



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# Cheshire County LTA

Annual General Meeting

7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

# This Presentation...



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

This Presentation represents a combination of:

- Information delivered at the Cheshire County LTA AGM on January 7<sup>th</sup> 2021
- Governance decisions agreed at the AGM
- Details of some people linked to Cheshire Tennis who have died in the past 12 months
- A brief summary of some questions raised during the meeting (along with brief answers)

# Attendance (50 people in total)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## The following Clubs attended the AGM:

Alderley	Alderley Edge	Alsager	Bowdon
Brabyns	Bramhall Lane	Bramhall Park	Bramhall Queensgate
Cheadle Kingsway	Congleton	Cuddington & Sandiway	David Lloyd Cheshire Oaks
Glan Aber	Grappenhall	Hale Village	Hartford
Helsby	Heswall	Hoole	Knutsford
Lymm	Macclesfield	Nantwich	Oxton
Poynton	Prenton	Prestbury	Stockton Heath
Tarporley	Tattenhall	The Mere	Upton-by-Chester
Wallasey Manor	Willaston		

\*\* apologies if there were any other Clubs that were represented, but whose name we did not capture \*\*

## The following Leagues attended the AGM:

Chester & District	East Cheshire Winter League	North East Cheshire
South & Mid Cheshire	Warrington	Wirral

# Agenda



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## 1. Welcome & Thanks

## 2. County Report:

- Information on Cheshire Tennis and its Clubs
- Tennis and Covid-19
- Participation
- Safeguarding
- Performance and Competitions
- LTA Developments

## 3. Governance

- Finances
- Cheshire County LTA Rule Amendments
- Executive Committee Appointments

## 4. Cheshire's National and Regional Award Winners

## 5. Questions & Answers

## 6. Friends we lost in 2020



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# COUNTY REPORT

# Cheshire County LTA Organisation



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## **PARTICIPATION**

Club Liaison

- + School Roadshow support
- + Club Liaison Finance
- + Wellness & Inclusivity

## **PERFORMANCE**

Competitions &  
Tournaments

Junior  
Performance

- + County Tournament Support

## **EXECUTIVE**

Financial  
Strategy

Wimbledon

+ Presentation  
Evening

# Cheshire County LTA Executive Members



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

Name	Role	Club
Linda Simpson	President	Heswall
John Doe	Chairman	Congleton
Roger Hughes	Treasurer	Heswall
Howell Davies	Secretary	Hale Village
Liz Sweeting	LTA Councillor	Bramhall Lane
Barbara Bloor		Heswall
John Hilton		DL Cheshire Oaks
Jayne Huxley-Grantham		Bowdon
Anne Walker		DL Cheshire Oaks
Matt Webb		Oxton
Anthony Wilding		Hoole
Clive Young		Alsager

# Cheshire County LTA Sub-Committee Members



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## Club Liaison

Barbara Bloor (Chair)	Mark Powers
Matt Bannon	Liz Sweeting
Howell Davies	Derek Waterfield
Sue Hendry	Matt Webb
Jayne Huxley-Grantham	Chris White
Roger Hughes	Anthony Wilding
Ant McCarthy	Sue Winters
Norman Nelson	Clive Young
Barbara Newnes	

## Competitions & Tournaments

John Hilton (Chair)  
Barbara Bloor  
Esme Laing  
Russell Lawrence  
Debbie McKeever  
Barbara Newnes  
Linda Simpson  
Liz Sweeting  
Anthony Wilding  
Clive Young

## Junior Performance

John Hilton (Chair)  
Mark Hunter  
Debbie McKeever  
Liz Sweeting  
Simon Thornewill

*Other Sub-Committees are either temporary (i.e. linked to an event)  
or made up purely of Cheshire County LTA Executive members*



# Cheshire County LTA Staff



County Administrator

Lynne Whitford

Junior Performance Co-ordinator

Simon Thornewill

# Cheshire Tennis Venues



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

	2019-20		2020-21	
Districts	Clubs	Courts	Clubs	Courts
Cheshire East	22	102	22	102
Cheshire West & Chester	17	79	17	79
Stockport	14	81	14	81
Wirral	16	97	15	89
Trafford	9	65	9	65
Warrington	10	62	7	46
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>462</b>

Details as at  
Jan 6<sup>th</sup> 2021.

# Cheshire Tennis' Venues



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

New Clubs

Castle Park (Helsby)

Clubs still to complete Registration

Birchwood

Culcheth

Great Sankey

Malpas

Upton Victory Hall

The revised Venue Registration process has caused some problems linked to payment along with some issues with Clubs having fully qualified Welfare Officers.

At this time, we are not aware of any Venues/Clubs closing down.



The main consequences to Cheshire County LTA - linked to Covid-19 – have been:

- The cancellation of Wimbledon led to a significant impact on County Income
- The prolonged closure of indoor venues meant a significant reduction in Performance-related expenditure (and – consequently – Junior player development)
- Deferred Small Loan repayments were offered to Clubs (over half took advantage of this offer)
- The Advantage Cheshire was suspended and subsequently brought to an earlier finish than originally planned
- Various grants were made to Coaches who had not qualified for LTA schemes
- League Registration fees were waived

Financial details are later in the presentation

# Tennis and Covid-19: The LTA



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## Some ways in which LTA actions have impacted Cheshire's Venues:

- **Lobbying the Government to allow tennis venues to open**
  - A great job done here – allowing venues to open earlier and longer than has been the case for many other sports
- **Analysing announcements and communicating relevant impacts**
  - A dedicated section of the LTA Website has been promptly updated every time a Government change has been made
- **Financial support**
  - Grants and loans made available to many Venues and Coaches – including the refund of LTA Registration fees

# Participation



## The Club Liaison team:

contacted all clubs during the first lockdown to ensure their continued viability  
encouraged all Clubs to apply for local authority grants - many of which did so

## During Advantage Cheshire:

53 of 83 Clubs were visited by Club Liaison members

43 of the 53 visited Clubs were paid grants via the MAD (Make a Difference) fund

A total of £116k was paid out by this fund

The Coach Support scheme was promoted in Advantage Cheshire visits – though everything in this area dried up during the 1<sup>st</sup> Covid-19 lockdown, when Coach Training courses stopped – nonetheless 34 payments were made to coaches (vs 28 the year before)

The funds allocated to the Small Loan Fund grew to £200,000 - the maximum loan was increased to £20,000 but this was reduced to £10,000 again – partly due to the decision to pause repayments but also to allow some space for pending loans to be made



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# Safeguarding (Nationally)

At start of year, LTA was the only sport to be partnered with Sport England to launch a campaign to venues and coaches, called **'Safe to Play' with the strapline – 'Say Something if you See Something'**

LTA was given highest Safeguarding standard rating by NSPCC and is regarded as leading the way compared to other sports

Safeguarding standards have been raised nationally but particularly involving taking teams away and County Cup Events



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# Safeguarding (Cheshire)

Safeguarding awareness increased to all venues and coaches.

During the year 34 clubs in Cheshire have received a Support Visit by Alyson O'Donnell, the Regional Safeguarding Officer, to ensure safeguarding standards are being upheld

Cheshire County LTA received a Safeguarding Support Visit to ensure that policies and procedures are in place, and the outcome was positive.

For venue registration, all level 3 coaches and above should continue to be accredited and all venues should have a suitably qualified Welfare officer.

For 2021 all Level 2 coaches will also need to be accredited

Unfortunately 2 Safeguarding cases have been reported to CCLTA but were dealt with discreetly.



# Competition and Tournaments



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## The County runs:

- 5 County Championship tournaments

- Men's and Ladies' County teams (18 teams)

- Adult and Junior Inter Club Cheshire Shield competitions

- East Cheshire v West Cheshire matches for 12U & 14U boys and girls.

## Covid-19 meant just two County Championship tournaments took place

- March: Senior & Super Senior Championships were completed at David Lloyd, Cheshire Oaks

- Ladies' & Men's Championships were played at Hoole LTC in late August

There were good size entries for both events and the players produced high quality tennis - which serves to confirm why Cheshire county teams are so successful when competing in national inter county events.

We can only hope we return to some sort of normality in 2021 that allows competitive tennis at club and inter county level to be possible.



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# Junior Performance

A testing year for everyone on the Junior Performance Committee

All Inter County junior age group competitions were cancelled from March

Only the 18U boys and girls teams that played in their respective events

The girls' team (led by Mark Hunter) did extremely well to gain promotion to Group 2

The boys' team playing in Group 2 did very well to maintain their position.

Junior tennis across the country was severely disrupted

Little opportunity for our best juniors to attend training camps and play competitive tennis

Cheshire did run a highly successful series of Junior Challenge events in late August in place of the Junior County Championships.

The Cheshire Junior Handbook for 2020 – 21 is available via the County website.

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/Cheshire2>

# Junior Performance



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

Cheshire Tennis has a number of very talented junior players and we have good reason to be optimistic about the development of our junior tennis players and teams in 2021.

Post lockdown (in October half-term) – in National Grade 2 events:

- 15 Cheshire juniors played in a Grade 2 tournament competing against some of the very best players in their age group across the UK
- Aran Selvaraasan (10U) won the event
- Annabel Wong (10U) finished 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Susanna Thompson (11U) finished 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Jemma Cave (16U) did extremely well to reach the semi finals.

These successes are due, in no small part, to the work of **Simon Thornewill** and his “team” of age group captains/coaches:

- Simon organises all age group training camps that are run for our most promising players from 8U to 18U, as well as the appointment of County Coaches and their assistants for our various girls and boys age group County teams
- Simon is working with a number of club head coaches in developing their junior performance programmes that will hopefully result in finding and developing the next group of junior county players.

# LTA Developments



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

Much work has been done by the LTA across many areas of tennis.

Some of the LTA initiatives impact the County more than Venues/Clubs – but all are having an impact!

Of particular note:

- LTA Youth will be rolled out in 2021
- Tennis for Kids has been adopted by the ITF for worldwide use
- Big increase in Clubs using Clubspark for Court Bookings
- All Coach training in Cheshire to be done by Inspire 2 Coach
- LTA Rally (often linked to Gate Access) being used in many more venues as well
- Big change to Venue Registration
- Big change to Wimbledon ticketing ballot



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# **GOVERNANCE**

# GOVERNANCE



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## **The Annual Accounts were adopted at the AGM**

These had been issued before the AGM (highlights of Income and Expenditure shown on the next slide)

## **The rule changes were formally approved.**

These had been issued before the AGM (highlights shown after the next slide)

## **The Cheshire County LTA Executive was re-elected**

Details of the members being re-elected are shown after the next two slides)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

	2020	2019
Income	£	£
Club and places to play registration fees	52,589	51,034
Other registration fees	2,185	2,600
Grants Received	103,602	46,482
Interest Received	607	681
Sponsorship	600	46,138
	159,583	146,935
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Affiliation fees payable to LTA	0	200
<b>Development</b>		
Advantage Cheshire	109,302	52,216
County run tournaments	5,657	13,510
Performance	22,248	30,654
County match expenditure	12,950	45,269
Marketing & administration	21,283	28,196
	171,440	170,045
Deficit for the Year (2019 Deficit)	- 11,857	- 23,110

## Finance

The County Treasurer, Roger Hughes, made a particular point that the (now completed) Advantage Cheshire initiative had paid out a total of £224,000 to Cheshire Clubs since it started in November 2018



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

# Amendment of CCLTA Rules

These were issued with the AGM announcement. Changes are to do with the LTA's change to become an incorporated company:

## Definitions

The term "Associate" represents an "entity" rather than a "place to play"

Use of "the LTA" changed to "LTA" – reflecting that the LTA has become a Company

## Rules

Padel Tennis added

List of Associates tidied up

Calculation of the annual subscription tidied up

Annual subscription now paid to the LTA (who will pay Cheshire) rather than Cheshire LTA directly



# Election of CCLTA Executive



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## Standing for re-election

Barbara Bloor

John Doe (Chairman)

Roger Hughes (Treasurer)

Anne Walker

Anthony Wilding

Howell Davies (Secretary)

John Hilton

Jayne Huxley-Grantham

Matt Webb

Clive Young

## Not due for re-election

Linda Simpson (President)

Liz Sweeting (LTA Councillor)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

## **LTA AWARD WINNERS**

Cheshire award winners are celebrated at the Presentation evening held in November 2019. In certain categories, winners progress to a Regional Level and, subsequently to a National Level. The award winners shown in the next 7 slides are those who were successful in the Regional and National awards, with the awards being presented in August 2020 at Hoole LTC.

# LTA Regional Awards



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



**Winner**  
**Performance Coach of the Year**  
**Amanda Twigg**

*In the background are:  
Linda Simpson (CCLTA President);  
Paul Bennett (LTA Head of the North Region);  
Liz Sweeting (LTA Councillor for Cheshire)*

# LTA Regional Awards



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



**Winner**

**Communities and Parks Award  
Livewire / Great Sankey Project**

*also National Runner-up*

**Toby Palin & Alex Day**

# LTA Regional Awards



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



**Winner**  
**Official of the Year**  
**Dave Paterson**

*also National Runner-up*

# LTA National Awards



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



Louise Assioun and Sue Morrison from Stockport-based LUSU Sports

# LTA National Awards



Winner

Club of the Year

Hoole Tennis Club

Iain Cadman & Karen Massey received the award on behalf of the Club

# LTA Regional & National Award Winners



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



*Cheshire's National and Regional Winners pictured at Hoole Tennis Club with LTA President Dave Rawlinson (he's the one without an award 😊)*



# LTA Regional & National Award Winners



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



*Cheshire's National and Regional Winners pictured at Hoole Tennis Club with Cheshire County LTA President Linda Simpson*



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

**AND FINALLY**

# Questions or Comments



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

Mike Head (Warrington League) asked about insurance relating to events that are put on by Tennis Leagues

This will be discussed at a meeting of all Cheshire Tennis Leagues (it was agreed directly after the meeting - with those who attended on behalf of the Leagues - that this will take place in February)

Mike Senior (Bowdon) asked about the County's financial plans if Wimbledon 2021 does not take place with normal crowd levels (and sponsorship)

This is a good point (Nationally, the LTA's financial plans are for "Full" "Half" or "No" Wimbledon). Roger Hughes indicated that the County has sufficient reserves to cover any shortfall during 2021 and 2022 and hopes that the situation will be resolved by then

Jo Ellis (Helsby) just wanted to express how the support both from Cheshire and the LTA nationally for their Club's recent relocation was "really good and exceeded our expectations)

Jo ... thank you!!

David Fish (Tattenhall) questioned whether the County had sponsorship other than that linked to Wimbledon

John Hilton explained that there are also sponsorship links to Babolat (which are not shown on the sponsorship line of the Accounts). There have also been Patron schemes and events operating via the Cheshire Youth Trust, which provide funds to the County. Anne Walker is negotiating with some of the County's sponsors to try and separate elements of their support away from the Wimbledon link. With the sponsorship figures linked to Wimbledon being so significant financially, however, it is inevitable that this will be the County's primary focus



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

*The AGM started at 7.30 pm, with the presentation ending at 8.10, followed by a further 10 minutes for a Q&A session.*

*Thanks to all Clubs who attended ... and anyone who has read this far!!*

*There follow some words and photos to remember people with links to Cheshire Tennis who passed away during the past 12 months*

# Obituaries



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**

***THERE ARE SOME SLIDES FOLLOWING TO REMEMBER SOME  
PEOPLE WHO ARE NO LONGER WITH US***

*Please accept our apologies for the quality of some of the photos*

# Friends we have lost... (January 2020)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



**John  
Haywood**



John was for many years the organiser of the Monkhouse Shield – an inter-club competition for both boys' and girls' teams. Under his care and supervision the substantial calendar of matches was scrupulously documented, disputes resolved and regular summaries provided for the County's Competitions and Tournaments Committee. Hearing John's reports was like listening to a well oiled engine, everything running smoothly and efficiently!

Described as “a lovely, chatty, happy man”, John was also a past President of Ryecroft Tennis and Bowls Club. He was awarded Hon County Colours 1997

# Friends we have lost... (May 2020)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



## William Cochrane



A longstanding member of Hale LTC, William won the Cheshire County Men's Singles title in 1961, followed by the doubles and mixed titles in 1962. He went on to captain Cheshire for three years from 1968. He was awarded Honorary County Colours in 1959.

His youngest son, James, said: "Old tennis friends raised their rackets aloft in a salute with heads bowed as an incredible gesture of respect, love and support. Those gathered will never forget this."

# Friends we have lost... (May 2020)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



## Cathie Sabin

First Lady President of  
the LTA



Remembered by Cheshire Tennis, though actually from the neighbouring County of Shropshire. Cathie was the first Lady President of the LTA, serving from 2014-2016, having been an LTA Councillor for many years.

Cathie was awarded the OBE in the 2016 New Year Honours List for Services to Tennis. She presented the awards at one of our Presentation Evenings and is shown above with Barbara Newnes and Derek Waterfield.

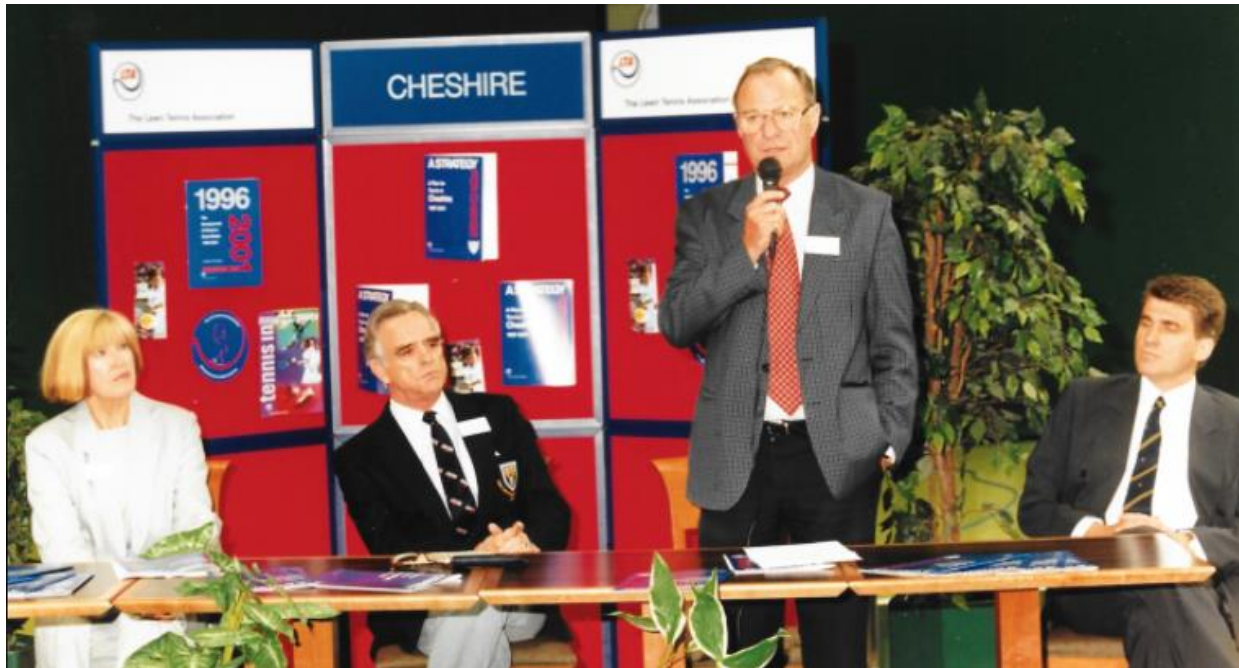
She is remembered as a good friend whose positive attitude was infectious and whose ability to engage with people from all walks of life was admirable.



# Friends we have lost... (September 2020)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



Roger  
Cowell



Roger was an accomplished player and coach who represented Cheshire on many occasions. He was awarded his County Colours in 1990

# Friends we have lost... (October 2020)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



Diane  
Tod



Diane Tod was Cheshire County LTA's Honorary Life Patron.

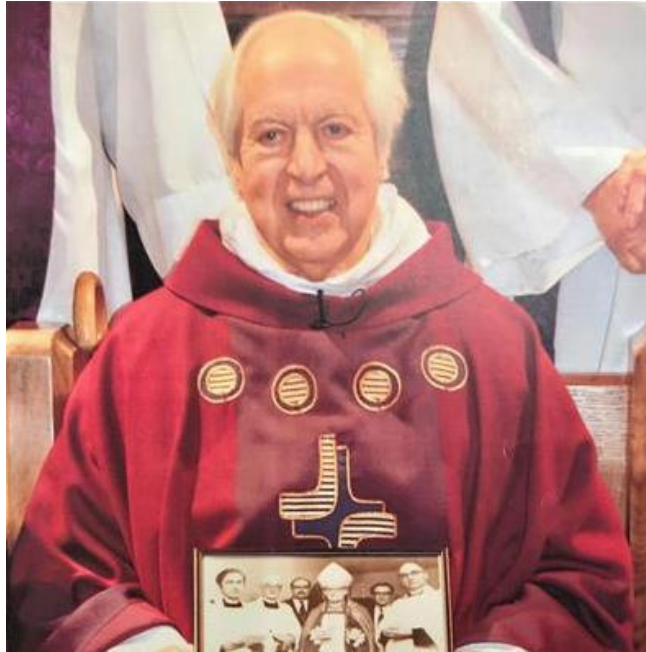
Described by various CCLTA Executive members as *"A great lady who will be sadly missed"*, *"A great supporter of Cheshire tennis especially the juniors"*, *"A wonderful supporter of Cheshire Tennis over many years"* and, most tellingly *"Irreplaceable"*.

At her gentle and dignified funeral, the priest summed her up by saying "Diane would light up a room".

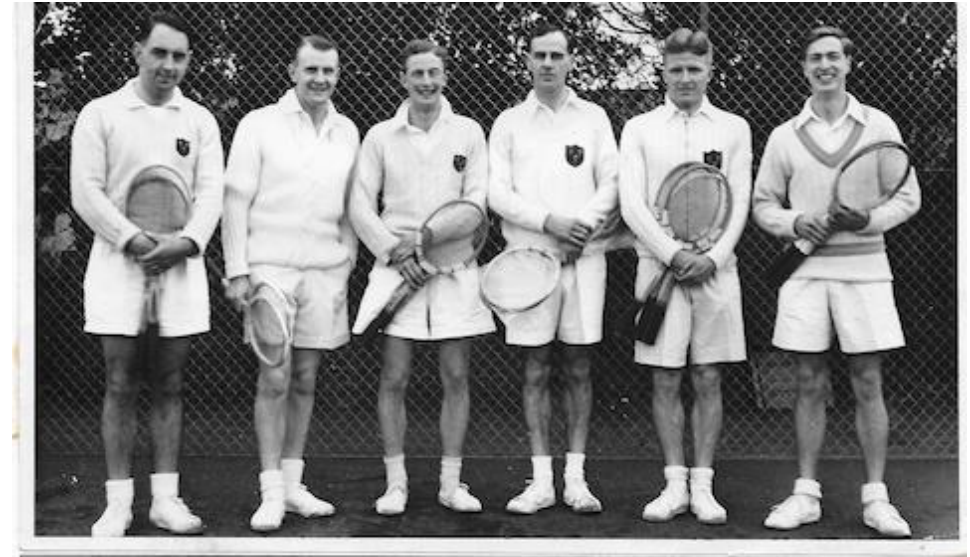
# Friends we have lost... (October 2020)



CHESHIRE TENNIS



## Rex Hack



*MARCH 1954*  
*Cheshire reached the final stages of the*  
*Inter-County Hard Court Championships for the first time*  
*since 1929*  
*G.L.CARRIS H.RYDER D.J.CHIBBETT G.R.SMITH W.DEVINE R.H.HACK*

The Very Reverend Rex Hack was as a player of exceptional flair.

1950s when he won Doubles titles (3 Mens and 2 Mixed – all with different partners, including Will Cochrane).

He was a regular in the County team for a number of years and was awarded Honorary his County Colours in 1950.

Rex was a member of the All England Club and the two weeks of The Championships was the highlight of his year.

Despite, in later years needing the assistance of two sticks, Rex would not be denied his time on Centre Court (Court One could have been in another country) and in the Members Enclosure.

# Friends we have lost... (January 2021)



**CHESHIRE TENNIS**



**Jean  
Siney**



Receiving the Cheshire County LTA Lifetime Achievement award in 2011

Jean served as President of Cheshire County LTA from 1991 to 1992 (and was also a patron)

Jean was a stalwart of Cheshire tennis for decades!! First elected to the General Committee in 1979, she was awarded her Hon County colours in 1984. She was also involved with schools' tennis and was a trustee at her local club, Bramhall Lane LTC.

Jean had numerous interests. First and foremost was her devotion to her family but she delighted in spotting a potentially talented junior, finding a bargain at an antiques fair, knowing the answer to a quiz question nobody else knew, backing a winner especially at Cheltenham. Jean would be gleeful in the telling and a joy to listen to.