



Devon LTA Chairman's Report 2017

It is always difficult to follow the achievements of the last few years but there is still much to be praised in 2017. Johanna Konta has remained in the top 10, achieving a career high of 4th in 2017. She also made the Semi Final at Wimbledon and the Quarter finals of the Australian Open.

Aljaz Bedene finished the year just inside the top 50 at 49 and Kyle Edmond at 50.

Jamie Murray finished inside the top 10 in doubles as well as including the Wimbledon mixed title with Martina Hingis, beating Heather Watson & Henri Kontinen.

Tennis has definitely been the winner with both Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal sharing the 4 majors.

2017 was my second year as County Chairman. To be given the responsibility to lead Devon into a new era is a great honour for me. I feel very privileged to be given this opportunity and will do my best for the county going forward. I do have a great team around me with **John Allen (Vice Chair), Andy Malcolm (County Treasurer), David Vinall (County LTA Councillor), Chris Bawden (County Co-ordinator) and Nicky Ormshaw (County Secretary) along with the other volunteer Council members.**

As a Council we have also recruited **Will McNally into the post of Performance Coordinator.** He has hit the ground running due to his previous experience in Devon tennis and has already made a considerable impact.

As Chairman of Devon LTA in 2017 I feel incredibly proud of all the achievements associated with Devon Tennis in the past year. From some outstanding junior performances through to some amazing Veterans' play, Devon has been well represented. The Council has also begun to incorporate the Devon Tennis Plan that will look to take ownership of our own destiny and hope that you all get behind us to make it a success and work towards achieving our mission of "**Devon Tennis is committed to the promotion and support of tennis across all venues and settings within the county and to increase the level of participation and playing standards amongst all age groups and abilities**"

We in Devon are very lucky to be blessed with so many volunteers across the County who ensure that the running of our many clubs and competitions carries on successfully.

Wimbledon Ticket Allocation

In 2014 we enrolled in the LTA's automatic ticket allocation system which has proved to be very successful and made life much easier for those responsible in the allocation of tickets to members within their clubs.

The County discretionary allocation of tickets still needed to be and will continue to need to be distributed manually, so I must thank **Penny Pullen** and **Frankie Peroni** for once again organising

this part of the Wimbledon ticket allocation. We will be increasing the amount of revenue received from sponsorship in 2018 which incorporates the use of some of these tickets.

AGM- Devon County Awards

The Devon LTA AGM & Awards Evening took place at the Buckerell Lodge Hotel, Exeter on Wednesday 27th January 2017 and it was great to celebrate the successes of those players, coaches, clubs and volunteers who contribute so much to Devon tennis. Awards were presented by Devon LTA Chairman Justin Kraushar and recipients were:

County and British Tennis Awards

The 2016 Award winners presented at the 2017 AGM were:

- Volunteer of the Year – David Vinall (former Devon LTA Chairman)
- Outstanding Contribution Award – Jon Triggs
- Club of the Year – Hill Lane Junior Tennis Club
- Community Venue Award – Tarka Tennis Centre
- Education Award - North Atlantic Co-operative Trust
- Young Volunteer of the Year – Roxanne Marshall (Hill Lane) and Charlotte Koval (ARC)
- Coach of the Year – Ricky Palmer (St Budeaux Tennis Club)
- 10 & Under Player of the Year – Jessica Johnson (Exmouth Tennis & Fitness Centre)
- Junior Player of the Year – Pierce Widdecombe (Millfield School)
- Senior Player of the Year – Emma Hurst (Seaton TC / Bath University)
- Young Coach of the Year – Tom Vinall (Atlantic Racquets Centre)
- Junior Volunteer of the Year – Beth Groves (St Budeaux Tennis Club)

In addition, in memory of hugely successful and much respected former Devon Men's Captain, John Barter, the **John Barter Trophy** for outstanding male player performance was awarded to **Linden Hardisty**.

Both the Young Volunteer winners and the Outstanding Contribution winner went on to win the regional stage of the British Tennis Awards and were put forward to the national judging panel. Roxanne Marshall was announced Aegon British Tennis Young Volunteer of the Year at a special celebration during the Wimbledon fortnight.

AEGON GB F6 Future Series Barnstaple Open

25 year old Tom Farquharson won, defeating Gregoire Barrere 7-5, 6-3.
Peter Bothwell & Neil Pauffley won the doubles 6-4 6-7(5) [10-6], against un-seeded pair Rob Carter & Ryan Peniston.

I must congratulate Chris Gill and all his team at Barnstaple Tarka on staging a very successful event.

County Teams & Competitions

On the competitive front, I enjoy being there for the men's events and receiving updates from the ladies' captain and that of our various teams. You can follow all of our teams on the [Devon LTA website](#). This year the venues for both summer and winter have not been local but we are hoping for nearer venues in 2018 and I would encourage anyone to go along and watch our various County teams perform. They would appreciate the support and you would, I am sure, be able to watch some fine tennis.

AEGON County Cups

Summer County Cup July 2017

Ladies – 3rd in division 5

Team: Kate Brown (Capt), Kendal Brown, Karen Clark, Lucy Gill, Jo Louis, Mia Loye, Annie Ley, Rebecca Ley, Sue Wiltshire

Men – 3rd in division 6

Team: Patrick Daykin,, Andy Higham, Justin Kraushar (Capt), Jack Large, Lewie Parker, Andy Norton, Howard Scott, Oskar Wynne

Winter County Cup 2017

Ladies – 4th in group 4a (relegated)

Team: Kate Brown (Capt), Kendal Brown, Karen Clark, Beth Cooper, Lucy Gill, Jess Hill, Emma Hurst, Emily Syms

Men – 4th in group 4a (relegated)

Team: Patrick Daykin, Rhys Dunford, Ben Greatrex, Andrew Higham, Jack Large, Justin Kraushar (Capt), Pierce Widdescombe, Oskar Wynne

18 & Under

Girls – 4th in division 4A

Team: Emma Cobby, Beth Cooper, Lucy Gill, Jess Hill, Leah Hurst, Teya Sheppard, Emily Syms, Katie Wiltshire

Boys – 4th in division 5A

Team: Ben Greatrex, Joel Greatrex, Freddie James, Ryan Andrews, Max Kilham, Tom Fenton, Hugh Ryder, Pierce Widdecombe

14 & Under

Girls – 4th in group C

Team: Jess Hill, Grace Kellett, Lauren McGinnis, Emily Syms, Hazel Vernon, Jess Wiltshire

Boys – 5th in group F

Team: Zac Brown, Rupert George, Ben Johnson, Daniel Mountford, Tommy Poli, Matthew Rutter

12 & Under (Regional)

Girls – 6th

Team: Jessica Johnson, Darcie Morton, Margaux Slade, Grace Vowles

Boys – 3rd

Team: Zac Brown, Parker Caleshu, Ben Johnson, Lucas Uргуiza

10 & Under (Regional)

Girls – 3rd

Team: Jessica Johnson, Evie Norris-Bishop, Elsa Stone

Boys – 5th

Team: Jacob Amohia, Max Daniels, Connor McCann

9 & Under Mixed

Champions in regional group

Team: Josh Craze, Ryan McCann, Alex Vosper, Evie Fitzhenry, Maya Ichim and Sophie Ryland.

Veterans



I would like to thank everyone who represented Devon in our veteran's teams this year.

Over 35s Inter County August 2017

Ladies – 2nd division 1

Team: Kate Brown (Capt), Kirsty Gray, Jo Louis, Sue Wiltshire

Men – 2nd in division 2b

Team: Dan Ahl, Jamie Bartlett, Linden Hardisty, John Hillman, Justin Kraushar (Capt),

Inter County Leagues

Ladies

Results for the various age groups are as follows:-

Ladies' 40s Div 1b Captain Ali Copley 3rd

Ladies' 50 Div 2a Captain Amanda Goodison & Lorraine Kingsley 3rd

Ladies' 60 Div 1b Captain Di Horne 5th

Ladies' 65 Div 2b Captain Ann Louis 2nd, Promoted

Ladies' 70 Div 1a Captain Maureen Sowerby 5th

Teams promoted: Ladies Over 65 to division 1

Men's

Results for the various age groups are as follows:-

Men 45's Div 1b Captain Linden Hardisty	5 th
Men's 50 Div 1b Captain Linden Hardisty	3 rd
Men's 55 Div 1a Captain Jim McIntosh	4 th
Men's 60 Div 3b Captain Phil Plummer	4 th
Men's 65 Div 2a Captain Stewart Barnes	3 rd
Men's 70 Div 3 Captain Ken Jones	3 rd
Men's 75 Div 1a Captain David Evans	6 th

Another 'Devon' success was that of a team from Exmouth, which has just won the National Inter-Club over 70's title, beating Winchester at Dudley.

International call ups – Linden Hardisty, Jo Louis and Tom Eastop

British Closed Seniors' Grass Court Championships 2017 – Men's 50+ winner – Linden Hardisty

Road to Wimbledon

This May & June, clubs and schools across the County held their own HSBC Road to Wimbledon tournaments and the winners were invited to the County finals held at the South Devon Tennis Centre, Ivybridge on the 9th & 10th July.

Boys: Winner - Lucas Urquiza Runner up – Thomas Miller

Girls: Winner – Lauren McGinnis Runner-Up – Katie Rowe

Devon players represent the South West Colleges at national event

The Association of Colleges (AOC) tennis regional qualification round took place at the Tarka Tennis Centre in November 2016 with local colleges taking part in a singles competition to find the top 3 boys and girls from the region to represent the South West at the National event in April 2017. Devon players dominated in the final team selection with Beth Nash, Lucy Gill, Ben Greatrex and Fred James taking 4 of the 6 places.



Senior County Closed:

The committee decided to move the date for this year's County Closed to the late May bank holiday in the expectation we would get larger entries due to it being out of term time. I did realise it clashed with the Vets Clay Court Championships in Bournemouth. Unfortunately the numbers were down and there were no ladies events played due to the lack of entries. We have sent out a survey to rebrand the County Championships to make it a bigger more fun event. The results will be sent out as soon as analysed. It is being rebranded as the County Festival of Tennis. The results are as follows:-

Senior

	Winner	Runner Up
MS	Alfie Flatters	Emerson Styles
WS	No event	
MD	Patrick Daykin & Steve Wood	Alfie Flatters & Ricki Foster
MXD	No event	
35 MS	Steve Wood	James Wilkinson
45 MS	Justin Kraushar	Matt Packham
45 MD	Robert Holliday & Simon Legassick	Peter & Robert Elver
50 WS	No event	
55 MS	James Isaacs	Martin Sharp
55 MD	Adrian Knott & Trevor Taylor	Anthony Lyons & Martin Sharp
65 MS	Phil Bastin	Paul Lomas

Junior County Closed:

Once again this took place at Ivybridge in August, and was refereed by Colin Knight who praised the players for their exemplary behaviour during the week.

Junior

	Winner	Runner Up
8U GS	Isabelle Marks	Lucy Vosper
8U BS	Ryan McCann	Freddie Lloyd
9U GS	Sophie Ryland	Maya Ichim
9U BS	Oliver Sutton	Ryan McCann
10U GS	Maya Ichim	Elsa Stone
10U BS	Josh Craze	Oliver Roper
12U GS	Darcie Morton	Grace Vowles
12U BS	Zac Brown	Lucas Urquiza

14U GS	Jessica Hill	Hazel Vernon
14U BS	Daniel Mountford	Zac Brown
16U GS	Hazel Vernon	Teya Sheppard
16U BS	Sam Hopper	Joe Kellett
18U GS	Jess Hill	Teya Sheppard
18U BS	Ben Greatrex	Joel Greatrex
14U GD	Jessica Hill & Hazel Vernon	Darcie Morton & Margaux Slade
14U BD	Daniel Mountford & Tommy Poli	Marcus Kay & Zac Wilton-Davies
14U MXD	Not contested	
18U GD	Not contested	
18U BD	Ben & Joel Greatrex	Sam Hopper & James Callard
18U MXD	Not contested	

Pat Chadwick Cup for Sportsmanship **Ashley Morris**
Most Improved Player (Topy Anstey Salver) **Joe Kellett**

The Vernon Weaver:

The Vernon Weaver tournament was held at Ivybridge Tennis Centre, on the hottest day of the year so far! In the ladies event, Victoria Park, representing East Devon League, defeated North Devon Champions Tarka 3-1, whilst Torquay narrowly lost to Ivybridge on a countback of games 28 – 32. The final was convincingly won by Victoria Park 4-0, meaning that a different name will appear on the shield as Victoria Park haven't won the title in recent years.



In the Men's event only 3 teams competed and the final was between Victoria Park and Atlantic Racquet Centre representing North Devon.

The final was a showcase of exciting tennis and ended with Atlantic Racquet Centre winning 5-4 on sets after the match finished at 2 rubbers all. This is the 3rd time ARC have won the trophy in the last 6 years

David Vinall, Devon Tennis' LTA Councillor, presented the prizes on behalf of Devon Tennis and he and Marian Vinall refereed the event.

Whirlwind Mini Masters

The winter season Whirlwind Mini Tour Circuit drew to an exciting conclusion with 40 players qualifying to take part in the Grand Finals at the South Devon Tennis Centre, Ivybridge on Sunday 26 March 2017.

Green ball: winner Matthew Upton (Cor) and runner up Kallen Roy (Dev)

Orange ball: winner Rodrigo Anzules Argote and runner up Maya Ichim (both Dev)

Red ball: winner Freddie Millard (Cor) and runner up Euan Greenslade (Dev)

Devon Leaderboard winners:

Green Kallen Roy
Orange Maya Ichim
Red Euan Greenslade

The Summer season finals held at the South Devon Tennis Centre in August had 37 qualifiers.

Green ball: winner Matthew Upton (Cor) and runner up Maya Ichim (Dev)

Orange ball: winner Jake Moore and runner up Ruben Mudd (both Cor)

Red ball: winner Freddie Lloyd and runner up Alex Vosper (both Dev)

Devon Leaderboard winners:

Green Rodrigo Anzules-Argote
Orange Jacob Blackler-Rose
Red Lincoln Boden

All in all, over the two counties well over 200 players took part in the Whirlwind Mini Tour circuit in 2017

AEGON Team Tennis

Winning teams/venues:

Winning Venue	Age & Gender	Division
David Lloyd Club Exeter	9&U Mixed	Division 1 - South
David Lloyd Club Exeter	10&U Mixed	Division 2
David Lloyd Club Exeter	Open Men's	Division 1
Exmouth Tennis & Fitness Centre	8&U Mixed	Division 1 - South
Exmouth Tennis & Fitness Centre	8&U Mixed	Division 2 - East
Exmouth Tennis & Fitness Centre	10&U Mixed	Division 1 - South
Exmouth Tennis & Fitness Centre	12&U Girls	Division 1
Exeter Golf & Country Club	14&U Boys	Division 2 - A
Exeter Golf & Country Club	16&U Boys	Division 2 - A
Exeter Golf & Country Club	16&U Girls	Division 2
Exeter Golf & Country Club	18&U Boys	Division 2 - B
Ilfracombe Lawn Tennis Club	14&U Boys	Division 1 - North
Ilfracombe Lawn Tennis Club	14&U Boys	Division 2 - B
Ilfracombe Lawn Tennis Club	10&U Mixed	Division 1 - North
Torquay Tennis Club Ltd	14&U Boys	Division 1 - South
Torquay Tennis Club Ltd	18&U Boys	Division 2 - A
South Devon Tennis Centre	16&U Boys	Division 1
South Devon Tennis Centre	12&U Boys	Division 1
South Devon Tennis Centre	12&U Boys	Division 2
Atlantic Racquet Centre	14&U Girls	Division 1
Atlantic Racquet Centre	Open Women's	Division 1
Avon Vale Tennis & Croquet Club	16&U Boys	Division 2 - B

Avon Vale Tennis & Croquet Club	8&U Mixed	Division 2 - West
Tarka Tennis Centre	18&U Boys	Division 1
Tarka Tennis Centre	8&U Mixed	Division 1 - North
Tarka Tennis Centre	9&U Mixed	Division 1 - North
Victoria Park Bridge & Tennis Centre	18&U Girls	Division 2
Hill Lane Junior Tennis Club	9&U Mixed	Division 2

In the Premier League, Exmouth Tennis & Fitness Centre qualified for the Premier League 12 & Under national finals by beating Bath, West Hants, Halton and Coombe Dingle convincingly and then Portsmouth in a match tiebreak shoot out in the regional play offs to qualify for the National Finals in which they finished 3rd. The team consisted of Parker Caleshu, Zac Brown, Ben Johnson, Findlay Robertson, Lucas Urquiza and Alfie James Woodger captained by Liam Storey.

Team Tennis Schools

Event	Winning School
Girls Year 7&8 Div 1	West Buckland School
Girls Year 7&8 Div 2	Exeter School
Boys Year 7&8 Div 1	Exeter School
Boys Year 7&8 Div 2	Bideford College
Girls Year 9&10 Div 1	Trinity School
Girls Year 9&10 Div 2	Bideford College
Boys Year 9&10 Div 1	Ivybridge Community College
Boys Year 9&10 Div 2	Trinity School

Help for Devon clubs

I would like to take this opportunity to remind people that the county can help a number of clubs with small grants and interest free loans, made from the county reserves. For more details please contact your Devon LTA Council Rep David Vinall, the County Treasurer Andy Malcolm or myself.

It just remains for me to thank everyone within Devon Tennis for all their hard work and support over the last year.

Justin Kraushar – Chairman Devon LTA

