

NORTHUMBERLAND LAWN  
TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2023

## NORTHUMBERLAND LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023

Last year was very much “business as usual” with a full competitive programme of tournaments, County Cup events and League competition. 2023 also saw the appointment of Lauren Jones as County Competitions Co-Ordinator and the launch of a Northumberland Junior Tennis Circuit to provide competitive opportunities for mini-red and orange players within the county. The programme is being extended for 2024 to include other age groups.

Our Ladies County Team had an exceptional year by remaining in Group 1 at County Week in July and finishing runners-up to Yorkshire at Winter County Cup. Our Men's County Team also secured promotion out of Group 7 at County Week and narrowly missed out on promotion at Winter County Cup. In the Junior age groups, our Under 18 Girls team secured a second successive promotion in the U18s event in February 2023.

We have continued liaison with the LTA through the Participation Committee and two Club Forums were held in March – one “in person” at the Northumberland Club and an on-line forum. We also maintained representation of the County at quarterly meetings of the joint LTA/Northern Counties Forum with the June 2023 meeting being hosted by the County at the Northumberland Club.

A detailed report on participation activity in the County during the year is contained in the Annual Report which includes reference to We Do Tennis as the newly appointed (by the LTA) coach education provider for the North East. We also maintained our link with the LTA's inclusion and disability programmes through ‘Open Court’ at meetings of the Northern Disability Tennis Forum.

The Academy, under the leadership of Chris Sanderson, continues to provide an excellent programme of County and Academy squad training for all age groups supported by an experienced and committed team of coaches. Junior age group County Cup competition continues to be overseen by Jordan Simpson as the Junior County Cup Co-Ordinator.

Governance matters continue to require much time and attention following the adoption of a new County Governance Code by the LTA in 2022; we will be spending time in the next twelvemonths preparing for an audit of our compliance with the specified governance principles in Quarter 2 of 2025.

We have liaised closely with the Northumberland Club through attendance at Club Executive meetings and through our own Joint NLTA/Club Liaison Committee. The Club has had under active consideration during the year a number of facility projects which require discussion with and involvement by the County including a PADEL project and refurbishment/upgrading of outdoor tennis courts.

As ever, I would like to acknowledge and thank our volunteers and coaches for their hard work in supporting their clubs.

Much of the day-to-day work of the County is managed outside of formal meetings by members of the NLTA Executive and I would like to thank Tom Kinloch, Martin Clark and George Murphy for their continued involvement and support. My thanks also to Sue Oswald who maintains an ever-watchful eye over safeguarding matters in respect of the County coaches, teams and the Academy. Jane Grey continues to provide a vigorous input in the role of LTA Councillor representing the County's interests at LTA Council and my thanks also to Kim Sanderson who continues to support both County and Academy administration.

Chris Lott

NLTA Chairman

27 February 2024

## **Northumberland Tennis Academy - Manager, Chris Sanderson**

2023 was a very positive year for the Northumberland Tennis Academy with some excellent individual performances as well as team success.

The Northumberland Tennis Academy continued in its multiple roles as a County Training venue and an established performance academy as well as one of the LTA's U10 Performance Network Centres.

County Training was delivered in all age groups from U8 to U18 and the various County Cup events saw a mixture of successes and excellent efforts from our teams. Most notably the U9 boys team qualified for and competed in the National Finals at Loughborough – a fantastic achievement for a young but very promising group of players.

Sitting below the county team level NTA has continued to run monthly mini red/orange/green tournaments, to encourage players from local clubs to get involved. These events have continued throughout the year with very promising numbers and have been very well run and administered by Lauren Jones and her team of assistants.

In the younger age groups within NTA there has been a significant commitment to the number of training hours, which has subsequently seen significant improvements in the standard of this age of player. This is an area the Academy will continue to develop to ensure players are on a performance pathway as early as possible, with a view to competing at a regional and national level.

In addition to County Training the existing Academy programme (NTA) has continued to deliver a comprehensive schedule of on court training, strength & conditioning and tournament support to approximately 120 players over the year.

At a grassroots level, NTA used the LTA's Youth Start initiative to give more children the chance to get involved in tennis. This scheme provides a great opportunity for children to have weekly sessions at an affordable rate and in very well-structured sessions. Kim Sanderson and Lauren Jones have visited a large number of local schools as part of an ongoing initiative to introduce tennis to as many young children as possible. Kim and Lauren should be recognised for their hard work and professionalism in organising and delivering the schools programme.

At a competitive level NTA has once again had significant representation at County, Regional and National events with tournament wins and ranking increases all providing further evidence of the effectiveness of the training NTA offers. NTA had 19 players competing at LTA grade 1-3 level events along with a number of players competing internationally in both Tennis Europe and ITF events.

In summary, 2023 was a year of increased activity and numbers involved and The Northumberland Tennis Academy will move into the next 12 months with a continued motivation to develop performance tennis players.

Chris Sanderson

Manager, NTA.



## **1. PARTICIPATION**

### **a. Clubs**

Club Forums were held in March 2023 in partnership between LTA and Northumberland LTA. The face-to-face session was held at The Northumberland and a second session held online. Topics focussed on increasing recreational competitions across the county as well as encouraging venues to embrace their inclusive offer.

A number of direct support meetings with clubs have taken place throughout the year.

### **b. Parks – Laurie Haines (LTA Parks Investment Development Partner)**

The LTA Parks Investment Programme continues to develop across Northumberland with upgrades to park facilities leading to strategies to grow participation and modelling for the future sustainability of courts.

#### **Newcastle**

- Following length conversations between Newcastle City Council and Urban Green Newcastle, a Parks Investment Funding application was submitted in August 2023, to renovate seven sites – Armstrong Park, Elswick Park, Exhibition Park, Gosforth Central Park, Leazes Park, Nuns Moor Park and Paddy Freemans Park.
- The funding application was approved by the Panel that same month, securing c.£180k of investment to transform Newcastle's park tennis sites.
- The first phase of works commenced at Paddy Freemans, Gosforth Central Park and Elswick Park in October 2023, with works due to complete at all sites by late Spring 2024.
- Parks Investment Partner Laurie Haines has been working with Urban Green Newcastle to appoint a parks tennis operator, who will oversee the seven park tennis sites. The tender process has now completed, with contracts currently being drawn up.
- A launch event/s will be planned for Spring 2024, to celebrate the parks reopening, post renovation.

#### **North Tyneside**

- North Tyneside Council submitted a Parks Investment Funding Application in January 2023
- The Panel approved the application that same month, securing £175k to transform park tennis provision across three sites in the borough – Souter Park, Richardson Dees Park and Crawford Park (11 courts in total)
- North Tyneside Council opted to retain responsibility for managing court bookings in house, with Active North Tyneside engaged to deliver a programme of activity.

- To protect the courts long term, NTC introduced a court hire fee of £3 across all three sites, with all income generated being ring-fenced for ongoing court maintenance and future court replacement .
- Renovation works completed in summer 2023, with launch events held at Souter Park and Richardson Dees Park in August 2023.
- Tennis participation across North Tyneside's park tennis sites has grown significantly since the courts were renovated, with c.3k people now registered on the Clubspark database and over 2300 bookings achieved in 3 months.
- The Council are working closely with the LTA to develop a community facing programme, including Tennis for Free, school engagement, Cardio Tennis and Walking Tennis all planned for 2024

#### c. Community – Rashida Salloo (LTA Community Development Partner)

The **LTA SERVES** programme continues to operate in the region offering both the light and standard packages to organisations and groups working with young people in lower socio-economic communities. The programme last year lowered its target age range and now engages 4 – 18year olds. Alongside the equipment and Tennis Activator training all organisations receive, we also offer mentoring to new tennis activators who want to develop their confidence and skills and Tennis Leaders programme to young people.

We have grown steadily in the region working through our LTA team and our national partners – StreetGames and currently have 7 community venues delivering SERVES. This includes 6 in Newcastle delivered by organisations such as Hat-Trick, St Vincent's de Paul, Inspire Youth Tyne and African Community Advice North East and 1 in North Tyneside - Support and Grow North East who deliver their sessions at a community centre. In 2024 we will continue to identify new organisations and locations in the region where we can offer our SERVES Tennis programme and look at ways young people from already established programmes can access mainstream tennis provision.

Clubs who would like to find out more about the LTA SERVES programme or our Breaking Barriers plan supporting underserved communities can find out more here – [LTA SERVES | Community tennis | LTA](#)

#### d. Education

##### • **LTA Youth Schools**

The LTA has worked through the School Games Organiser network to promote opportunities through the LTA Youth Schools Offer. The PDP (Nicki Harrison) has communicated several times during the year to promote the submission of Tennis Action Plans (approved with some financial support) and the LTA Youth Schools Teacher Training Offer whereby training resources are provided to teachers and a £250 voucher

per school for the purchase of equipment or 10 hrs of a coach supporting teachers in their school.

Examples of LTA Youth School training courses delivered include teachers trained at Alnwick Tennis Club alongside the delivery of the schools festival day and courses at Prudhoe High School training 17 teachers in May 2023.

Below shows the number of teachers trained against the previous year (Dec 2022 vs Dec 2023)

Schools Area	2022 LTA Registered Schools / Completed Training	2023 LTA Registered Schools / Schools Completed Training	12 months Increase Registered Trained
Newcastle Upon Tyne (128 schools)	48 Reg. (37%) 15 Trained (11%)	54 Reg. (42%) 21 Trained (16%)	6 schools 6 schools
North Tyneside (87 Schools)	36 Reg. (41%) 24 Trained (27%)	44 Reg. (50%) 34 Trained (39%)	8 schools 10 schools
Northumberland (191 Schools)	101 Reg. (53%) 61 Trained (32%)	110 Reg. (58%) 71 Trained (37%)	9 schools 10 schools
TOTAL (406 schools)	185 Reg. (45%) 100 Trained (25%)	208 Reg. (51%) 126 Trained (31%)	23 New Registered Schools 26 New Trained Schools

Map showing which Primary and Secondary Schools completed LTA Youth Schools Teacher Training.

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=10vzEeCtwktoTCRSoQVEy23RQ2L40igN-&usp=sharing>

- **University Initial Teacher Training in LTA Youth Schools**

A strong link is being developed with Northumbria University in the training of students in LTA Youth and inclusion of tennis into their training programme. There were 2 successful back-to-back courses held on the 10 October with 39 students on each, delivered by 2 tutors.

The secondary course is scheduled for Year 3 students in Feb 2024 and plans for the new cohort in Sept 2024.

- **University Tennis**



In 2023 Newcastle University became an LTA Tier 1 registered higher education provider. They appointed a Tennis Ambassador who attended training at the start of the academic year and submitted a development plan for this academic year.

Both Newcastle and Northumbria Universities provide tennis opportunities for students and connect to The Northumberland Club / Academy.

#### **e. Open Court (Disability) – Matthew Elkington (LTA Disability Development Partner)**

There has been good growth in participation across this past year, not specifically as an outcome of the County strategic plan, but the result of better engagement through all venues, including North East Disability Sports Forum, Beverley Park Tennis Club and the Northumberland Club.

- There were 166 monthly participants recorded in Sept 2023 compared to 31 in Sept 2022. Much of the increase can be attributed to better recording of participation. And general data collection.
- A Club survey was sent out to all member clubs to identify the disability agenda, interest in being more inclusive and potential for learning.
- The end of the year looked to the identification and potential training of Open Court Leads for the County. This is due to take place in 2024.

Club who are interested in developing their inclusive offer can find out more at - [Disability Tennis | LTA](#)

#### **2. COMPETITION – Christine Randall-Klee (Competition Development Partner)**

Some positive progress in the development of the competition offers across Northumberland as we seek to retain players in tennis through the opportunity for a quality and appropriate competitive experience.

The appointment of Lauren Jones as Competition Coordinator has gone very well:

- 34 Matchplay Events completed across the County (including rural clubs outside of Newcastle).
- Coordination of the Play Your Way to Wimbledon event with 9 venues hosting events.
- Supporting the promotion of competitions in general in the county and worked well with Amy Hoburn on the South North tournament. She has helped increase entries from 60 in 2022 to 156 in 2023!
- Lauren passed her referee course which will enable her to move into running Grade 5 events in 2024 where criteria require an LTA qualified referee.

### Team Challenge:

- 12 venues signed up for 2023, with all 12 delivering some activity. There were 1434 players reported throughout the year (this is not unique players, so includes player numbers who took part in multiple events as an accumulative total).
- Special mention to Morpeth Tennis Club who reported back on between 50-160 players per event they hosted (they hosted 4 last year).
- 9 venues have signed up for 2024, but if anyone missed out, I have some spare packs I can allocate.

### LTA Youth/National League, Summer:

Sarah Lowes (D&C admin) has been running the LTA Youth League for NTB and D&C the last few years, and the league is going well. There was a growth in number of venues, players and teams taking part from 2022 to 2023, though a drop in percentage of fixtures being played last summer (82% to 67%).

The 2024 league is open for entries now (deadline 14 Feb).

### County Closed:

The County Closed went well with 82 players compared to 54 in 2022. Still room to grow!

Organisers have been asked to consider adding disability events where appropriate, so there is potential for D&C and Northumberland to join forces and host a VI event, as VI tennis is pretty big in Newcastle. A decision is pending approval.

### Referee Course:

Newcastle hosted a referee course in 2023, and 7 people attended. All passed the exam, but waiting on a few attendees to licence themselves before they can fully passing the course. There were 3 from Northumberland, 3 from D&C and 1 from Cumbria.

In summary, really pleased with the growth Northumberland saw last year, and I hope we can keep going in 2024!

## 3. WORKFORCE & SHE RALLIES (Jo Cunliffe – Workforce Development Partner)

### • LTA Coach Accreditation

- There are 62 accredited coaches on Northumberland. This is an increase of 18 coaches however there is a likely discrepancy from coaches not adding in full details in 2022.
- There are 22 LTA Accredited Plus coaches linked to tennis venues in Northumberland.
- There are 40 LTA Accredited coaches linked to venues in Northumberland.
- The qualification breakdown of LTA Accredited / Accredited Plus coaches is:

Level 5	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
2	19	17	20	4

- Jo is continuing to try finding solutions to the coach vacancy issue.
- A pilot for the Tennis Activators was delivered in Berwick, to try to identify people who could 'facilitate' play not deliver 'coaching'. Eight volunteers were trained and supported.
- Head Coaches and Venues are continuing to engage with their people, with a number of positive examples of recruiting from within their programmes / venues.
- The process outlined below is in place currently.

- **Current North East Vacancies Map**

- The map has had nearly 8000 views so it's getting the interest from people. The blue icons are LTA Registered Venues.

[https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1On\\_j0GWGfKO1x7RR1xmyj20w9slgIU&usp=sharing](https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1On_j0GWGfKO1x7RR1xmyj20w9slgIU&usp=sharing)

This map is being circulated periodically to,

- Coaches on the North Coaches Facebook group – 423 coaches are on this page (there is a total of 1012 LTA Accredited Coaches across the North)
- Sent out by tutors on LTA Coach Qualification Courses being delivered in the North East and Yorkshire
- County Associations
- Coach Development Websites and social media channels
- Coach Whats App groups within the County (D&C at present)
- National discussions are starting to take place around Coach Recruitment / Engagement / Retention.

- **LTA Youth Coach Training**

- 32 number of coaches in Northumberland completed LTA Youth practical training .
- 16 venues in Northumberland have a linked coach that has completed LTA Youth Training

- **North East Mentoring Programme**

- The mentoring programme was completed in December 2023
- 9 coaches (6 female, 3 male) and 8 Mentors
- 9 coach mentees are now delivering 90 weekly hours collectively and delivering coaching, competitions and events!
- 4 Northumberland based coaches.
- Review video - [North East Mentoring 2023 \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

- **LTA She Rallies**

- Link for full info. [She Rallies \(lta.org.uk\)](https://lta.org.uk)
- Prime Video Girls Programme (part of She Rallies programme) 2023
- 2 Northumberland based coaches (Stuart Cass and Carlos Calderia) delivered 151 sessions across 25 courses. They welcomed 84 new girls into tennis.
- £1260 investment from Prime in kit for the girls
- £3000 income generated for the coaches delivering the programme

- **2023 LTA / CDC Coach Development**

2023 saw the appointment of We Do Tennis as the Coach Development Centre (CDC) for the North East. There was a North East Coaches Day held at Sunderland Tennis Centre on Thursday 16 Feb 2023 with 35 coaches in attendance.

The CDC provided bespoke training for the North Tyneside workforce as part of the parks investment; training their staff to deliver in particular Walking Tennis and Cardio Tennis activities as part of the parks programme.

The Workforce Calendar for the first half of 2024 has been confirmed, including the LTA Qualification Courses, Personal Development Courses, First Aid and Safeguarding.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sOy52cGG1nq3uleokWjZiZbZVWnJTLro/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=108623401540805633407&rtpof=true&sd=true>

## Northumberland Ladies Tennis Team Report

### Ladies Summer County Cup - 127<sup>th</sup> Summer County Cup 2023

Northumberland Ladies Team travelled to Devonshire Park in Eastbourne to compete in Group 1 for the second time in the LTA's 127<sup>th</sup> County Week. Team consisted of Amy Hoburn, Stephanie Booth, Jess Hart, Lauren Jones, Gillian Kelliher, Aimee Knowles, Teodora Prisdanikova, Tracy Smith, Alex Walker and Emma Wilson (Abby Kelliher travelled but not played).

Results:

Monday – Beat Leicestershire 6-3

Tuesday – Beat Nottinghamshire 8-1

Wednesday – Lost to Surrey 5-4

Thursday – Lost to Hampshire & IOW 5-4

Friday – Lost to Hertfordshire 3-0

The team got off to very good start with securing two wins out of two. The weather played a big part, with rain delays effecting each day, so much so the scoring format got changed to FAST4, which meant a lot of tiebreaks played across the week, unfortunately not always going in the teams' favour. Northumberland came 4<sup>th</sup> place in Group 1 to remain in that group for another year. They will travel to Eastbourne again in July 2024.

### Winter County Cup 2023

Northumberland Ladies Team travelled to Sheffield to compete in Group 1 of the LTA's Winter County Cup weekend. Team consisted of; Amy Hoburn, Jess Hart, Lauren Jones, Abby Kelliher, Gillian Kelliher, Aimee Knowles, Lara Savic, Tracy Smith, Alex Walker.

Results:

Friday – Beat Surrey 6-3

Saturday – Lost to Yorkshire 6-3

Sunday – Beat Hampshire & IOW 6-2

The team had a very successful weekend, winning two out of the three days, and secured 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Group 1. This means the Northumberland Ladies team will remain in Group 1 for both Summer and Winter County Cups next year. Venue yet to be announced for Winter County Cup 2024.

## **Northumberland Men's Team Tennis Report**

### **Mens Summer County Cup 2023**

Northumberland Men's County Team travelled to Hunstanton in Norfolk to compete in Group 7 at County Week held during 24th-28th July 2023.

After some near misses in previous years, the team were looking for a promotion and this year got off to a good start by beating Bedfordshire 8-1 in their first match. This was followed by a 3-6 loss against Gloucestershire the following day but the final two days saw the team secure wins against Cornwall 6-3 and Sussex 6-3 to secure promotion to Group 6 for 2024.

The Team comprised: Adam Boba (Team Manager and Captain), Steven Milne, Jordan Simpson, Sam Knowles, Will Gray, Matthew Nice, Cormac Lunn, Ronan Lunn, Lewis Scott and Andrew Hunsley.

### **Mens Winter County Cup 2023**

Northumberland Men's County Team were at the Nuffield Health and Fitness Centre, Hull for their Winter Indoor County Cup also held over the weekend of 24-26 November.

The Team were competing in Group 6 and were off to a good start on Friday with a 5-4 win over Bedfordshire. This was followed by a 7-2 win over Channel Islands on Saturday.

Unfortunately, the momentum could not be maintained, and the Team lost on the final day against Sussex by the narrow margin of 4-5, leaving us in Group 6 for 2023.

The Team comprised: Adam Boba (Team Manager and Captain), Ronan Lunn, Sam Knowles, Ben Ashfield, Ben Beard, Lewis Scott, Andrew Hunsley and Stephen Wilkinson.

## Men's Teams

### Mens Over 65 – Don Anderson

Northumberland Men's Over 65s had 4 matches in the county cup last year. The home matches were Derbyshire and South West Scotland and the away matches were Cumbria and Nottinghamshire.

In the first match we lost to Derbyshire 2-3, both our pairs were able to defeat their second pair in the doubles rubber, but their first pair proved too strong winning both of their singles rubbers and the final doubles rubber.

The second match against Cumbria was very close with the rubber score at 2-2 when unfortunately, one of our doubles pair suffered a major medical emergency. The match was abandoned (3-2 to Cumbria) and following life saving work by Trevor Herron, Cumbria Tennis Centre and the Emergency services, Ed was transferred to Carlisle General Hospital. He has made steady progress since then and we hope to see him back in some capacity this coming season.

The third match was against South West Scotland who travelled with a very strong team, two of their players competing at National Level. They won the tie 5-0 and went on to win the group. The final match was an away trip against Nottinghamshire where we lost 1-4, which was disappointing.

The Northumberland players for the 2023 were Trevor Herron, Ken Forster, Nick Keeley, Don Anderson, Paul Ward, Ed Aitcheson and Colin Pyle.

### Mens Over 35 – Phil Givens

#### **Team:**

- Phil Givens
- Steve Milne
- Roman Stepanov
- Stu Cass
- Mike Ord

The Northumberland Men's Over 35 County Team participated in a series of matches held on the grass courts at Eastbourne. The matches took place over several days, with weather conditions posing a significant challenge as rain interruptions affected the schedule. Despite the weather setbacks, the team exhibited commendable performances and resilience throughout the tournament.

## **Match Summaries:**

### **Channel Islands 4-1 Northumberland**

The team faced a tough challenge against the Channel Islands. The match was characterised by its tight and competitive nature. Ultimately, Northumberland suffered a 4-1 loss. Notably, two match tiebreak defeats played a pivotal role in swinging the match in favour of the Channel Islands.

### **Cumbria 0-5 Northumberland**

In an inspiring turnaround, the team rallied to secure a dominant 5-0 victory against Cumbria. A standout moment was the exceptional display by the team's captain in the number 1 singles match. After an intense battle, the captain secured victory in a match tiebreak, with an impressive score of 16-14, having saved 7 match points.

### **Wiltshire 2-3 Northumberland**

Northumberland continued to demonstrate their mettle in a closely contested match against a strong Wiltshire team. Through a commendable display of skill and determination, the team secured a 3-2 victory.

### **Final Outcome:**

Despite their valiant efforts, Northumberland narrowly missed out on promotion to the Channel Islands due to a narrow defeat suffered on the opening day of the tournament. Finishing in second place in the league standings, the team's performance reflected their resilience, teamwork, and competitive spirit.

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## Ladies Teams

### Ladies Over 80s – Sara Chappell

Once again, we were the only County willing to travel. We started out with 4 counties in our group: Us (Northumberland), Lincolnshire, Kent and Scotland.

Lincs and Kent pulled out and Scotland would play but only if we travelled to them which we did.

Off we went and hurrah we won, so the long journey home was a happy one.

Let's see what happens next year.

The team members were:

Sara Chappell Captain

Monica Ogden

Pat Botterill

Joan Shutt

Marjorie Lyons

Helen French

Thank you to the Northumberland Club for our practices.

### Ladies Over 75s – Megs Rogers

2023 has been a much easier year to organise than last year despite one player having a serious fall (not on the tennis court) at the start of the season and being out for 4 months and another getting Covid just before a match! We won two matches, against Cheshire and Warwickshire, and lost two, against Lancashire and Shropshire – the eventual winners of the Group. The team ended up 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 5.

Team players were Mary Corbett, Sandra Henderson, Monica Ogden, Megs Rogers, Pauline Storey and reserves Angela Appleby and Helen French. I am grateful to the Academy for being flexible so that home matches could be arranged indoors on a weekday. This was very important as the away teams elected to stay overnight.

Megs Rogers (captain)

### Ladies over 70s – Julie Gainford

The over 70 ladies had a successful season in Division Two - the group had very evenly matched teams. The matches were all close and we managed to win two matches and came second in the group so we are now in Division1 for the 2024 season.

Many Thanks to Christine Fairs, Heather Sutton, Maureen Gibson, Mary Corbett, Megs Rogers and Sandra Henderson.

## Ladies Over 65 – Roz Askew

We unfortunately lost all matches:

15/6 away v Shropshire

27/6 away v Herefordshire

1/7 home v Yorkshire

23/9 home v Lincolnshire

## Ladies Over 60 – Sue Trousdale

The team played in division 3A this season, and the following matches were played;

Shropshire Away.

This was a very close match to start our season!

After round 1, the score was 1 rubber all, with both matches being won on a championship tie-break.

Round 2 was just as close...but without the professional tie breaks, 1 rubber all!

Final score was 2 rubbers all, 5 sets all, 45 games Shropshire, 43 games Northumberland.

Disappointing to lose such a close match, but we enjoyed the good tennis.

Cumbria Home.

Taking advantage of the home venue, we got off to a good start with both our pairs winning their matches in 2 sets. So a 2-0 lead for Northumberland. In round 2, Cumbria won 1 rubber. Final score was 3 rubbers-1, 6 sets to 2, 43 games to 25 to Northumberland; good to get a win under our belts.

Warwickshire Home.

Our second home match. After round 1 we were 2 rubbers to 0 down, after disappointingly losing a very close match 11-9 in the professional tie break.

Round 2 followed a similar pattern, again losing a very close match 10-8 in the professional tie break.

Final score 4 rubbers-0, 8 sets to 2, 44 games to 28 to Warwickshire.

Cheshire Away.

Our final match of the season was away to Cheshire.

They were a strong team, and after the first round, we were 2 rubbers to 0 up, after the disappointment of our last match we fought well and this time managed to win 2 professional tie breaks.

In the second round, our first pair won in 2 sets, and our 2nd pair fought back to reach a professional tie break decider, but unfortunately lost that rubber.

Final score 3 rubbers -1, 7 sets to 4, 40 games to 33 to Northumberland.

A great end to the season to beat this strong Cheshire team.

Players representing Northumberland this season were Julia Carmichael, Sue Trousdale, Kim Fewell and Kate Bamford. Northumberland fielded the same team for all the matches in this very closely fought league.

I would like to thank the players for their excellent commitment all season in both practise and matches.... despite a number of ongoing injuries! Some great results achieved. Well done!

Sue Trousdale (captain)

### **Ladies Over 50 – Emily Ogden**

We won our first match against Shropshire 3 – 2 and also played East of Scotland losing some close tie breaks.

We played Leicestershire also losing 3 -1.

Unfortunately, due to lots of injuries we did not play against North Wales.

Thanks again to the team Ali Bell, Alison Duncan, Tracey Gaskill, Susan Easton and Jill Taylor for their support.

### **Ladies Over 40 – Rachel Knowles**

The ladies 40s county team had a good season. With two 5-0 wins against Cumbria and Durham & Cleveland, and a narrow defeat to Staffs. Unfortunately, points deduction due to being unable to field a team for one of the matches meant we placed 4th in the group from what might potentially have been a second place finish for the season.

It was a positive season to be able to play even more players within the team as 3 players from the 40s move up to the 50s in the coming season.

### **Ladies Over 35 – Nicola Givens**

Northumberland County Over 35's Women's Team: Nicola Givens

In August, the Northumberland County Over 35's Women's Team participated in a series of matches held over one weekend, on the prestigious grass courts at Eastbourne. The team comprised of: Nicola Givens, Jill Lambert, Christine Randall-Klee, Svetlana Freeman-Zakharchenko and Bryony Vaughan. Adverse weather conditions delayed the tournament, causing a late start on Sunday afternoon. Despite facing challenges, the team demonstrated their skills and determination throughout the matches.

The team began the tournament with a challenging match against Northamptonshire (who later went on to win the group and rewarded with promotion). Despite putting in a valiant effort, with matches being a lot closer than the score line, they unfortunately suffered a 5-0 defeat. The players showcased their skills, but the competition proved to be formidable.

In the second match, the team bounced back with renewed determination. The match against West of Scotland saw a remarkable turnaround, resulting in a 2-1 victory for Northumberland. Bryony Vaughan and Christine Randall-Klee emerged as the heroes of the match, securing victories in the two singles matches and ultimately igniting the team's spirits with their exceptional performances. Their skilful play demonstrated their adaptability to the grass courts despite the lack of practice time.

The tournament reached its peak with a fierce match against East of Scotland, with one of the matches ending with a close 14-12 scoreline in the match tiebreak. Although Northumberland didn't win this match, their determination and grit were clear for all to see.

In spite of the challenges posed by the weather delay and the strong opponents, Northumberland Over 35's exhibited remarkable sportsmanship and camaraderie. Their ability to adapt quickly to the unique conditions of grass courts, even without prior practice, showcased their dedication to the sport. Ultimately, their strong performance led to a commendable 3rd place finish in the tournament, solidifying their position in division 5.

Junior County Cup Overview – Boys & Girls events  
Jordan Simpson

18u Boys

Beat Wiltshire 7-2

Lost to Nottinghamshire 5-4

Lost to Derbyshire 5-3

2<sup>nd</sup>/4 in group.

Team; Sam Knowles, Denis Lapping, Andrew Hunsley, Daniel Burn, Stephen Wilkinson, Mark Alexandrov, Ben Beard

18u Girls

Beat West of Scotland 7-2

Beat North Wales 7-2

Beat East of Scotland 7-2

1<sup>st</sup> in group & Promotion.

Team; Aimee Knowles, Teddy Prisadnikova, Jess Hart, Abby Kelliher, Sophie Jackson, Lara Savic, Amelie Atchia, Georgina George

14u Boys

Beat Cumbria 5-1

Lost to South of Scotland 4-2

Lost to North of Scotland 5-1

4<sup>th</sup>/6 in group

Team; Ben Beard, Oliver Heron, Jacob Atchia, Will Catterson, Sam Walker, Josh Dowdell

14u Girls

Lost to North of Scotland 4-2

Beat Cumbria 6-0

Beat Durham & Cleveland 4-3

4<sup>th</sup>/6 in group

Team; Lara Savic, Amelie Atchia, Phoebe Spyridopoulos, Georgina George, Phoebe Allan

12u Boys

Lost to West of Scotland 6-0

Lost to South of Scotland 5-1

Lost to Cumbria 5-1

Finished 6<sup>th</sup>/6 in group.

Team; Sam Walker, Will Catterson, Rick Voswinkel, Matthew Secker, Ronald Lee, Lucas McNeillie

### 12u Girls

Lost to West of Scotland 6-0

Lost to South of Scotland 4-2

Lost to North of Scotland 6-0

6<sup>th</sup>/7 in group.

Team; Lauren Jenkins, Phoebe Allan, Shay Ho, Emilia Baggett

### 11u Boys

Lost to Durham & Cleveland 4-2

Lost to South of Scotland 4-3

Beat Cumbria 5-1

5<sup>th</sup>/6 in group.

Team; Henry Berry, Henry Hardy, George Menne, Ronald Lee, Ben Sugden, Charlie Douglass

### 11's Girls

Beat Durham & Cleveland 4-3

Beat Cumbria 6-0

Lost to West of Scotland 4-2

2<sup>nd</sup>/6 in group.

Team; Lauren Jenkins, Phoebe Allan, Olivia Welsh, Olivia MacIver, Camille Froom, Emilia Baggett.

### 10's Boys

Lost to Durham & Cleveland 5-1

Lost to Yorkshire 6-0

Beat Cumbria 6-0

3<sup>rd</sup>/4 in group.

Team; Samuel Weatherhead, Hugo Weatherhead, Frankie Guzikiewicz, Aleksander Cala, Edward Taylor, Felix Ashworth

### 10's Girls

Team withdrawn.

### 9's Boys

Qualifying

Lost to Lancashire 3-4

Beat Durham & Cleveland 4-2

Beat Cumbria 6-0

1<sup>st</sup>/4 in group – qualified for National Finals.

### National Finals

Lost to West of Scotland 6-0

Lost to Cambridgeshire 6-0

Lost to Warwickshire 6-0

Lost to Yorkshire 6-0

5<sup>th</sup>/5 in group.

Team; Arnav Buchepalli, Jamie Cope, Sebastian Hardy, Sebastian De Gheldere, Alfie Manford

### 9's Girls

Lost to Lancashire 6-0

Lost to Durham & Cleveland 5-1

Beat Cumbria 6-0

3<sup>rd</sup>/4 in group.

Team; Martha Devine, Elke Hayward, Stela Kocybala, Amber Mowat

### South Northumberland Tennis Tournament 2023

<u>Event</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner Up</u>
8U Singles	Joshua Lim	Jeremiah Owolana
9U Singles	Arnav Buchepalli	George Shelley
10U Girls Singles	Sarah Keithley	Isabella Sharp
10U Boys Singles	Williams Forbes	Joel Morton
12U Girls Singles	Olivia Erskine	Eliza Stephenson
12U Boys Singles	Samuel Walker	Leo Burdon
12U Girls Doubles	A.Heslop / L. Jenkins	G. Morgan / A. Palmer
14U Boys Singles	Jacob Atchia	Alexander Childs
18U Boys Singles	Tristan Mills	Max Hardiman
18U Girls Doubles	L. Cheal / R. Szeto	G George / P. Spyridoloulos
18U Boys Doubles	J. Childs / M. Hardiman	L. Rodgers / S. Rumble
Women's Singles	Lucy Beeston	Olga Glanville
Men's Singles	Daniel Buckle	Sushanth Srinivasan
Women's Doubles	L. Cheal / E. Close	K. Barker / S. Stansfield
Men's Doubles	A. Armitage / G. Bowen	M. Hardiman / J. Paluzzi



### The Northumberland Open 2023 Results

Event	Position	Name(s)
Open Mens Singles	Winner	Ben Wrann
	Runner up	Henry Redfern
Open Womens Singles	Winner	Teodora Prisadnikova
	Runner up	Natalie Crawford
Open Mens Doubles	Winner	J. Batchelor / M. Nice
	Runner up	A. Hillerby / S. Hillerby
Open Womens Doubles	Winner	A. Walker / E. Wilson
	Runner up	A. Knowles / T. Prisadnikova
Open Mixed Doubles	Winner	A. Hillerby / E. Wilson
	Runner up	D. Bennett / A. Walker
65+ Mens Singles	Winner	Gary Bishop
	Runner up	Peter Toase
65+ Mens Doubles	Winner	K. Haig / A. McKeown
	Runner up	G. Bishop / M. Eggleston
50+ Womens Singles	Winner	Michelle Elliott – Snell
	Runner up	Deborah Card
50+ Mens Singles	Winner	Julian Goodhall
	Runner up	Nicholas Westall
50+ Mens Doubles	Winner	J. Goodhall / M. McPeake
	Runner up	M. Farry / K. White
50+ Mixed Doubles	Winner	T. Rodham / M. Elliott – Snell
	Runner up	R. Vasey / M. H. French
35+ Mens Singles	Winner	Warren Broadbent
	Runner up	Rowland G Lee
18U Girls Singles	Winner	Folasade Aladese
	Runner up	Holly Huby
18U Boys Singles	Winner	Alexander English
	Runner up	Jed McMillan
18U Girls Doubles	Winner	H. Huby / J. Mclean
	Runner up	A. Johnston / A. Moss
18U Boys Doubles	Winner	A. English / J. McMillan
	Runner up	S. Knowles / B. Wrann
16U Girls Singles	Winner	Ava Moss
	Runner up	Anna Sloan
16U Boys Singles	Winner	Stephen Wilkinson
	Runner up	Freddie Mailer
16U Boys Doubles	Winner	H. Scott / S. Wilkinson
	Runner up	R. Gallacher / B. Little
14U Girls Singles	Winner	Anna Sloan
	Runner up	Elisha Lax
14U Boys Singles	Winner	Ray Gallacher
	Runner up	Brodie Little
14U Girls Doubles	Winner	G. George / P. Spyridopoulos
	Runner up	A. Sloan / E. Sloan

14U Boys Doubles	Winner	J. Atchia / W. Morgan
	Runner up	R. Gallacher / T. Richardson
12U Girls Singles	Winner	Gabrielle Morgan
	Runner up	Ava Heslop
12U Boys Singles	Winner	Will Morgan
	Runner up	Leo Burdon
12U Girls Doubles	Winner	P. Allan / L. Jenkins
	Runner up	A. Heslop / A. Palmer
12U Boys Doubles	Winner	D. Czopek / W. Morgan
	Runner up	L. Burdon / W. Catterson
11U Girls Singles	Winner	Amalie Limbrick
	Runner up	Lauren Jenkins
11U Boys Singles	Winner	Daniel Pratt
	Runner up	Seb Beetlestone
10U Girls Singles	Winner	Sarah Keithley
	Runner up	Amelia Rose Symm
10U Boys Singles	Winner	William Forbes
	Runner up	Guy Davies-Riand
10U Doubles	Winner	A. Buchepalli / S. Hardy
	Runner up	A. Burdon / G. Hocking
9U Girls Singles	Winner	Martha Devine
	Runner up	Amber Mowat
9U Boys Singles	Winner	Arnav Buchepalli
	Runner up	Leo Hall
8U Boys Singles	Winner	Sonny Crompton
	Runner up	Charlie Daniels

### The Northumberland County Closed 2023

<u>Event</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Womens Singles	Winner	Michelle Elliott-Snell
	Runner up	Margaret Helen French
Mens Singles	Winner	Kouros Anssarizadeh
	Runner up	Ben Ashfield
Mens Doubles	Winner	A. Hunsley / L. Scott
	Runner up	K. Anssarizadeh / D. Burn
18U Girls Singles	Winner	Amelia Atchia
	Runner up	Scarlett Wilson Baker
18U Boys Singles	Winner	Andrew Hunsley
	Runner up	Stephen Wilkinson
16U Boys Doubles	Winner	B. Beard / S. Wilkinson
	Runner Up	J. Atchia / J. Dowdell
16U Boys Singles	Winner	Stephen Wilkinson
	Runner up	Jacob Atchia
14U Boys Doubles	Winner	B. Beard / S. Walker
	Runner up	J. Atchia / J. Dowdell
14U Boys Singles	Winner	Jacob Atchia
	Runner up	Samuel Walker
12U Girls Singles	Winner	Lauren Jenkins
	Runner up	Phoebe Allan
12U Boys Doubles	Winner	R. Lee / S. Walker
	Runner up	M. Secker / R. Voswinkel
12U Boys Singles	Winner	Samuel Walker
	Runner up	Henry Berry
11U Girls Singles	Winner	Lauren Jenkins
	Runner up	Phoebe Allan
11U Boys Singles	Winner	Henry Berry
	Runner up	Henry Hardy
10U Girls Singles	Winner	Isabella Sharp
	Runner up	Olivia McNeillie
10U Boys Singles	Winner	Hugo Weatherhead
	Runner up	Arnav Buchepalli
9U Girls Singles	Winner	Elke Hayward
	Runner up	Anastasia Duffes
8U Girls Singles	Winner	Amelia Betchley
	Runner up	Daisy Welsh
8U Boys Singles	Winner	Samuel Joice
	Runner up	Joshua Lim