthly lottery, which for years has been a tried and tested method of bringing vital extra funds in to help develop tennis in the county. When she eventually decided it was time to hand the reigns over, Eileen had single-handedly ran the scheme for us, month in, month

out, for an astonishing 20 plus years. Thank you, Eileen!

We recognised the amazing contributions that Eileen and a host of other brilliant tennis people had made to tennis in the county at an Awards evening in May and these events are great opportunities to say thank you to members of the Herts family for their contributions, as well as to recognise the achievements of some of our unsung heroes, young and old, our clubs, our officials, our coaches and more.

If you are one of these unsung heroes, I very much hope that your contribution is being recognised locally. The county would also welcome the opportunity to say thank you and for that to happen, we need to hear about you and what you do. We can all help with that by nominating our own unsung heroes for an award under the LTA's Awards scheme.

I wish all the news I had to report on from the last year was good, alas that is not the case. In January, everybody in the Herts tennis community was rocked with the tragic loss of one of our brightest stars in so many ways, the lovely Oliver Broomfield. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Oliver's parents, Maria and Jamie and their family. He will always be remembered. It has been so hard to move on from that but of course we have all had to.

The primary focus of my colleagues on the Management Committee and I this year has been on improving our communication, particularly with clubs, thereby hopefully engaging more with our amazing army of volunteers and on helping our venues be places where everybody is welcome and where tennis can be played safely.

One thing's for sure...communication continues to be a hard nut to crack. We introduced a new communication this year called The Herts Bulletin, which has had some extremely positive feedback yet is not being viewed anywhere near as widely as we would like. We'll keep trying though!

We have also been trying to visit more of our venues to get a better feel for your needs and between us work out how we may be able to better support you.

In doing so, we have seen some wonderful celebrations dotted around the county. A number of our clubs have reached their centenaries – huge congratulations to those – while two of our clubs, Berkhamsted and Hoddesdon, have made it to an amazing 125 years!

The Play Your Way in Herts programme is still open to venues that are keen to work with us to open tennis up to their local community and attract and welcome new or lapsed players in to their clubs. You can find out more on this and get details of the subsidies we offer by contacting the county office.

We also continue to offer an easy access funding scheme of interest free loans and small grants for eligible venues. Again, contact the county office (or check the website) for more details.

We work very closely with the county's schools network and our



# Herts Annual Report 2022

continued efforts in this area have resulted in Hertfordshire being recognised as one of the top counties for teachers being trained in the LTA Youth Schools programme. We also support the making or strengthening of school club links to ensure retention of these young players and encouraging them to play within their local clubs as well as their schools. A great team attended the County Sports Partnership's annual PE Conference, meeting many teachers and PE leads, who are hugely instrumental in giving many children their first experience of playing tennis and that same team supported the delivery of the School Games Finals at Oaklands College, which was an enormous success.



Our team has co-hosted two Coach Forums and a Female Workforce networking event as well as supported our brilliant Herts Tennis Coaches Forum group in running excellent coach education courses, including one with Kris Soutar, well known for his work with Judy Murray.

Moving on to competitions, the 74th Herts League titles were won by St Albans' Ladies, for what was only the second time in their history and by a rejuvenated Harpenden Men's team, while Berkhamsted's Men and Townsend's Ladies lifted the coveted Harris Cups in front of a bumper crowd at Berkhamsted.

Our 9U, 10U and 12U teams headed to Queenswood in May to defend the Lionel Cox title, which had not been held since 2019 due to the pandemic. Some amazing performances helped us

finish as runners-up overall and ensure a number of gold and bronze medals ended up in Hertfordshire homes.

I have been so impressed with the young people I have seen on our Futures programme, which looks to give juniors in Year 10 and above some great experiences of all aspects of the game. Many of them gave up their time to help out at this year's County Championships and what shone through was how they had embraced the values the county holds dear. An awful lot of the credit for that goes to our wonderful Performance Manager, Teresa Lilley. Speaking of the County Championships, a huge thank you to everybody at Rickmansworth LTC for another wonderful week.

I recognise that all I've talked about so far is tennis, but Padel is starting to take off on these shores. If you haven't tried it out yet, give it a go. It's great fun. The county's newest courts can be found at Broxbourne, where you are guaranteed a warm welcome. Other venues are also available.

I began my report talking about volunteers and yes, I'm going to finish by talking about them. From my wonderful colleagues on the Management Committee who play such an important role in developing all aspects of tennis in the county – Bridie Amos, Carole Draper, Helen Elliott, Janet Corrie, Martin Corrie, Matt Willcocks, Stuart Foster and Tessa Terry – to everybody who sits on one of our many sub-committees for their unwavering, brilliant support, to all of the volunteers out there who help to make tennis in Hertfordshire so enjoyable. I haven't been able to mention everybody I would have liked to in my report, but you know who you are. Thank you!

Right, I don't know about you but I'm looking forward to reading about some of these things in a bit more detail. As always we have an excellent Newsletter for you and for that I'd like to thank the Editor in Chief, Sharon Evans and all of our wonderful contributors. Happy reading!

**Lee Evans**

## A thank you to Trevor!

**Trevor Adamson's contribution to the development of tennis in Hertfordshire over the many years he was involved as a volunteer was enormous. In fact, it was so vast and varied that it's difficult to know where to begin.**

Trevor called time on his amazing 46-year association with the county at last year's AGM. His last role with us was as President, a position he took up in 2015 and which saw him lead those of us lucky enough to sit on the county's Management Committee brilliantly through some of our toughest years, including the pandemic.

Prior to that, Trevor had carried out all sorts of roles within the county, including chairing the Junior Tennis Committee from 1982 to 1998, captaining the Men's County team from 1983 to 1986 and acting as organiser in chief for the County Closed Championships for more years than I care to mention.

His influence was also felt far wider than in Hertfordshire alone. He represented the county on the LTA Council from 1983 to 2005, where he was elected as a Vice-President.

In his time as a Councillor he played a major role with the LTA, serving on numerous committees, including the LTA's Management Committee and Main Board on two separate occasions - as Chairman of the National Training Committee from 1991 to 1993 and Chairman of the International & Professional Tennis Divisional Board from 2001 to 2005 - and the advisory board responsible for performance tennis. He also represented the LTA on the Tennis Europe Junior





## Broxbourne opens Padel courts

**Broxbourne Sports Club (BSC) celebrated the opening of two new padel courts over a hot and steamy weekend in July. The addition of the padel courts is thanks to a partnership agreement with Game 4 Padel (G4P), one of the leading investors and operators of padel facilities in the UK.**

Two experienced G4P coaches delivered introductory sessions to nearly a hundred people over the weekend and entertained the large crowd with an exhibition match involving two of Broxbourne's own padel enthusiasts.

The club says it is delighted with the uptake of this new sport

and that the courts are already busy. As expected, demand is coming from its tennis and squash players, but padel is also attracting hockey members, cricketers and parents of juniors as well as significant numbers who are completely new to the club. It appeals to a wide age range and there has been lots of interest from men, women and juniors. The club is delighted with the uptake in membership and is happy to say Broxbourne Padel Club is on the map! Whilst padel is a relatively easy sport to pick up, most people are keen to improve their technique and tactics with the help of the club's tennis coaches (at BTA Coaching). The courts are also available for non-members to play on and if anybody would like to come and give padel a try, they are very welcome. Full details about how to book a court can be found at

[www.broxbournesportsclub.com/padel](http://www.broxbournesportsclub.com/padel)

[www.hertstennis.co.uk](http://www.hertstennis.co.uk)

## Hertfordshire Clubs Welcome Ukrainian Refugees

**A number of our clubs have opened up their courts to Ukrainian refugees settling in the area .**

Welwyn LTC took the lead with this initiative by offering free membership to any local Ukrainian refugees. Herts Tennis were approached to help with part funding of new rackets for the children of the first of Welwyn's new special guests.

Our Club of the Year 2022, Elliswick LTC has been offering free coaching to Ukrainian refugee children staying in Harpenden during its Friday Junior Nights. The club has also been offering free English lessons to the carers while their juniors are on court. President, Lee Evans and County Safeguarding Officer, Tessa Terry, visited the club in July and were overwhelmed by how much fun the children and their carers were having.

Meanwhile Berkhamsted LTSRC is offering free temporary membership to refugees in the area and inviting refugee children to join in with their weekly Junior Club Nights.

If your club would like to get involved with this initiative, please do get in touch with us at [hertstennis@gmail.com](mailto:hertstennis@gmail.com).

Committee in 2004, was the Tournament Director of Teen Tennis for 20 years between 1995 and 2015 and was the Tournament Director of the pre-Wimbledon junior event at Roehampton.

He wasn't a bad player too. A long time member of Harpenden LTC, he was instrumental in the club winning countless Herts League titles when they dominated the county scene in the 70s. He also won a hatful of Men's singles, Men's doubles and Mixed doubles titles at the County Championships (in the days when anybody who was anybody played the event!) and was a regular in the 1st pair when representing the county, which he did for many years. What a lot of people don't know is that he also made it to the biggest stage, playing at The Wimbledon Championships between 1959 and 1961!

When Trevor stepped away from the Herts Committee and Hertfordshire itself last year it was in the knowledge that he had dedicated a lifetime to helping to improve every aspect of tennis within the county.

**So, on behalf of all of us who have been involved in tennis in the county at some point over the last five decades, thank you Trevor!**

# People and Clubs

## Open Court Programme

Hertfordshire Open Court disability programme has progressed well again in 2022 and now has 10 clubs/tennis providers delivering sessions across the county and over 500 different participants have been able to be active through tennis. We are also in the process of a further three more clubs joining the network which will further increase our impact across the county.

The sessions are run both at club venues and then also schools/community sites which has given a real breadth to the county's delivery and further opened up opportunities for all disabled participants across the impairment groups including learning disabled, physically impaired, hearing impaired and visually impaired. We have linked with networks such as Mencap, Sense, Inclusion project, Live a Little and Oaklands to deliver to their participants on a regular basis. The county's

schools links have strengthened as well with 15 SEN schools having tennis delivered to their pupils allowing them to be active through the sport.

We are supported and very grateful to our funders who allow us to develop the programme and offer such great opportunities in the county. We have links with The LTA, the Rowlandson Group, Dan Maskell and Give it Your Max.

As well as the weekly sessions the county has run one-off day and tournaments with support from the Herts Disability Hub, Herts Sports Partnership and the LTA. The one day events have allowed us to introduce new players to the sport and the tournaments allowed 60 players to compete in Herts.

**As a county we are always looking to support new clubs to join the disability network so just let us know if you are delivering any sessions or interested in starting to deliver as it would be great to hear from you.**

**Phil Martin**, Open Court Lead





## Berkhamsted LT&SRC 125th Anniversary

**Berkhamsted LT&SRC has been celebrating its 125th anniversary this year, since being formed in 1897 originally as Berkhamsted Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club.**

The club held a fantastic birthday party dinner dance on Saturday 11th June. Everyone looked splendid, with black tie worn by many, David Rawlinson President of the LTA among the special guests, and a video message from Judy Murray to start things off!

Also, during June, the club put on a display of its archives in the clubhouse, tracking the timeline and story of the club from its formation at the end of the 19th-century with six grass courts, and the mergers with the adjoining Berkhamsted Hard Courts Tennis Club in 1967 and Berkhamsted Squash Club in 1976.

It was fascinating to view the evolution of the club through the war periods and alongside the post-war growth of Berkhamsted.

## Hoddesdon LTC 125th Anniversary

Hoddesdon LTC, which began life way back in 1896, celebrated its 125th Anniversary this year (one year late due to covid) by inviting past and present members to an all day centenary+ celebration party in the heat of the summer.

Detective skills had been required to locate some past members (email didn't exist back then!), but some of the club's current older members and their contacts prevailed and invitations were mailed out.

Happily, many replied and accepted and together with present members and families, joined in the celebration, with more than 130 attending throughout the day.

There was fun social tennis (for all those fit and able!) to connect old friends with new, an exhibition match between father and son Dan and Albert Calin (still only 16 and in the top 50 under 18s), afternoon tea, pickleball taster sessions for anyone interested (very popular - the membership is growing fast), dancing and a wonderful live band, with treasured photographs, press cuttings, ancient wooden tennis rackets, white tennis balls, membership cards from as long ago as 1907 and even the first set of accounts from 1896 on display to reminisce and share memories about.

A wonderful club day!

[www.hertstennis.co.uk](http://www.hertstennis.co.uk)

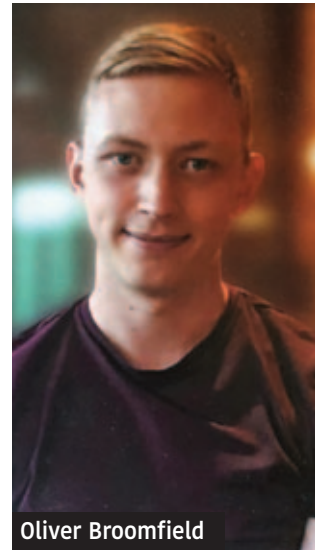
## In Memoriam

### In Loving Memory of Oliver Broomfield

It is always the saddest of times when we lose a dear member of the Herts Tennis family and never more so than at the beginning of this year when we learned of the sudden loss of Oliver, taken far, far too young. Oliver was a big part of Herts Tennis from an early age, firstly as a young player on the Pathway to Tarbes programme then following his parents via volunteering into the world of refereeing and officiating. Oliver was the Herts Tennis Young Volunteer of the Year for 2018, recognised for his great contribution to our county.

An exceptional young man with many outstanding qualities including great organisation, extensive knowledge and a wonderfully calm, friendly and polite manner, Oliver was always a delight to have around and be part of the Herts team. He will always be sadly missed by all that were lucky enough to know him and our sincere and most heartfelt thoughts and sympathies are with Oliver's family.

**Sadly, we have also said goodbye to two long-standing friends from the Herts Tennis family in the last year – Peggy Rawlings and Craig Rees. Our thoughts and sympathies are with their families and friends.**



Oliver Broomfield

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2022

### Achieving Success

The LTA were announced as the winners of the 'Outstanding Contribution to Safeguarding' category by SACPA (The Safeguarding and Child Protection Association) earlier in the year and were the only sport's governing body recognised across any of the award category shortlists.

Tennis has led the way in Safeguarding in sport in recent years and since David Humphrey was appointed as the LTA's Head of Safeguarding in 2018, we have seen the introduction of a Safeguarding Strategy, due for renewal again next year, as well as a number of key initiatives.

However, it is the introduction of roles of Regional, County Safeguarding and Welfare Officer that sets us apart and Herts Tennis extends our thanks to each and every volunteer working with their fellow committee members to make our venues a safe, inclusive and enjoyable place to play.

### Safeguarding Cases

Greg Pople heads up the LTA Case Handling Team and now has an increased number of case handlers reporting to him.

Numbers of incidents reported nationally, regionally and locally have been rising year on year, but almost half do not result in a safeguarding case and many more are categorised as a 'Low Level Concern'. Just one serious case is one too many, but I am pleased to report very few emerged in Hertfordshire this year, but we must all continue to remain vigilant and report any concern.

### Venue Safeguarding Standards and Support Visits

Mathew Lea is the National Safeguarding Manager to whom all the RSOs report.

Alan Hodges left the Region in January and was not replaced by Melissa Miller until June. She will be restarting her visiting programme in Hertfordshire shortly, but many of these Support Visits will now be unannounced. Tessa Terry, CSO, will attempt to attend as many planned remote or face to face venue visits with the RSO as possible.

The online Self Assessment Form has been updated and is a useful safeguarding risk assessment tool for venues, regardless

of whether you are preparing for a visit.

All Level 2+ Coaches must now be accredited and you may find the LTA Deployment Guidelines helpful in establishing what a coach can deliver.

### Safeguarding Conference and Forums

The 2nd National Safeguarding Conference held on 1st October attracted hundreds of delegates from all over the country, fulfilling a wide range of safeguarding roles.

Melissa has recently held the first Regional Safeguarding Forum for CSOs in 2022 and we had our first remote and dedicated Safeguarding Forum earlier in the year. All WOs canvassed would seem to welcome more of these initiatives, so please encourage yours to register their interest with Tessa if they would like to be included on the mailing list.

### Safeguarding Training

Please remember that your Welfare Officer is required to deliver Safeguarding Training to all members of your Venue Management Committee on an annual basis.

New enhanced safeguarding training for WOs is planned for the New Year and the LTA is currently looking at how this may be integrated within the current L1 and L2 courses.

### Safeguarding Issues

Please see our Safeguarding page

<https://hertstennis.co.uk/safeguarding> for all links and contact details. The LTA Safeguarding Team will respond speedily to any Online Report, but Tessa is always available to provide initial advice and guidance.

**Tessa Terry**, County Safeguarding Officer

## Congratulations to Alissa and Lisa

**Congratulations to recently retired Ladies captain Alissa Ayling and her wife Lisa who welcomed baby Avery to the family in May this year. A warm welcome to the Herts Tennis family, Avery!**

# Herts Tennis Awards 2022



Freddie



Jamie Evans

## The annual Herts Tennis Awards Dinner took place on Friday 20th May at Harpenden Golf Club.

The occasion is an opportunity to recognise and express our gratitude to the county's hard working clubs, players, coaches and volunteers for their stellar efforts throughout the year.

After dinner the awards were presented, firstly the LTA Tennis Awards – the winners of these advance to nominations in the regional awards round and, if successful, on to the national awards round. Following this the Herts Tennis Awards were presented to those who have significantly impacted tennis within the county this year.



Jessie Hosking



Sue McFayden

A special presentation was also made to Eileen Cox who has stepped back from running the very successful Herts Tennis 200 Club for many years and has done an amazing job.

The evening was a great a success and it was wonderful to celebrate with the winners and their guests.



Gal-on Broner



Phil Martin



St Albans School



Eileen Cox





Ben



Tessa Terry

### LTA Tennis Awards 2022 – County Stage Winners

Club of the Year	Elliswick LTC
Development Coach of the Year	Tom Dyball
Performance Coach of the Year	Jamie Evans
Competition of the Year	Sue McFayden
Disability Programme	Phil Martin
School of the Year	St Albans School
Official of the Year	Gal-on Broner
Volunteer of the Year	Jessie Hosking
Young Person of the Year	Ben
President’s Award	Tessa Terry



Marelle

### Additional County Awards and Presentations

Laing Award	Marelle
Mark Seymour Award	Freddie
County Colours	Indi Spink
County Colours	James Wilkinson



Tom Dyball



Elliswick LTC



Indi Spink and Trevor Wilkinson on behalf of James Wilkinson

# Herts Teams Reports

## The Queens Of Herts Do It Again

**Summer County Cup 2022 - Eastbourne**  
18th – 22nd July

**We came in to the 2022 Summer County Cup feeling like we had a really good chance to retain our title for the third year in a row, having won the event in 2019 and 2021 (there was no event in 2020 due to Covid 19).**

**Day 1** saw us play Yorkshire, and we got off to a great start winning all matches in the first round. Building off the strong start, the winning continued and we ended up beating Yorkshire 9-0 (having clinched 3 matches in third set tiebreaks, with Annabelle and Georgie winning two of them!). Both Marelie and Erin made their Summer County Week debuts on day 1, both winning their respective matches as super subs and getting their first County Week wins – hopefully the start of many for Hertfordshire!

**Day 2** we played Surrey off-site on a truly scorching summer's day. This was the infamous day that temperatures reached 40 degrees in London, and whilst it wasn't quite as hot by the Eastbourne coast, it still reached 35 degrees – pretty hot conditions to play 3 matches in! The girls coped with this supremely well and we beat an always challenging Surrey side 7-2.

**Day 3** Wednesday is always the toughest day in my opinion because you start the day having played 2 full days of tennis and you are not even half-way through the week! Having said that, we went into day 3 full of confidence after a couple of convincing wins on Monday and Tuesday. We played Kent back on the grass courts of Devonshire Park and

managed to power through to a 9-0 win. Emily and I managed to come through a third set tiebreak in match 2 to keep our unbeaten run alive, and we again made full use of our whole team introducing substitutes in round 3. The fact that everyone has played and won matches adds a nice dynamic to the team vibe.

**Day 4** saw us take on the newly promoted Northumberland, who we believed at this point to be one of our biggest challengers for the title. Jo Garland and Indi Spink kept up their unbeaten run as a pair losing just 13 games in 3 matches against Northumberland, and our use of substitutes again paid off with the team winning the match 6-3.

**Day 5** Waking up on Friday morning we knew that we wanted to finish the week in style, and our opponents were Hampshire & IOW. Over the last couple of years this has been a really competitive match between the two counties, and we expected nothing less on day 5. Emily and I were looking to complete 15/15 match wins for the week, but we knew that we would be really tested today. Jo and Indi got off to another strong start with a win, and Georgie and Erin clinched a close third set victory to set us off on our way. Emily and I were then locked in an epic battle against Hampshire & IOW's Freya Davies and Hannah Smith, who we had beaten in a close three-setter last year. Having saved 4 match points and playing in an amazing atmosphere at Devonshire Park in front of lots of Hertfordshire supporters we managed to get the win 14-12 in the third set tiebreak, and our unbeaten run remained intact (just!). After a bit of a rain delay between the 2nd and 3rd rounds, our team closed out the match 6-3, meaning we were crowned champions for the third time in a row!

I could not have been prouder of the Hertfordshire Ladies team this summer, and they made my life as a playing

captain relatively easy due to the team spirit and awesome tennis on display. A big thanks to Kat Whiteaway for being vice-captain and helping the team out in so many ways, as well as the family of Hertfordshire supporters and committee who came down to cheer us on – this win is for everyone. Also, congratulations to Emily Arbuthnott for completing 15/15 wins in division 1 for the second time – this is an incredibly difficult feat!

**2022 Team: Amanda Elliott (Captain), Annabel Davis, Emily Arbuthnott, Erin, Georgie Walker, Indi Spink, Joanna Garland, Katherine Whiteaway (Vice Captain) and Marelie.**

**Amanda Elliott,**  
Herts Ladies Captain



2022 Herts Ladies - Summer County Cup Champions - again!

## The Men of Hertfordshire Triumph at the 2022 Summer Cup With a Remarkable Last Day Win.



2022 Herts Men's team

### There's only one word to describe our Herts Men's National 2022 title victory – **REMARKABLE.**

As lovers of tennis, we've probably all played this wonderful sport, supported our favourite players, clubs and teams, and whether at amateur or professional level there will always be matches and competitions that will remain in our hearts.

I've now had the privilege of Captaining the Herts Men for 33 years; with many wonderful memories of specific players whose abilities and spirit made the difference to finishing our County Cups with a W as opposed to an L.

This Summer's Group 1 County Cup was one of those rare occasions when the last rubber of the last day decided the national title, with exceptional circumstances turning the result into a nail-biter and heart breaker combined.

Going into the last day's match, Herts had 3 wins and 1 loss – the loss being to an inspired Kent team on Day 2 and who went on to arrive on the Friday as favourites with a 4-0 record.

They were playing East of Scotland, who the day before had lost to our Herts Men leaving Friday with Kent on top and East of Scotland and Herts tied at 3 wins and 1 loss, but subject to how the last day's matches ended, mathematically each of the 3 teams could win the title.

Kent needed to win by any score to retain their national title, while East of Scotland needed to beat Kent with a better rubber difference that would secure them the title.

But it was Herts who had the greatest of challenges – they had to win their match versus Essex by at least 8-1 in

addition to Kent losing by any score.

On Friday, Herts had an astonishingly fast 9-0 win, finishing their match just as Kent and East of Scotland were walking onto their courts for their last round tied at 3-3.

No quarter was given by either county with the match tied at 4-4 and 1 set all, with only the 10-point tie-break left to decide the title.

Every point was fought at an incredibly high level, and eventually decided with East of Scotland's unexpected win leaving Kent, East of Scotland and Herts each on 4 wins, that led to a Rubber count to decide the Group 1 National title.

A long silence was cast over the teams and their supporters, until a loud outburst from Herts that said everything – they had won the title over Kent by 2 rubbers.

No one would have believed at the start of the day; the result would have gone to Herts... but it did!

While there was noticeable disappointment from Kent and East of Scotland, there was also great respect shown between all 3 counties.

We had all been 'there' before, but by the conclusion of the trophy and medals presentation with the Mayor of Eastbourne presiding, we all exchanged congratulations before saying our goodbyes to travel home.

Winning is a sensational feeling, of course, and in such a dramatic way, but the respect shown by all the players was felt all round.

While it's the players that make the Summer County Cup such a wonderful event, it's County Week itself that emerged as the big winner, with Devonshire Park's newest facilities, overseen by top refereeing and physios, with all others working at the competition that gave us all a wonderful week of tennis.

My very special thanks and feeling of pride to our team - **The Herts Men – Neil Bamford, Charlie Broom, George Coupland, Ryan Storrie, Finn Bass, Dan Martin, Ollie Tarvet, and Lewis Evans**, who over the week's competition played their own brand of wonderful tennis, while coming together as a team with that extra special ingredient – camaraderie – often making the difference between victory and defeat.

It certainly helped our Men lift the Summer 2022 National trophy.

Now, bring on the Winter County Cup played at Bath University where Herts will be competing again in Group 1, and for the elusive 'double', something we've been fortunate enough to have achieved twice before.

Wishing all Herts players, supporters and County executives, a very warm and happy holiday season.

**Jeff Wayne**, Herts Men's County Captain

# Herts Teams Reports

## Hertfordshire Junior County Team Report 2022

2022 saw the return of a full County Team schedule with the addition of a new County Cup category for the 8 & Under age group. This gave our youngest players their first opportunity to represent Hertfordshire and experience playing doubles in a County Cup event.

It was great to see our 8 & Under players enjoying competing alongside their Herts friends and they performed very well, with the boys winning their group and the girls finishing as runners-up. We also saw the 9 & Under girls and boys win through their qualifying groups to progress to the County Cup national finals in Bath. After an action-packed day of energetic and lively competition the girls finished 3rd and the boys 5th. The Herts teams continued to show their strength in depth at the popular Lionel Cox and 12 Counties competitions with Herts finishing as runners-up in both events. The feedback from county captains of their courtside experiences with our teams continues to be extremely positive with stories of epic battles, brilliant teamwork, individual determination and displays of great resilience across the age groups - all involved can be very proud!

### HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022 RESULTS

Under 8 Boys County Cup - **Winners**

Under 8 Girls County Cup - **Runners-up**

Under 9 Girls County Cup - **Group Winners & National Finals 3rd**

Under 9 Boys County Cup - **Group Winners & National Finals 5th**



Under 8 Boys & Girls East Region Inter-County Competition - **Silver Medallists**

Lionel Cox -

**Runners-up**

12 Counties -

**Division 1 - Runners-up**

### County Cup 2022 - Results & Teams:

**Boys 8U = Winners**

Roc, James, Thomas, Harry.

**Girls 8U - 2nd**

Yoyo, Giselle, Kim, Amelie.

**Captain:** Monica Beccera

**Assistants:** Jessie Hosking

**Herts Future Participant:** Charlotte

**Girls 9U - Qualifying Round - Winners.**

**National Finals - 3rd**

**Boys 9U - Qualifying Round - Winners.**

**National Finals - 5th**

**Girls - Ivy, Quinn, Amelie, Theresa,**

Zosia.

**Boys - Leo, Noah, George, Rufus, Louis.**

**Captains:** Natalia Ilkow, Sarah Jackson,

Teresa Lilley. **Assistant:** Jennifer

**Boys 18U Division 2 - 2nd**

Fabio, Ivan, Freddie, Albert, Ryan, Enrico, Zak, Ben. **Captains:** Ben Roberts-Law / Dave Airey

**Girls 18U Division 1 - 3rd**

Jessica, Marelle, Erin, Ava, Dina, Georgiana, Youka, Sophia.

**Captains:** Sammie Williams /

Jamie Fallis

**Boys 14U Qualifying = 3rd**

Rhys, Pavana, Brandon, Luke, Kaaviyan.

**Captains:** Ben Wilsher / David Lawlor

**Girls 14U Qualifying = 2nd**

Georgiana, Sophia, Michaela, Gabby, Sofia, Erika.

**Captain:** Teresa Lilley

**Boys 12U Qualifying = 2nd**

Adam, Noah, Xander, Samuel, Matthew.

**Captain:** Ben Wilsher

**Girls 12U Qualifying = 3rd**

Tara, Sophie, Macy, Elena, Sara.

**Captain:** Teresa Lilley

**Boys 11U Qualifying = 4th**

Matthew, Leo, William, Finley, Thomas, Huxley.

**Captain:** Teresa Lilley

**Girls 11U Girls Qualifying = 3rd**

Macy, Charleigh, Catherine, Mylie, India.

**Captain:** Sammie Williams

**Boys 10U Qualifying = 5th**



Thomas, Alexander, Vihaan, Freddie, Samuel, Benji.

**Captain:** Craig Blythe

**Girls 10U Qualifying = 5th**

Catherine, Mylie, Angele, Sasha, Amaya.

**Captain:** Sammie Williams

### Lionel Cox Trophy - Runners-up

After a two year break it was great to see the Lionel Cox event back in the calendar. Our 9U, 10U and 12U teams had a fantastic weekend of competition backed by brilliant support from their families, Herts captains and Herts officials. For 2022 we organised for Herts Inspires My Tennis Futures participants to team up with our County captains to learn about the team captaincy role, team preparations, helping players through their matches and to experience a county event from a team captains perspective. The young players loved having them involved!

**9U Boys 3rd**

Leo, Noah, George.

**Captain:** Natalia Ilkow

**Herts Future Participant:** Roberta

**9U Girls 1st**

Amelie, Ivy, Zosia.

**Coach:** Sarah Jackson

**Herts Future Participant:** Charlotte

**10U Boys 7th**

Thomas, Vihaan, Freddie.

**Coach:** Craig Blythe

**Herts Future Participant:** Zak

**10U Girls 2nd**

Catherine, Mylie, Angele.

**Coach:** Tony Staley

**12U Boys 1st**

Adam, Noah, Xander.

**Captain:** Christian Colvin

**Herts Future Participant:** Reece

**12U Girls 5th**

Tara, Sophie, Ava-Rose, Elena.

**Captain:** Ian Zellner



9U County Cup teams

**12 Counties Championships  
October 2021 – April 2022:**

The 12 Counties Championship is an annual county team competition involving 12 Counties and 640 players. There are 720 matches played throughout the winter and across the age groups from 10 & under through to the 18 & unders.

The results from each age group are accumulated to determine the overall finishing position. The 2021 – 2022 season saw Herts in Division 1 where they finished in 2nd place behind Essex. Herts remain in the top division for the 2022 – 2023 season and will be joined by promoted teams Middlesex and Buckinghamshire.

**10 & Under Teams - Boys – 3rd / Girls – 3rd**

**Boys:** Thomas, Vihaan, Samuel, Freddie.

**Captain:** Craig Blythe

**Girls:** Catherine, Mylie, Phoebe, Harmony-Abigail.

**Captain:** Tony Staley

**12 & Under Teams - Boys – 2nd / Girls – 3rd**

**Boys:** Adam, Xander, Noah, Jamie.

**Captain:** Ben Wilsher

**Girls:** Tara, Sophie, Julia, Ava-Rose.

**Captain:** Ian Zellner

**14 & Under Teams - Boys – 2nd / Girls – 1st**

**Boys:** Brandon, James, Messam, Aoun.

**Captain:** Chris Martin

**Girls:** Sophia, Michaela, Rose, Katie.

**Captain:** Teresa Lilley

**16 & Under Teams - Boys – 3rd / Girls – 1st**

**Boys:** Milo, Alexander, Luke, Alexandru.

**Captain:** Jamie Fallis

**Girls:** Erin, Georgiana, Arabella, Sophia.

**Captain:** Sammie Williams

**18 & Under Teams - Boys – 2nd / Girls – 1st**

**Boys:** Ivan, Freddie, Albert, Ben.

**Captain:** Ben Roberts-Law

**Girls:** Marelie, Erin, Dina, Youka.

**Captain:** Sammie Williams

**Mini-Red East Region Inter-County Competition – Silver Medallists**

This inter-county competition sees 8 & under red ball players come together from across the east region to compete in singles matches with the results of every match counting towards overall finishing positions.

The Herts girls' teams competed first and played with great enthusiasm, focus and teamwork. They finished 2nd in their qualifying group to progress through to the main draw where they finished 4th after a very close match with Berkshire. The boys competed in the afternoon and showed fantastic energy and determination throughout. They had a great run, winning 3 of their qualifying ties 6 – 0 to progress to the main draw where they beat Oxfordshire 4-2 to set up a final versus Essex. After some very close battles the boys took the win to claim gold medals. With all results tallied Herts finished in 2nd place overall. It was great to see our young players enjoying their efforts together and all played their part brilliantly.

**Boys – Qualifying 1st – Main Draw – Winners**

Roc, James, Thomas, Harry, Thomas, Brandon.

**Captain:** Monica Beccera

**Assistant:** Jessie Hosking

**Girls – Qualifying Group 2nd – Main Draw – 4th**

Yoyo, Giselle, Kim, Amelie, Annabelle, Lucinda.



Inter-County Girls' Red team



11U County Cup Girls' team



12U County Cup Boy's team



Inter-County Boys' Red team

# Herts Teams Reports

As ever, we would like to say a big thank you to all our travelling players, reserves, parents, captains, county coaches and supporters for your commitment to tennis, Hertfordshire teams and for displaying the Herts Tennis values! We look forward to seeing you at county training as we prepare for the 2023 competitions.

## Go Herts!

**Teresa Lilley**, Herts County Performance Manager

Honesty - Excellence - Resilience - Teamwork - Sportsmanship



## Herts Inspires My Tennis Future Programme

**The programme continues to provide Herts junior players in year 10 and above access to on-court training sessions, work experiences, career and university workshops, discounted LTA coach qualification courses and opportunities to be involved in a variety of Herts Tennis events.**

Throughout 2022 we have seen Herts Futures participants team up with county captains to support players at county

team events, join us for Herts County coach forums and attend Wimbledon qualifying. One lucky participant even had a work experience day at the NTC where he rubbed shoulders with the likes of Andy, Emma and Kyle.

There are plenty of activities planned for 2023 including an on-court session with Ed Corrie, a university workshop with the Loughborough Head Tennis Coach and Strength & Conditioning with Daz Drake. If you are interested in getting involved or would like to know more, please contact us. [www.hertstennis.co.uk/coaching/herts-inspires-my-tennis-future/](http://www.hertstennis.co.uk/coaching/herts-inspires-my-tennis-future/)

**Teresa Lilley**, Herts County Performance Manager

## St Albans and Harpenden win first titles under new-look Herts League

**After its two year enforced break for covid the Herts League returned this year. When the competition was last held in 2019 matches lasted for around four-and-a-half hours, whereas a new format, agreed at that year's AGM, means that players only spend around three hours on court. So, how has the new format gone down and has the prospect of shorter matches made it easier to get a team out?**

It's likely to take another year or two to fully understand the impact, but the early signs can best be summed up as....debatable! The new format had been trialled in last year's one-off events (The Corona and NHS Challenge Cups), so for some players it wasn't a new experience. It was new to others though and it was also the first year in which the results will have a consequence for the future. Yes, promotion and relegation is back!

There are undoubtedly still plenty of players out there who hanker for the days when matches were the focal point for the whole of a Saturday or Sunday (I may even be one of them!), but the overall feedback has been positive. One thing's for sure though, the prospect of shorter matches appears to have had very little positive impact on the ability of a lot of Men's teams to fulfil fixtures, particularly in the higher echelons of the league. Once again, there were far too many occasions when matches were postponed, often resulting in walkovers. For the good of the competition that has to change.

A worrying trend also looks like developing amongst some of the teams towards the higher reaches of the Ladies competition of not wanting to take up a place in the Championship division.

That led to a reduced number of teams in the top division from the off and when one of them pulled out without playing a match, the result was a somewhat farcical situation where only five teams were competing for the coveted Herts League title! Can I call upon your help please, Ladies, to reverse that trend next year.

On a far more positive note, from those five teams came a thoroughly deserving winner. After a 44 year wait, St Albans won the title for only the 2nd time in their history and they did so at a canter. Over the last few years the club has put together a large squad of very good players, which smacks of a winning formula to me. Let's just say I would be very surprised if they go another 44 years before claiming their 3rd title!

The Men's Herts League crown was claimed by far more familiar winners in Harpenden. This was the club's record- extending 33rd Men's title, despite them suffering from what for them must have seemed like a drought since they last tasted success in 2005.

In next year's top flight they will be joined by strong looking teams from Hertford and Townsend, while in the Ladies competition Moor Park and St Albans' 2nd team will be looking to show that their impressive performances to gain promotion from the Premier division were not flashes in the pan. Congratulations to all four teams and to every other divisional winner and promoted team on their achievements.

I would like to end by thanking everybody who played a part, however big or small, in this year's competition. A lot of work goes into being a match secretary or captaining a club or team - an awful lot of it unnoticed and often unrecognised - but believe me, it makes a big difference. Thank you!

**Lee Evans**



The triumphant Townsend Ladies team receive their trophy from Sue Wolstenholme OBE

## Berkhamsted and Townsend win Harris Cups

A bumper crowd was treated to some scintillating tennis as they bathed in the Autumn sunshine at Berkhamsted LTSRC for the finals of this year's Harris Cup Men's and Ladies competitions.

Named in honour of two of the county's greatest ever servants to tennis, John and Val Harris, the Harris Cup is the county's prestigious 2-pair knockout cup event.

The Men's competition had seen the home club reach their first



The all conquering Berkhamsted Men's team being presented with their trophy by Sue.

final courtesy of some fantastic wins, including one against a much fancied Harpenden team who were fresh from claiming the Herts League title. In the final they came up against one of the county's strongest 2-pair outfits, the 2019 runners-up Bishop's Stortford, who themselves had beaten tough opposition in Barnet and a reborn Rickmansworth, whose phenomenal home support very nearly made the difference in the tightest of semi-finals.

The undoubted form team in the Ladies competition was Townsend, who marched into the final with hugely impressive wins at Bishop's Stortford and Harpenden to their name. Their opponents on Finals Day, Welwyn, were also oozing confidence though, having beaten the runners-up from the last two Harris Cups, Berkhamsted and Barnet, on route.

The Men's final saw Berkhamsted take full advantage of playing on home turf and despite an early scare when one of their star players had to go off injured, they proved too hot to handle, running out 3-1 winners.

The Ladies final was a seriously close affair, swinging first one way then another before Townsend's superb first pair turned the tables decisively in the second round to claim the trophy for their team by a whisker.

Huge thanks to all four teams for treating the spectators to some superb tennis and to Berkhamsted and its members for being such fantastic hosts.

**Lee Evans**

## Herts National League Summer 2022

The National League Summer Competition saw 166 teams take part with 824 players taking to the court. This was the first summer season in recent years to be free of restrictions meaning that most fixtures took place.

Congratulations to all teams who took part and thank you to all the captains who did their best to field teams even when isolations and injuries got in the way.

There was close competition in many of the divisions with Welwyn's Men and West Herts' Ladies progressing to the regional round in the Open event.

We look forward to the Herts National League Winter 22-3.

**Hugo Allen**

# Individual Successes

## Herts National League Summer 2022 Division Winners

Age	Group	Division	Winning Club
Open	Men's	4	Berkhamsted
12U	Boys	3	Broxbourne
10U	Mixed	3	Cassiobury
8U	Mixed	4	Chorleywood
10U	Mixed	1	Gosling
11U	Boys	1	Gosling
8U	Mixed	1	Gosling
Open	Men's	2	Gosling
14U	Girls	1	Harpenden
16U	Boys	2	Harpenden
12U	Boys	1	Letchworth
9U	Mixed	1	Letchworth
18U	Boys	1A	Moor Park
18U	Girls	1	Moor Park
14U	Boys	1A	Radlett
8U	Mixed	2	Radlett
9U	Mixed	2	Radlett
14U	Boys	1B	Rickmansworth
16U	Boys	1	Rickmansworth
16U	Girls	1	Rickmansworth
18U	Boys	2	Rickmansworth
18U	Girls	2	Rickmansworth
12U	Boys	2	St Albans
16U	Girls	2	St Albans
14U	Boys	2	St Albans 1
14U	Boys	3	St Albans 2
12U	Girls	1	Townsend
Open	Men's	3	Townsend
9U	Mixed	3	uPlay Hitchin
9U	Mixed	4	uPlay Hitchin
10U	Mixed	2	Welwyn
16U	Boys	3	Welwyn
18U	Boys	1B	Welwyn
8U	Mixed	3	Welwyn
Open	Men's	1	Welwyn
Open	Women's	2	Welwyn
Open	Women's	1	West Herts

Hertfordshire players continue to shine on the International and National stage. We are very proud of all their achievements. These statistics are accurate as the newsletter went to press.

### Key:

**ATP** - Association of Tennis Professionals,  
**ITA** - Intercollegiate Tennis Association,  
**ITF** - International Tennis Federation,  
**TE** - Tennis Europe,  
**WTN** - World Tennis Number,  
**LTA** - Lawn Tennis Association,  
**GB** - Great Britain, **S** - singles, **D** - doubles, **W** - win,  
**r/u**- runner up, **s/f** - semi final, **BT** - British Tour

### MEN/BOYS

**Charlie Broom:** ATP:- 359 - S, 236 - D; GB - 21.  
 Win over former no 6 Giles Simon at Ilkley 125K.  
 Futures S W Helsinki, 4 D titles, R/u Challenger in Columbus.

**Finn Bass:** Baylor University, ATP:- 1074 - S, 1321 - D;  
 ITA:- 100, 14 - D; GB:- 206.

**Jake Penny:** Lipscomb University Nashville reading  
 Psychology.

**James Wilkinson:** University of Delaware reading  
 Economics.

**David Stevenson:** Memphis reading Business Economics.  
 ITA:- 125 S, 50 - D.

**Daniel Martin:** University of Minnesota.

**David Latter:** Loughborough University.

**Myles Hall:** Leeds University.

**Joel Pierleoni:** WTN:- S - 6.5, D - 8.5.

**Oliver Tarvet:** ATP:- 1343 - S; WTN:- 8.1 - D. San Diego State  
 University Newcomer 8.



Emily Arbuthnott & Georgie Walker



**Fabio:** ITF:- 426; WTN:- 9.5 – S, 15.0 – D; GB:- 103, 18U – 20. ITF Bradfield - S r/u; Liverpool - S r/u; Timisoara - D r/u; Edinburgh - D r/u; Dubai - D r/u; UAE - D W.

**Ivan:** National Visually Impaired team.

**Enrico:** GB:- 16U - 63,18U - 178, Open - 347.

**Rhys:** TE:- 14U – 349; GB:- 16U - 103, 14U – 12; LTA 14U Junior Grass Courts - S s/f; Scottish Open - S W; LTA National Indoors - S W.

**Pavana:** GB:- 14U – 43; TE:- Clarkson Platou - D r/u.

**Matthew:** GB:- 12U – 43, 11U – 14; LTA Jun Nat 11U - D r/u, LTA Clay Court 11U - D r/u.

## LADIES/GIRLS

**Joanna Garland:** WTA:- 251 – S, 620 – D; GB – 15; 25K Aldershot - S W; 25K Foxhills - S W; 25K Notts - S r/u; 15K Monastir - S W, D r/u; 25K Loughborough - D W.

**Anna Popescu:** GB - 50.

**Emily Arbuthnott:** Masters at Cambridge; GB – 54; BUCS - S r/u, D r/u.

**Georgie Walker:** Masters at Cambridge, BUCS - D r/u. Em and Georgie were part of the winning team at HEC Virtus Tournament at Roland Garros.

**Mimi Bland:** Northern Arizona University.

**Danielle Latter:** Loughborough University.

**Indianna Spink:** University of Arkansas. ITA:- S – 26; GB – 237; LTA:- BT Paddington - S W.

**Annabel Davis:** The University of Idaho.

**Jessica:** WTA: D – 1009; GB - 71, 18U – 28; ITF Bradfield Int - D r/u; Wrexham - D W; Lauras - D r/u. Junior Wimbledon Doubles; ISTA Captain played Gorringe Cup V AELTC.

**Hannah:** ITF – 555; GB - 111,18U – 55, 16U – 33. Gt Missenden - S W, D r/u; Chesham Bois - S r/u, D W; Edinburgh - S W, D W; Bradfield - S W, D r/u; Tayside - S W.

**Ava:** ITF - 964, Naas J4 - S r/u, D W.

**Hephzibah:** ITF – 91; TE 18U – 22; GB - 31,18U - 5,16U - 2. Junior Int Laurus - S r/u; Loughborough - S r/u, ITF Oslo - S W, LTA Jun Nationals - D W.

**Marelle:** ITF – 290; GB - 48, 18U - 13, 16U - 6. ITF Aldershot - S r/u; Pretoria - S r/u, D W; Jo'burg - S r/u D W; Wrexham - D r/u; BT Exeter - S r/u; Bath - S r/u; Wanderers - S r/u, D W; Gauteng - S r/u, D W; Laurus - S r/u.

**Erin:** ITF – 535; GB - 64, 18U 22, 16U 1. ITF Wrexham - S W; Loughborough - S r/u, Pretoria - D W; BT Cumberland - S r/u; Connaught - S r/u; Gauteng - D W.

**Dina:** ITF – 1853; Ashkelon - D W; Tel Aviv - D r/u.

**Georgiana:** GB:- 18U - 128, 16U - 75, 14U - 8. 18U Edinburgh Jun Int - S W; 14U Fred Perry Champs - S W; TE Clarkson Platou - S W, D r/u; Bergen - D r/u; LTA Junior Grass - D r/u.

**Arabella:** ITF – 254; TE:- 16U - 107, 14U – 28; GB:- 18U - 107, 16U - 60,14U – 5. 16U Bergantov - S W, D r/u; TE Summer Cup - S r/u, Jun Int Wrexham - S r/u, D r/u; Sutton LTA Gr1 - S r/u; TE Clarkson Platou - S r/u, D W; Roehampton - D W; Bergen D W; Liverpool Jun Int - D r/u; LTA Junior Grass - D W; Junior Wimbledon 14U Singles invite T'ment.

**Sophia:** TE:- 14U – 503; GB:- 18U - 140, 16U - 83, 14U - 11. Jun Scottish Open - S r/u; LTA Jun Nat - D W; Jun Int Aldershot - D W; Welsh Jun Open - D W; Jun Int Wrexham - D W, LTA Nat tour Bath - D r/u; Bolton - D r/u.

**Rose:** TE:- 14U – 694; GB:- 14U - 57.

**Tara:** GB:- 12U – 15; TE Jun Int Aldershot - S W, D r/u; LTA Nat Tour 11U - S r/u.

**Gabby:** TE:- 14U – 268; GB – 20; Dublin - D W.

**Grace:** TE:- 14U – 304; GB – 17; Clarkson Platou - S r/u; Junior Open - D W.

**Catherine:** Scottish Jun Open 10U - S r/u; LTA Nat Tour Bath 10U - S r/u.

**Janet Corrie,** Performance Chairman - Nov 2022.

## Ivan

**It's been another fantastic year for Ivan, who at age 17 continues to be the youngest member in Great Britain's LTA men's visually impaired tennis squad for 3 consecutive years. Ivan was born with a rare connective tissue disorder which means that he is partially sighted.**

Ivan maintained his position as Great Britain's No 1 ranked player in the Men's B4 category when he became national champion for the third time running at the Visually Impaired National Tennis Finals, which were held in Wrexham in November 2022. And for good measure he won the national doubles title as well.

Ivan continues to train several times a week at West Herts LTC and David Lloyd Northwood where he doesn't miss an opportunity to play with the very supportive members.

He also continues to try to use his prominent position as

No. 1 in the country to champion and promote awareness of the sport and what visually impaired tennis players can achieve. Another huge accolade has been his nomination for the My Local Hero Young Sporting Achiever of the Year 2022 and his invitation to a Gala Event at the Grove Hotel near Watford.

As well as to continue to remain unbeaten in regional tournaments, Ivan's goal is to become World Champion at the forthcoming World Blind Games 2023 due to be held in Birmingham next summer when he hopes to finally play other international visually impaired players in his sight category after the disappointment of being unable to participate in Gdansk due to the low number of players who entered.

### Anita Deb

You can see more about Ivan on our website: [www.hertstennis.co.uk](http://www.hertstennis.co.uk)

# County Championships

## Herts County Championships winners and runners-up 2022

Event	Position	Name(s)	Position	Name(s)
Men's Singles	1	Johnpaul	2	Max Mcilvenna
Men's Doubles	1	Max Mcilvenna & Theo	2	Luke & Oliver
18U Boy's Singles	1	Milo	2	Luke
18U Boy's Doubles	1	Johnpaul & Theo	2	Luke & Oliver
16U Boy's Singles	1	Oliver	2	Pavana
16U Girl's Singles	1	Sophia	2	Katie
16U Boy's Doubles	1	Pavana & Brandon	2	Kevin & Alexandru
16U Girl's Doubles	1	Xanthe & Emily	2	Katie & Scarlett-May
14U Boy's Singles	1	Brandon	2	Daniel
14U Boy's Doubles	1	Alexander & James	2	Daniel & Brandon
14U Girl's Singles	1	Katie	2	Amira
12U Boy's Singles	1	Noah	2	Adam
12U Girl's Singles	1	Sophie	2	Sara
12U Boy's Doubles	1	Xander & Noah	2	Matthew & William
12U Girl's Doubles	1	Sara & Sophie	2	Layla & Lilia
11U Boy's Singles	1	Matthew	2	Leo
11U Girl's Singles	1	Catherine	2	Lilia
10U Boy's Singles	1	Vihaan	2	Thomas
10U Girl's Singles	1	Mylie	2	Amelie
10U Boy's Doubles	1	Vihaan & Freddie	2	Toby & Alexander
10U Girl's Doubles	1	Maya & Isabella	2	Harmony-Abigail & Alexandra
9U Boy's Singles	1	Ari	2	James
9U Girl's Singles	1	Amelie	2	Yoyo
8U Boy's Singles	1	Roc	2	James
8U Girl's Singles	1	Annabelle	2	Kim

## Overview of Herts Senior Ladies Winter League 2021-22

**Congratulations and thank you to all competing clubs who successfully navigated another challenging competition year which was interrupted by the pandemic at the beginning.**

At the start of the season, it was all systems go, but, understandably, as players were still slightly cautious, we were slightly down in numbers from previous years. As usual, players were very happy to be playing freely and being more or less back to normal.

### 40s Divisions

Thank you to the clubs and their teams competing in the over 40s groups. All were very keen to play.

- Group 1 was won by Hoddesdon A.
- Group 2A Kimpton won and were promoted to Group 1.
- Group 2B St Albans A won and were also promoted to Group 1.
- Group 3A was won by Townsend
- Group 3B was won by Knebworth B
- Group 4A was won by Digswell
- Group 4B was won by Elliswick A
- Group 5A was won by Hoddesdon B
- Group 5B was won by Brookmans Park B

Well done to all ladies who played during the season.

### 50s Divisions

After an exciting year St Albans A finally achieved top spot - well done them. They have worked their way up from Group 3 and knocked Harpenden A off top spot. In this top group Letchworth A had equal points with Harpenden A, but Harpenden A was placed 2nd as overall they won 9 more and

lost 5 less games than Letchworth A.

Group 2A: We welcomed back Bishop's Stortford A to the level they left (during Covid). Berkhamsted won this group, so return to Group 1.

Group 2B: Won by Elliswick A who deservedly gain promotion to Group 1.

Group 3A: Won by Radlett B

Group 3B: Won by Broxbourne A

Group 4A: Won by Gosling

Group 4B: Won by St Albans B

Group 5: Won by St Albans C

### 60s Divisions

Back to almost normal this season but no matches played indoors. Overall, we gained in the number of teams playing.

The winners are as follows: -

Division 1 Harpenden A

Division 2A Rickmansworth A

Division 2B Bishops Stortford A

Division 3A Brookmans Park B

Division 3B Bishops Stortford B

Unfortunately, we did not get enough entries to run a 70+ league for this season but have already received greater interest for the coming season so we will look to run this league in the summer of 2023. After all we have some very fit ladies over 70 playing tennis!

**Patricia Rayner**

## Herts County Ladies Seniors

### Over 35s

**Team: Holly Bagshaw, Kate Elliott, Kate Peel, Sian Southwell-Sander, Louise Storey**

A massive thank you to the above players who played some fabulous tennis to stay in Group 2 this year.

A special mention to Holly Bagshaw - making her debut in the 35's event - it was great to have her on board. We just missed out on Kat Baker also making her debut as she was selected to represent GB in the World Champs O35s (congratulations!). Unfortunately, the dates of the two events clashed but hopefully next year will work Kat!

**Day 1** saw the team face Warwickshire and although they were missing some players they still made for very tricky opposition. Both Louise Storey (at no.2) and Kate Gower (at no.1) won their singles matches in straight sets. Sian and Holly then paired up to win the doubles giving us a 3-0 lead after Round 1.

Warwickshire's 1st pair then played some brilliant doubles in a very close match to beat Sian and Holly in round 2.

However, Kate and Louise were too strong for the 2nd doubles pair winning convincingly and leading to a final match score of 4-1 to Hertfordshire.

The day was rounded off with an ice bath in the sea by the whole team and supporters!

**Day 2** was always going to be a challenge as Surrey had fielded an incredibly strong team including Mel South in the doubles pair.

Kate Gower came through again in the singles giving a 1-1 match score with 3 doubles to play.

Holly Bagshaw played one round of doubles with Sian and one with Kate Peel, but unfortunately all 3 rubbers were won by Surrey giving them the 4-1 victory.

It was unlikely that we would then be able to win the group - with Surrey looking so dominant - but anything can happen so there was still all to play for on the final day!

**Day 3** saw Bedfordshire on a mission to beat us to try and stay in Group 2.

Louise had a great battle in the singles winning on a Champs Tie Break and Kate came through in straight sets again to give us a 2-0 lead.

With Holly having to leave to get to the Women's World Cup Football Final at Wembley - Kate Peel and Sian went into a battle with the doubles pair and came out with a comeback win on a Champs Tie Break.

Louise and Kate then beat the same pair (also on a Champs Tie Break) - securing a 4-0 win - and as Surrey had beaten Warwickshire in the other Group 2 match up there was no need to play the final match as the group results had been determined.

Looking forward to next year... Kate Eliot will take on the Captaincy role and with a lot of new young players qualifying for the age group will bid to get Hertfordshire back into Group 1. Good Luck Kate!

Please do get in touch with the Herts Office if you would like to get involved with the Over 35s or would like to suggest anyone who you think should be considered.

**Sian Southwell-Sander, Captain**

### Over 40s

The over 40s was a team to be proud of, beating Berkshire in a close 3-2 win and Buckinghamshire with a convincing 4-1 win with some outstanding doubles from Kelly Simkin and Caroline Lacy a new pair that worked a treat!

We were lucky enough to play at Moor Park against Somerset, where sadly we lost but they were a lovely and very strong team and once again such a great effort from all our girls. Sian and Rachel put up such a brave effort in their doubles against a pair that play consistently together only to be defeated in a gripping tie break.

Middlesex we lost to - again they were super strong team. We lost Lisa, one of our team members to a terrible rupture of her Achilles whilst playing on the way to a victory! She was super brave. Unfortunately, we couldn't get a team out to play Yorkshire, life seems a little chaotic and busy for all.

It's been a pleasure to captain all the girls that have managed to play, well done and thank you for your support.

**Team: Kate Elliott, Lisa Hawken, Lisa King, Caroline Lacy, Pippa Parkes, Judy Sharman, Rachel Sheridan, Kelly Simkin, Sian Southwell-Sander, Louise Storey**

**Louise Storey, Captain**

### Over 50s

The Herts 50s women's team had a solid season in Division 1, winning 3 matches (against Gloucestershire, Kent and Surrey) and losing 2 (against Yorkshire and Sussex). Annoyingly, our decisive win against Gloucestershire didn't count as they failed to play their last match and were removed from the group. Also, even though we beat Surrey and had a higher set and games win/loss ratio than Sussex we ended up in 4th position behind both of them. This was because although Herts, Surrey and Sussex were tied on points, we had lost to Sussex and had a slightly lower win/loss ratio than Surrey.

We had some great tennis along the way and some very close matches with quite a few 10 point tie-break nail-biters. It was a great team effort.

**Those who played were Miranda Hosking (captain), Bridie Amos, Jenny Webster, Pippa Parkes, Kirstie Caneparo and Rebecca Gates, with Alison Felton standing by as reserve and Olga Blecher unfortunately out with an injury.**

**Miranda Hosking, Captain**

### Over 55s

We played four very enjoyable matches this year, at home to Durham and Lancashire, and away to Surrey and Middlesex, yes, we were extremely lucky with the draw. **Patricia Watson-Miller, Emma Wilson** and I played in all the matches and were helped out by **Jane Walker, Margie Edge and Tessa Cook**. All matches were extremely well fought with two big wins against Durham and Lancashire and hard-fought losses in the other two. We managed some excellent Friday morning match practices which allowed us to play in many different doubles combinations. But Emma and Patricia played fantastic singles all season. The team spirit has been great and the commitment from everyone has made running the team easy and a pleasure. Onwards and upwards for next year.

**Hazel Lupton, Captain**

# Seniors Tennis

## Over 60s

Congratulations to the team on winning every match in Group 2 and thus gaining promotion to Group 1 next year. There were clearly some close and enjoyable matches. Well done to everyone involved for your great tennis and team spirit and thank you to Radlett for use of the courts and facilities.

**Those who played were Judith Allnutt, Jane Walker, Alison Williams, Margaret Shahmir, Annie Hems, Wendy Cottendon, Wendy Randall and Kay Roantree.**

**Claire Booth**, Captain

Unfortunately Claire was unable to play this year due to a knee surgery so special thanks to her for captaining the team. We look forward to having her back on court next year!

## Over 65s

The Herts Ladies 65s team had a very successful summer of matches winning their division and gaining promotion to Division 1. We started with a long trip and hotel stay, and a very good competitive match against Lancashire. With a 4-0 win we had certainly made a good start to the season. Our other 3 matches were all very tight beating both Kent and Essex by 1 set and disappointingly losing to Yorkshire by 2 games. Fortunately, we were already top of the league and needed only 1 rubber to gain promotion in our final match.

A good team spirit goes a long way towards the success of the team which has certainly been proven this year. Many thanks and well played to all the ladies who will now be busy spending the winter practising their singles ready for Division 1 next year! An extra thanks to Kay who stepped in at short notice for our away matches against Lancashire & Essex.

**Those who played were Alison Allard, Joy Allsopp, Janet Corrie, Gill Dickey and Kay Roantree.**

**Alison Allard**, Captain

## Over 70s

**Our team consisted of Lorraine Oliver, Jenny Madden, Chris Robinson, Margi de Friez, Trish Rayner and Debbie Walker.**

We came second to Norfolk having two final match professional tie breaks against them which we narrowly lost.

We drew against South Wales playing on the hottest day of the year, but we had a slightly better game score.

We played Leicestershire and Cambridgeshire again indoors on very hot days and came away with good wins.

We hope as South Wales and Leicestershire did not complete their matches we will be promoted to Division 2.

We can all play in any combination as we arrange practice sessions throughout the winter, and I have a willing squad of 10 that I can choose from although if anyone wishes to join us all they need to do is contact any of the above players.

**Debbie Walker**, Captain

## Overview of Herts Men's Seniors Winter League

To try and understand where we are all at now, I had to refer to the last time I actually filed an end of season report. This goes back to Season 2019-20 which was severely interrupted - and frankly speaking in the past - and so it was a great pleasure for me to be able to see the final league tables at the conclusion of this season which officially ended on May 20th.

### Over 45s

consisted of EIGHT groups or divisions (whichever is your preference).

### Over 55s

consisted of SEVEN groups.

### And Over 65s

TWO Divisions plus the introduction of the **Over 70s** Age Group.

As the Administrator / Organiser of the league I must say a big thank you to my colleague and friend Malcolm Fraser who is invaluable to our league and his knowledge of how to run our league is just brilliant.

As everyone will be able to see ALL the top places in each group were hotly contested with very many close matches and "shoot out" results.

Congratulations to TOWNSEND 1 who won the Over 45 Championship and group 3a as well as winning DIVISION 1 of the Over 65s.

Special mention for newcomers PIRTON LTC who won group 4a at the first attempt, winning all their matches, so congratulations to their skipper WILL TESTA - we will watch your progress with interest.

### Over 55s

True to form HARPENDEN 1 finished as winners, 3 points ahead of Bishops Stortford, and way ahead of the other teams in the Group.

### Over 70s

The league started with 6 teams but owing to illness and injury, we ended up with 4 teams with the League finishing with BERKHAMSTED as comfortable winners.

We have now received a request to amend and change the format of the over 70s to THREE Pairs in each team playing. This gives more players playing a total of NINE one-set rubbers, so this proposed format means that the matches would not last as long as the current format.

Comments regarding this should be forwarded to me at [blwein@dircon.co.uk](mailto:blwein@dircon.co.uk) or [Malcolm Fraser frasermalcolm1@virginmedia.com](mailto:frasermalcolm1@virginmedia.com)

Many thanks to all who took part in the 2021 - 2022 league. Season 2022- 2023 promises to be a bigger event.

**Basil Wein**, Organiser

## Herts County Men's Seniors

**Things are beginning to return to normal after the pandemic, but there are still some counties affected by player availability and they have been unable to field teams.**

### Men's 35s

As the (proud) captain of the Herts 35 men's team I was excited about what we might achieve this year. Our team was strong. We had the two Neils - Bamford and Roskilly, the two Corries - Tom and David, and me (H Hejazi).

Now I hear what you're thinking when you see this line up. How can anyone beat them?? That's exactly what I was thinking. So much so that this year I had planned on not playing at all. With the two Neils playing a singles each and then teaming up for a doubles and with the two Corries playing doubles I felt we were unbeatable. Sadly, the master plan didn't quite go to plan.

Firstly, Tom Corrie had a work commitment that meant he was not able to commit fully to the weekend. This wasn't the end of the world. I would step in for him and all is still well. But then the crushing news that our number one player Bamford was also now not available. Ouch!!!! Now not only have we lost our best player, we don't even have enough players to field a team. Fortunately, we were saved by David Shann who kindly stepped in at the very last minute to save our blushes for not having 4 players.

Suddenly our prospects for the weekend had very much changed. We had gone from having a strong chance of becoming champions to looking like favourites for relegation.

The weekend was full of good tennis and many great battles. Some special mentions go to David Corrie who not only played superbly but also made the huge effort to fly over from America to play, Neil Roskilly whose tennis still looks as good as ever and Tom Corrie whose tennis quite frankly was as good if not better than it's ever been. Sadly, even with all this quality we were not able to save ourselves from relegation.

Next year will be different. I have already secured in writing the services of Bamford and another Corrie joins the mix to add even more strength to this squad.

2023 and 2024 will hopefully be my last two years in the role as captain with promotion and then the title my aim!!

What a joy and privilege it is to still be able to represent the county that has given so much to me over the years. Whether champions or finishing last the Herts tennis family always wins!! Come on Herts!!!

**Hamid Hejazi, Captain**

### Men's 45s

With South Wales withdrawing at the beginning of the season and Hampshire not arranging any matches, that left us with only three matches to play; all arranged for the final three weekends of the season.

We started with a home match against Berkshire, winning 5-0. This included straight set wins for Steve Jones and Venki Sundaram in the singles and for Dave King and Jinesh Shah in the doubles. This was followed up with straight sets wins in round 2 of the doubles.

Next up was Yorkshire at home. Dave King and Venki Sundaram faced two tough singles players who proved too strong on the day, but with Steve Jones and Rob Slack scraping through a tight doubles the tie was still alive going into the doubles round. Despite a straight sets win for Dave and Venki, the match finished 3-2 to Yorkshire.

On the final day of the season, it was up to Cambridge. The score was 2-1 in our favour after the opening round with wins for Steve Jones in the singles (a nail biting 11-9 in the 3rd set tie break) and for Rob Slack and Jinesh Shah in the doubles. Again, playing no1 singles Dave King faced a tough opponent in Pieter Van Houten. The match was completed with a 4-1 win, including a brilliant win for Jinesh and Rob against their two singles players.

It's not the first time the difference between qualifying for the national finals has been a single 3-2 reverse to the group winners; hopefully going one better in 2023!!!

Thanks to players **Stephen Jones (captain), David King, Jinesh Shah, Robert Slack, Venki Sundaram.**

### Men's 50s

One of the counties withdrew before the season started, so that left just 4 matches. An away match against Oxford was a 5-0 win. Cambridge beat us 5-0 and Lincolnshire was a narrow 3-2 loss. That left having to beat Durham away 5-0 to be promoted. Unfortunately, it was only a 3-2 win, so the team will stay in group 2.

Many thanks to **Geoff Cook, Matthew Foster, David Gray, Mick Hooker, Tony Illingworth, Greg Krausher, David Reed (captain), David Shann, Paul Smart.**

### Men's 55s

This season felt like a transition year for the Over 55 team. Similar issues to last year dogged the first half of this season's campaign - a combination of long distance fixtures not being fulfilled by both this county as well as others combined with an apparent lack of players keen to represent the county in the age group - however, the arrival on the scene in the second half of the season of several excellent, extremely keen players and the knowledge that next year the team will have a new, similarly keen captain at the helm has helped deliver the promise of a bright future.

In the two matches that were played the team secured a brilliant win against the otherwise unbeaten Northamptonshire before losing out in a tough away fixture with Berkshire.

Many thanks to the players who represented the county: **John Garland, Neil Grassick, Steven Taylor, Mike Clegg, Hira Sahadevan, Peter Godfrey-Evans and Lee Evans (captain)** with special mention to **Martin Tipper** as reserve.

### Men's 60s

The team won 2 and lost 2 matches and stay in group 2. However, having beaten Sussex who finished second, and were promoted, and losing to Berkshire who finished bottom of the group, better luck with availability and injuries could have resulted in promotion.

Thanks are due to the following who played, **Ian Portal, Mike**

# Seniors Tennis

**Seymour, Peter Yeoman, John Bennet, Peter Godfrey- Evans, John Walker, Bjorn Schroder, and Mike Clegg.** Thanks are also due to **David Smith (captain).**



## Men's 65s

Playing in Division 1a we had a good season winning matches against Leicestershire: 5-0, Norfolk: 4-1 Staffordshire: 3-2 and Dorset: 4-1 winning the group.

My thanks to **Neagle Cathcart, David Stanton, Stuart Walker and Mike Sarson** and myself who played the matches this year. We were supported by **Doug Lavis and Bob Sneesby.**

We were pleased to reach the national finals played at the Graves Centre in Sheffield where we met Surrey who were a bit too strong for us but where we had a good match losing 3-0.

**Martin Corrie, Captain**

## Men's 70s

The 70s team struggled this year against strong opposition particularly in the singles rubbers and lost most matches 4-1.

The only close match was against Leicester which was decided by a tie-break but resulted in our unfortunate 3-2 loss. The team has been relegated.

Thanks are due to the players, **Malcolm Fraser, Martin Home, David Thomas, Lee Ding, Paul Ware, Bob Press, Tom Parsons and Barry Skelding.** Special thanks are due to **David Fairbairn** who captained the team and was unable to play in any of the matches owing to injury.

## Men's 75s

The team was only able to win one match away against Essex and had close losses against Lancashire and Surrey although the score does not reflect that result. There was also a loss against Kent. The team has been relegated to division 2.

Thanks are due to the players, **Tom Parsons, Malcolm Fraser (captain), Barry Skelding Peter Morton and Rex Poulter.**

## Leagues

The leagues at 45 and 55 continue to grow and there are now three divisions in the 65 age group and after a shaky start last season the 70 age group has five teams this year. It is hard to appreciate just how much this is due to the very hard work of Basil Wein who puts a tremendous effort into running the leagues, battling against the slightly erratic tournament software, and the vagaries of results being posted on the system.

**Malcolm Fraser, Senior Men's Coordinator**

## FILA English Indoor Senior Championships 2022

**April 2022 saw the return of the popular FILA Seniors ITF event at Gosling supported by Herts Tennis. After a two-year absence from the UK Senior tennis calendar the event was welcomed back to Gosling with a very strong field of 240 players from 12 countries.**

It was good to see so many Herts players competing in an event which has become one of the best player supported events on the Senior GB Tennis Tour. Organisers were delighted to announce an upgrade in the status of the event for 2022; a fitting reward for the event which has consistently attracted some of the UK and the world's top Senior players in age groups from 30 up to 85 years' old.

Local Herts club players were also able to compete with a new "pay as you play" entry system adopted by the

International Tennis Federation Seniors Department. This entry system enabled any players to enter the event by paying a £5 fee rather than having to pay an annual membership. This move by the ITF hopes to make the event more attractive to local players to pit their skills against the world's best Senior players.

Local Harpenden player Anthony Illingworth won the Men's Singles 55 title 7-5 6-3 with Steve Walter, another Harpenden LTC player, winning the Men's 60's title 6-1, 6-2. This local pairing then went on to team up and enjoy further success taking the doubles title with a 6-3, 6-1 win over top seeds Graeme Adams and Rajiv Batra.

The FILA event will return to Gosling in 2023 from April 10th to 16th. Interested local players are welcome to enter the event by signing up online from late February 2023 onwards by logging onto the ITF website [itftennis.com](http://itftennis.com).

**Marcus Stapleton**

**Thanks to all the partners of  
Herts Tennis.**



**It was really good to be back after the pandemic, and we were pleased to offer our full programme in 2022. In our secondary school programme, we ran Nicola Mabbitt Leagues in six areas of Herts. Each area had competitions for Years 8, 9 and 10 (boys and girls) so 36 separate Leagues in total. For more experienced players there were the U14 and U18 County Schools Championships, and for Year 7 students starting out, our Year 7 Boys and Girls Tournaments.**

Our Primary School programme featured two Mini Red events plus a final, a Mini Orange team event, Mini Green competitions for experienced and less experienced players and Yellow Ball, also divided by experience. So, overall, we offer opportunities for all ages and levels of player to represent their school. This is only possible with a team of dedicated teachers and coaches who work as volunteers to run our events plus the financial support of Herts Tennis and a small grant from the LTA.

### Nicola Mabbitt Trophy

This is our largest and most popular event. We designed it many years ago to meet the needs of players who don't play at a club or have regular coaching i.e., they play at school. This fits below the standard of LTA competitions for schools and so widens the opportunity for players of all levels to compete. There are 6 areas of Herts: North Herts, East Herts, St Albans, Dacorum, Mid Herts and Watford. Each area is run by a volunteer teacher, and we couldn't do it without them. In each area there are separate competitions for boys and girls and for years 8, 9 and 10, so 36 Leagues in all, each containing 4 – 6 schools - well over 100 teams. The winners of each League come to Queenswood to the League Finals. 36 teams on 24 courts for one afternoon of brilliant tennis.

### County Boys Doubles

This was our largest entry ever! In total we had 30 pairs from 8 schools competing in two age groups, playing throughout the afternoon. Each pair was on court for almost three hours.

There was a mixture of standards from enthusiastic players through to national elite players, and the format ensured everyone had an excellent afternoon of tennis. The U14 winners were Haberdashers Boys and the Plate winners were Sandringham School. Sandringham School also won both the U18 Championship and the U18 Plate. Other schools competing were Sherrardswood, Monks Walk, St Columba's, Marlborough and Chancellors. Huge thanks to Welwyn Tennis Club for hosting.

### County Girls Doubles

The County Girls Championship took place at Haberdashers Girls School on 6th May. 14 Pairs from 8 schools took part in a great afternoon of tennis. The format ensured each player enjoyed a full afternoon of tennis and the standard of play was very high, even including a national player! The U14 winners were St Albans Girls and the U18 winners were Sandringham. Other pairs came from Monks Walk, Chancellors, St Albans Boys (they have girls in the 6th form!) and Abbots Hill. A couple of regular schools were missing this year due to a clash of dates, but it was a very worthwhile competition!

### Year 7 Boys

On Wednesday 22nd June over 40 boys from a mix of state and independent schools competed in the annual Hertfordshire Year 7 Doubles Tournament in the late afternoon sunshine. Richard Hale topped Group A after dominant displays against Sandringham and St Albans Boys. Haberdashers Boys edged first place in Group B after overcoming strong challenges from Verulam and the other St Albans Boys and Sandringham pairs. In the final, Richard Hale took an early lead before being pegged back by Habs. Boys. With a large crowd of parents, teachers and participants watching on, Richard Hale raised their level to ease to a 6-1 win after some superb shot-making and real determination. Sandringham were victorious in an exciting 3rd/4th place play-off. In the Less Experienced competition, there were fine performances from St Columba's, Hitchin Boys and Verulam, but Haberdashers Boys' other pair came through to take the win. The event was a real success providing a fun competition for Year 7 schoolboys from across the county, with all teams showing great sportsmanship throughout. We look forward to next year's tournament!

### Year 7 Girls

On Thursday 16th June with the summer sunshine finally here, the Royal Masonic tennis courts ready and cans of balls peeled opened, all was set for the HSLTA Year 7 Girls' Doubles Tournament. The enthusiastic girls came eagerly bouncing in ready for the challenge. Sadly, only eight pairs this year representing four Schools - Dr Challoner's, Haberdashers, Abbot's Hill and Royal Masonic. This may have been as a result of Covid so we will change the format to encourage more schools to participate next year. The Tournament was divided into two sections: Experienced and Less Experienced girls.

The standard of play in the Experienced section was excellent and the girls in the Less Experienced section

# Herts Schools

played with good concentration and teamwork. It was a thoroughly enjoyable Tournament for all involved! Dr Challoner's won the Experienced competition with RMS as runners-up. Haberdashers won the Less Experienced with RMS and Haberdashers in a tie for runner-up.

Huge thanks to Elizabeth Booth at RMS for providing the wonderful courts and facilities.

## Year 6 (Yellow ball)

Our Year 6 tournament boasted 20 pairs this year, 9 in the Experienced competition and 11 in the Less Experienced. The boys and girls are in separate competitions, so our wonderful volunteer ran four separate competitions in one afternoon! Each pair played round robin matches for a full afternoon of tennis in bright sunshine and a sporting atmosphere at Royal Masonic School. The Experienced winners were Berkhamsted and the runners-up were Aldwickbury.

## Mini Green

On Monday 4th July nine teams from six schools competed at Cassiobury LTC in this year's Mini Green Doubles Competition. There were two teams from Aldwickbury school; two from Cassiobury Juniors; two from Royal Masonic School; one from Nascot Wood Juniors; one from Sarratt School and one from St Michael's C of E Primary School.

All nine teams played in one large Round Robin group of timed tennis. This resulted in a full and fun afternoon of tennis with some very close matches. Both the winners and runner's-up only lost one match with the winners being decided by the result between the two. The results were as follows: 1st place Aldwickbury B and 2nd place RMS B.

Always great to catch the teachers out on team selection! Certificates were presented to all the children and medals were awarded to the winners and runners-up.

Our thanks to Cassiobury LTC for hosting the event and to all the parents and staff who assisted with the scoring and tea making. Thanks also to Zdenka from St Michael's for her support on the day.

## Mini Orange

A slightly smaller entry than usual for this event, probably partly due to covid preventing players starting mini red. It was sad that Wheatfields could not defend their trophy! However we were very pleased to welcome two new schools and hope our 'regulars' will be back again next year. 10 pairs formed 5 teams and competed in the round robin team competition. It was an excellent afternoon of tennis



for all the players and we could see not only the enjoyment of tennis but also the progress made by the players during the afternoon. The winners were Haberdashers and the runners-up were Aldwickbury. The other schools taking part were St Francis and Royal Masonic School. We will change the format next year to encourage more entries.

Our thanks to St Albans Tennis Club for hosting, and a special thank you to Karen Carter who is stepping down after organising Mini Orange for 10 years. Thank you so much - we will miss you!

## Mini Red Chorleywood

Schools local to Chorleywood Lawn Tennis Club were invited to take part in a Mini Red tennis tournament on Friday 6th May. Chorleywood Primary School, The Russell School, Cassiobury Infants and Nursery School and Bushey Heath Primary School all took part. We had such fabulous weather for a fabulous event! The children came along with a competitive energy and played some brilliant tennis despite it being the first time for many of the children. It's the taking part, the fun, the learning and progress the children make during a tournament that is the reason we run these events.

A huge well done to each and every child involved. A huge well done to every member of staff, parent and volunteer at the club who enabled this event to take place. The winners were Bushey Heath, 2nd were Russell and 3rd Chorleywood 2. These 3 teams went forward to the finals at Welwyn Tennis Club.

## Welwyn

Teams from 6 schools met on a sunny afternoon at Welwyn Tennis Club and had a great afternoon of tennis. For some it was their first experience of competition and for others a chance to showcase the skills they had already learnt. After a series of Round Robin matches Haberdashers won the event and went forward to the Mini Red final alongside Welwyn St Marys. Codicote had been unable to compete due to illness, but we invited them to the finals too!

## Mini Red Finals

The top 3 teams from the competition in Welwyn and Chorleywood met at Welwyn Tennis Club to compete in the finals. It is a great venue for Mini Red competitions as they have proper mini red courts - a great experience for the players. In a full afternoon of tennis each pair played 5 matches. The matches were very close and played with excellent spirit. Haberdashers won and Bushey Heath were runners up. The other finalists were Welwyn St Marys, Codicote, Chorleywood and Russell. Well done everyone, and a special thank you to Welwyn for hosting the 3 events.

## Pam Burrage

