

**NORTHUMBERLAND**  
**LAWN**  
**TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2018**

## **NORTHUMBERLAND LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2019**

It has been a busy year for Northumberland tennis in 2018 with some excellent results from individual players and County teams alike, significant anniversaries amongst our clubs, together with investment in new tennis facilities in the County.

Our accounts once again show a satisfactory financial performance over the year taking into account the running of the Academy, our County tournaments and our County teams across all age groups.

Club Forums were held during the year at venues in Newcastle, Hexham and Alnwick attended by volunteers and coaches together with regional representatives from the LTA to catch up on the latest developments in the game and to share examples of best practice both on and off the court.

The annual Northumberland Tennis Awards event was held during the Northumberland Open tournament in August 2018 with players, coaches and volunteers receiving recognition for their achievements and contributions to tennis during the year. Graeme Manwell, Chairman of the North East Visually Impaired Tennis Club received an outstanding achievement award for his work in promoting tennis for the visually impaired across the north east. The Award winners are listed in the Annual Report.

The Northumberland & Durham Inter Club League continued to provide opportunities for junior and adult teams from clubs based in the two counties to compete against each other in various age groups in an extensive league system and to encourage competition amongst players across both regions.

Members of NLTA Council continued to work closely with LTA colleagues through our various sub-committees to promote tennis in the County. Jo Cunliffe's Report detailing the various initiatives is contained within the Annual Report.

The LTA carried out a re-organisation of its Participation Team towards the end of the year and Jo Cunliffe has taken on a new role as Workforce Development Partner across the whole LTA North Region. I would like to place on record my thanks to Jo for her immense contribution in promoting tennis in the County in her previous role as a Regional Participation Manager for many years. We look forward to continue working with Jo in her new role and with Laurie Haines who is taking over many of Jo's previous responsibilities in the new LTA team structure as a Regional Participation Partner.

Amongst our Clubs, Beverley Park TC celebrated the completion of a refurbishment of their clubhouse and Cullercoats hosted an extremely successful open day to celebrate their 125<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. Wylam Tennis Club also successfully completed a refurbishment of their three courts and held an Open Day during the summer to officially open the new courts.

The year saw a major change by the LTA to the venue registration process with all clubs being required to meet minimum standards regarding safeguarding in order to achieve registration for 2018-2019. I am pleased to report that all our clubs met these minimum standards and my thanks to Sue Oswald, the County's Safeguarding Officer, for her commitment and drive in ensuring that we achieved full compliance.

As regards the Northumberland Tennis Academy, the LTA completed the roll out of its Performance Strategy during 2018. The Academy submitted an application to the LTA to become a Regional Player Development Centre for players aged 10-14; this application was unsuccessful. A second application to be accredited as a Local Player Development Centre for players aged 7-10 years was, however, successful. The Academy Management Board is in discussion with the LTA as 2019 moves forward regarding the implications of these decisions in relation to the on-going provision of a performance programme for our most promising juniors.

On court, Abby Kelliher, Teddy Prisadnikova and Kuoros Ansarrizadeh continue to receive regional and international recognition for their performances.

The Academy continued its very successful schools outreach programme with a full programme of school visits and breakfast, lunchtime and after school tennis sessions taking place in over a dozen schools in the Newcastle area.

At County level, the annual Sport Newcastle/South Northumberland tournament was held at the County Tennis Ground in June and August saw the staging of the Northumberland Open tournament, one of the largest tournaments of its kind with events for all age groups in both singles and doubles held in the UK. An international event for Girls at Under 16 level was held on the clay courts at the County Ground in July.

The annual Road to Wimbledon tournament took place with Paul Freeman and Louise Smith winning through as the Northumberland County champions.

County teams continued to compete in inter-county national competitions during the year at junior, senior and veterans levels. The County Girls and Boys Under 10 teams competed successfully in their respective age group national finals and the senior County Ladies team competed in the summer County Cup event in the LTA's Group 2 Division and in Group 1 at the winter indoor County Cup event.

The Northumberland Club has continued to progress with membership numbers increasing, roll out of the refurbished Osborne Pavilion as a fully functioning fitness studio, an upgrade to the car park and an upgrade of the floodlighting to three of the outdoor courts at the end of the year. The Executive Committee and the staff of the Club are working hard to provide services and facilities for all Club members and plans for further investment in facilities on the Ground are being developed.

During the year, the NLTA entered into an arrangement with a developer to complete the refurbishment of the entrance pavilion to the car park and the building has now been sub-let to a local nursey group provider who is forging good links between the Northumberland Club and the parents/children who attend the nursery.

I would like to thank all the members of Council for their support and contributions during the year and, in particular, the members of our own Executive Committee, Tom Kinloch, Martin Clark and George Murphy who shoulder the greatest load in keeping the Association's affairs on track. My thanks also to Chris Sanderson and the coaches who strive to maintain the Academy as the foremost venue for junior performance players in the north of England and to Kim Sanderson who combines her roles as Academy Administrator, County Administrator and Schools Co-Ordinator so effectively.

I would like in my Report this year to convey a special thank you on behalf of the NLTA Council to Tom Kinloch who, in December 2018, attended his last meeting as the LTA Councillor for Northumberland. Tom has been indefatigable over the past 19 years in representing the County's interests with the LTA and has worked tirelessly throughout this period to serve tennis in the County at national level. We thank Tom for his contribution and wish Jane Grey, his successor as our LTA Councillor, every success in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank all the volunteers in our clubs and other places to play who continue to work hard to maintain their facilities and provide competitive opportunities for their members.

Chris Lott  
Chairman

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

The last 12 months has seen the Northumberland Tennis Academy complete its third year as LTA Grant Funded Centre. This was the last year of the three year contract before the introduction of the LTA's new Performance Strategy. Within the new Performance Pathway the Northumberland Tennis Academy applied to be a Regional Player Development Centre and also a Local Player Development Centre. Our application for LPDC was successful and an initially unsuccessful RPDC application has lead to further discussions with the LTA on how we can best continue to be the leading performance venue in the NE.

The new performance strategy also included the introduction of funding for county training. Whilst county training was an existing part of the weekly schedule within NTA the small grant from the LTA has enabled us to subsidise the cost of this training further. There was a very pleasing response from clubs and coaches within the county when asked to nominate players for this programme.

At the grass roots level Kim Sanderson has worked hard to maintain the nationally recognised success of our school outreach programme with over 3000 children being given the opportunity to play the game within curriculum time. Kim has also established a full weekly schedule of early morning, lunchtime and after school clubs, which has raised the participation level within the county massively and provided talent identification opportunities. Many of these children have been directed towards their local clubs to continue their tennis in that environment.

We have continued to focus on players who have the ambition and commitment to play at a national and International level, whilst still helping to support players of a county level. We offer comprehensive individualised training programmes, which work on an integrated principle. All of the performance factors are incorporated into these individual programmes with the technical and tactical aspects covered on court in the squad sessions, the mental side is covered by James Newman our Sports Psychologist and the physical aspects are monitored and delivered by Joe Wear and Blake McManus our strength and conditioning coaches. Our coaching panel meet on a weekly basis to address programme issues but also to expand on and develop aspects of coach education and on court delivery.

Amongst some of the Academy achievements of the last year I would like to highlight Abby Kelliher, Teddy Prisadnikova, Sam Knowles and Harry Cookson competing in national grade 1 events in their respective age groups. We had excellent representation in various age groups in national grade 2 events.

In summary, 2018 was a year of uncertainty, new challenges and change but also continued success for the Northumberland Tennis Academy.

## **Tennis Development Manager, Jo Cunliffe**

All of the below links can be found from articles on Northumberland LTA's website.

### **1. Places**

- a) Tennis 4 Kids Programme
  - 7 Northumberland Club coaches ran Tennis For Kids programme
  - Phil Barron
  - John Boden
  - Jose Caldeira
  - Gillian Kelliher
  - Aaron Mpofu
  - Jordan Simpson
  - Tracy Smith
- b) LTA Minimum Standards
  - Great effort by NLTA with support from Regional LTA
  - All Northumberland based Clubs are compliant

### **2. People**

- a) Total of 56 Accredited Coaches in Northumberland (24 Accredited and 32 Accredited+)
- b) North East Female Coach mentoring programme saw 6 mentees complete programme in 2018:
  - Northumberland based coaches.
  - Jess Southwell (Northumbria University) mentored by Matt Wigham. Frankie Rohan (North East Visually Impaired Tennis Club)
  - 2018 Review Video link. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZhKUV7Z2qg>
- c) Newcastle see's communities coming together
  - Northumbria University hosted 2 course opportunities for coaches and volunteers. Participants from Clubs, Community and Education attended!

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/January-2018/Northumbria-University-and-Hat-Trick-volunteers-bringing-communities-together/>

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/October-2018/People-Bringing-Tennis-Together/>

### **3. Programmes**

- a) Royal Grammar makes Schools National Finals 2018

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/January-2018/Journey-sees-Royal-Grammar-School-Reach-Regional-and-National-Schools-Finals/>

- b) Further Education Enhanced Offer Support

- Newcastle College built strong foundations to enhance student and inclusive programme.

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/March-2018/Newcastle-College-Students-Continue-Their-Journeys/>

- Tyne Met have Tennis Activator (Ryan Taylor) who is delivering within College. Ryan passed his Level 2 qualification and Beverley Park Tennis Club are helping mentor.

c) Hat – Trick

- Multisport programme engaging young people from across Newcastle into sport
- Their volunteers went to Wimbledon for a once in a lifetime experience!

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/August-2017/Wimbledon-Winners/>

- d) Premier League 4 Sport Programme sees Gosforth East Middle School compete at the National Tennis Centre and visit Wimbledon!

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/August-2017/PL4S-Inspires-Future-Tennis-Stars/>

e) Disability Tennis Network

- North East Visually Impaired Tennis Club continues to grow and offer player pathway from coaching, competition and social opportunities. They celebrated their 7<sup>th</sup> Birthday in January 2018.
- Article showcasing their National Accolades

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/October-2018/National-Accolades-for-North-East-Tennis-Players/>

f) Northumbria University

- 1 Tennis Intern delivering the programme in 2018 2019, Dom Hughes
- 3 Student Tennis Volunteers supported local and regionally based activities (mini leagues, open days, park and club sessions). Each volunteer committed to at least 30 hours and most of them exceeded this!

g) Mini Red and Orange Girls Team Competition

- Participation increases once again with Northumberland extending the opportunity to Mini Orange in 2017. Grand Final article is,

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/April-2018/Girls-Programme-Glittering-Across-the-North-East/>

h) She Rallies

<https://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Northumberland/news/September-2018/North-East-Serves-up-Social-She-Rallies-Event-/>

#### **4. Promotion**

- a) JC has developed communication spreadsheet with majority of LTA led activities on.
- b) Ashleigh Baines – continuing social media work for Northumberland LTA and Durham & Cleveland LTA
- c) Full communications process now between North Regional office and local teams.



## **Northumberland Ladies Tennis Team Report**

### **AEGON Summer County Cup 2018 – Margaret Baron Team Manager**

In July, the ladies travelled to Havant to play in Group 2 in the Aegon Summer County Cup. The team played 9 doubles matches each day.

On the first day the team played a very strong Yorkshire team who convincingly won 7-2.

The matches on the next three days were much closer losing 5-4 each time to Lancashire, Cheshire & Middlesex. Many matches were decided on tie-breaks & so it was extremely nerve wracking!

By the last day, the team were due to play Sussex who, like Northumberland, was already going to be relegated. After playing one match, which Northumberland won, Sussex gave Northumberland a walkover.

The scores could have been very different but unfortunately, an injury blighted one of our players after the second day. The team played excellent tennis throughout the week & although Northumberland will be in Group 3 in 2019, that is still a great achievement for such a small tennis county.

The team members were Deborah Armstrong, Stephanie Booth, Amy Hoburn, Lauren Jones, Abigail Lemberger, Sarah Oswald, Alex Walker & Emma Wilson.

After nine years as the team manager, I have now passed over the reins to Amy Hoburn & Deborah Armstrong. I would like to thank all the ladies who have represented Northumberland during my tem as manager & wish them well for the future.

***Margaret Baron***

## **AEGON Winter County Cup 2018 – Amy Hoburn & Deborah Armstrong (Team Managers)**

**Friday 23<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

**Lost vs Essex (4-5)**

### **Singles 4-2**

1. (L) Emma WILSON vs Andre LUKOSIUTE (2-6 1-6)
2. (W) Amy HOBURN vs Aimee GIBSON (6-3 6-4)
3. (W) Alexandra WALKER vs Ivayla MITKOVA (7-5 6-1)
4. (W) Stephanie BOOTH vs Nyah KAUDERS (1-6 6-2 6-4)
5. (W) Deborah ARMSTRONG vs Lucy DAWSON 6-4 6-7(7) 6-4
6. (L) Francesca BOOTH vs Iman KHAN 3-6 2-6

### **Doubles 0-3**

1. (L) Amy HOBURN/Alexandra WALKER vs Aimee GIBSON/Andre LUKOSIUTE (5-7 1-6)
2. (L) Lauren JONES/Emma WILSON vs Annali OLIVELLE/Amanda WAINWRIGHT (1-6 6-7)
3. (L) Deborah ARMSTRONG/Stephanie BOOTH vs Lucy DAWSON/Deniz SOYER (6-7 5-7)

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

**Lost vs Hertfordshire (4-5)**

### **Singles 3-3**

1. (W) Emma Wilson vs Indianna SPINK (7-5 6-3)
2. (W) Amy HOBURN vs Mimi BLAND (7-6 6-2)
3. (W) Alexandra WALKER vs Annabel DAVIS (7-5 6-4)
4. (L) Stephanie BOOTH vs Rachel CRANLEY (6-3 4-6 3-6)
5. (L) Deborah ARMSTRONG vs Amanda ELLIOT (4-6 2-6)
6. (L) Francesca BOOTH vs Alexandra HILDRETH (3-6 6-3 2-6)

### **Doubles 1-2**

1. (L) Emma WILSON/Stephanie BOOTH vs Mimi BLAND/Indianna SPINK (3-6 6-7)
2. (L) Amy HOBURN/Deborah ARMSTRONG vs Amanda ELLIOT/Annabel DAVIS (3-6 6-3 0-1(8))
3. (W) Alexandra/WALKER Lauren JONES vs Rachel CRANLEY/Katherine WHITEAWAY (6-1 6-1)

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

**Lost vs Kent (1-5)**

### **Singles 1-5**

1. (L) Emma WILSON vs Naomi CAVADAY (2-6 6-4 2-6)
2. (W) Amy HOBURN vs Gabby CHIDWICK (6-3 7-5)
3. (L) Alexandra WALKER vs Florence ABBOTT (5-7 4-6)
4. (L) Stephanie BOOTH vs Sofia JOHNSON (4-6 0-6)
5. (L) Deborah ARMSTRONG vs Phoebe WATTON (6-3 6-7 2-6)
6. (L) Lauren JONES vs Amy FOTHERINGHAM (6-7 2-6)

**Doubles not played**

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

### **LTA Summer County Cup**

In July, the team travelled to Hunstanton in Norfolk to compete in Group 7 against Channel Islands, Cornwall, Shropshire and South of Scotland.

The team comprised: David Esther, Christopher Jeffery, Lewis Scott, Stephen Gilbert, Nikki Peel, Andre Thorpe and Martin Van Zyl.

The results were:

Northumberland v Channel Islands	Won 6-3
Northumberland v South of Scotland	Won 6-3
Northumberland v Shropshire	Lost 9-0
Northumberland v Cornwall	Lost 6-1

The team remain in Group 7 for 2019

### **LTA Winter County Cup**

In November, the team travelled to Sunderland to compete against Cambridgeshire, Hereford & Worcestershire and Shropshire in Group 5B.

The team comprised: James Nelson, Matthew Lott, Adam Boba, Will Gray, David Esther, Ronan Lunn, Stephen Gilbert, Roman Stepanov.

The results were:

Northumberland v Cambridgeshire	Lost 7-2
Northumberland v Hereford & Worcestershire	Lost 7-2
Northumberland v Shropshire	Lost 7-2

The team was relegated to Group 6 for 2019.

## **Men's Teams**

### **Mens Over 70 – Dennis Mitford**

This year we played in division 2B, Cambridge dropped out of the league leaving only four matches to be played. These were Norfolk, Suffolk, Sussex and Scotland West.

#### Match Results

Norfolk Away lost 2-2 (lost on game count back)

Suffolk Away lost 1-3

Scotland West Home lost 1-3

Sussex Away lost 1-3

Seven Players represented Northumberland this year. They were Dennis Mitford, Paul Beasley, Geoff Morrison, Ken Houghton, John Coope, Neil Taylor and Malcolm Newton.

Malcolm Newton and Neil Taylor proved to be a very strong pairing winning 3 of their 4 rubbers.

Dennis Mitford (Captain 2018)

### **Mens Over 65 – Tony Pensom**

As the years take their toll, the 65's squad received a fresh injection of geriatric spirit with the transfer of several players from the 60's squad and looked forward to the new season with renewed vigour. Another triumph of hope over reality despite the best efforts of all involved.

The season began very positively, with a home fixture against Northamptonshire delivering a 3:2 victory and every team member playing a part in the win. Success in the No. 1 singles for Tony Pensom (recovering from 4:8 in the Championship tie break to win 10:8) and Jim Anderson and Nick Keeley (a welcome newcomer to the County scene offering boundless enthusiasm and energy to the team...in contrast to his moribund teammates) in the first round doubles set laid down a marker, but the win was secured at the death in a 7:5 final set taken by John Wiseman and Tony Pensom.

Buoyed by this rare success, a re-shuffled team headed south to Bristol for their match with Avon. Another last gasp 10:8 tie break saw Tony Pensom take his singles match, but Vince Kennedy was unable to repeat the feat in his singles, nor were the new pairing of Bill Lomas and Nick (the Duracell Bunny) Keeley able to come out on top. Unfortunately both reverse doubles were also lost to give Avon a 4:1 win, and give our squad plenty of food for thought as we awaited our flight home.

A home match against Wiltshire then followed, and with injury and holiday depleting the squad we were able to welcome Keith Dyson into the fold for his first County match. Wiltshire showed again the benefit of having strength in depth, securing victory in all the first round rubbers involving Tony Pensom and John Wiseman in the singles and Nick Keeley with Keith Dyson in the doubles. The ray of hope was the victory secured by John Wiseman and Tony

Pensom in the return doubles to give that pairing a 100% record and leave the final score 4:1 to Wiltshire.

With Cambridge not being able to field a team, the last match was away to Lincolnshire. On this occasion it was John Wiseman who showed the mettle to take victory in his singles on a tie break, with Tony Pensom beaten by a strong opponent who was kind enough to soften the blow by recounting his victory a few years earlier in a Wimbledon Seniors tournament. The extra experience the Bill Lomas and Jim Anderson brought on court could not help them, unfortunately, and they succumbed in both their doubles as did John and Tony to post a third and final 4:1 defeat and end the season with one victory and 3 defeats, albeit all closely contested.

As ever, it has been a pleasure and a privilege to represent the County and to play with such a fine group of gentlemen – if our sportsmanship and enthusiasm could only be matched with a similar amount of talent, we would be a force to be reckoned with. As it is, my thanks go to all who have played and supported this year and we look forward to the coming season with equally misguided enthusiasm and optimism.

Tony Pensom

### **Mens Over 60 – Don Anderson**

This year we played in division 3A, there were four matches Norfolk, Suffolk, Cumbria and South West Scotland. The following players represented Northumberland.

Trevor Herron (4 matches), Don Anderson (4 matches), Colin Pyle(3 matches), Thomas Scott(3 matches, Freddie Bolton(1 match) and Jim Smith(1 match).

#### **Match Results**

Norfolk	Away	lost 0-5
Suffolk	Away	lost 0-5
South West Scotland	Home	lost 0-5
Cumbria	Home	lost 1-5

The away matches were played against Norfolk and Suffolk were played on consecutive days over a single weekend, although Northumberland didn't win any matches, 5 of the rubbers were decided by a match tie break . South West Scotland had a strong and experienced team and won the division. We had expected to perform better against Cumbria but things didn't go well on the day.

Despite the results we had an enjoyable season, playing and practicing together. There were four new players this year and its hoped that the squad can be further strengthened for the 2019 season. Trevor Herron has taken over as Captain for 2019.

Don Anderson (Captain 2018)

### **Mens Over 45s – Mark McPeake**

Men's Over 45 had a very good season winning all their matches in Group 2. Special thanks go to the following in particular who with me, travelled some long distances to play matches, one being Hampshire, which we did in one day. Julian Goodall, Martin Van Zyl and Trevor Heron. Other Team members were Sean Damer, Harvey Slater and Ian Smith.

This year in Group 1 it will be very tough, but I hope to pull in same team and we could be alright.

### **Mens Over 35s**

The team consisted of Martin Van Zyl, Roman Stepanov, Mike Thorpe and Julian Goodall. The team did very well winning and gaining promotion for next year. Well done to the team!

## **Ladies Teams**

### **Ladies Over 75s – Sara Chappell**

Northumberland vs Surrey (away)	Lost 4 – 0
Northumberland vs Suffolk (home)	Won by 2 games
Northumberland vs Lincolnshire (home)	Won 3 – 1
Northumberland vs West of Scotland (away)	Won 4 – 0

Sussex refused to come to us - too far to travel.

We were runners up in our group – so well done to all the team members. Team was Sara Chappell, Joan Shutt, Monica Ogden, Pat Bottrill and Marjorie Lyons.

### **Ladies Over 70s – Angela Appleby**

Having gained promotion last season from Division 2, the team played in Division 1B with 2 home and 3 away matches, the results of which were as follows:

Northumberland v Yorkshire (A)	Won 2 rubbers all, 5 sets to 4, 46 games to 41
Northumberland v Nottinghamshire (H)	Lost 3 rubbers to 1, 6 sets to 5, 40 games to 41
Northumberland v Middlesex (A)	Lost 4 rubbers to 0, 8 sets to 3, 41 games to 31
Northumberland v Lancashire (A)	Won 4 rubbers to 0, 8 sets to 0, 48 games to 16
Northumberland v Buckinghamshire (H)	Won 4 rubbers to 0, 8 sets to 0, 48 games to 8

We finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the league with Notts. being the overall winners who went on to lose to Surrey in the Division 1 play-offs. Thanks to team members Mary Corbett, Megs Rogers and Pauline Storey for their commitment throughout the season and who, along with myself, played in all five matches.

### **Ladies Over 65 – Julie Gainford**

The over 65 ladies had a reasonably successful season maintaining our position in Division Two which the team were very pleased with as once again we were hit by a long term injury.

There were two outstanding teams in the division but we still managed to give a good account of ourselves against them. The other matches were all very close - we won one of them and were very close in the others so our percentage was enough to keep us up in Division Two.

Many Thanks to Christine Fairs, Brenda Yendall and Pauline Bramley who all committed to every match.

### **Ladies Over 60 – Roz Askew**

Ladies over 60's results:

Lost at home to West of Scotland

Won away at Cambridgeshire

Won away at Cumbria

Won at home against Derbyshire.

### **Ladies Over 50 – Sue Trousdale**

#### **Northumberland Ladies Veterans O50, Division 2B, 2018**

The O50's Ladies started the season with a home match against Lancashire. After the first round, we were 2-1 down with Claire Whitfield losing a close number 1 singles match and Julia Carmichael losing number 2 singles, however despite losing the first set 6-1 Alison Charlewood and Sue Trousdale went on to secure a win clinching the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> set tie breaks. All to play for in round 2! Alison and Sue won their 2<sup>nd</sup> doubles 6-3, 7-6; the 5<sup>th</sup> and final rubber was still on court with Claire and Julia having narrowly lost the first set on a tie break, unfortunately the Lancashire pair proved too strong in the second set which they won 6-2. The final result was a 3-2 win for Lancashire. We were disappointed to lose the first match of the season especially as four of the rubbers were so close. A big thanks to Julia who stepped in at the last minute because of injuries and unavailability of squad players.

The next match was away to Leicestershire at Corby tennis centre, this was on the hottest weekend in June. Despite requesting to play outdoors, the Leicestershire team refused to accommodate and we arrived for the match to be told we were playing in a bubble where the temperature was 40+ degrees.....!! The team was Claire Whitfield, Alli Bell, Sue Trousdale and Rachael Michie, (who played up from the 60s). We can honestly say these were the worst conditions any of us had played in! Leicestershire seemed to cope much better than Northumberland at their home venue, and the first-round matches were all one sided so Leicestershire were leading 3-0. In the second round the Northumberland players seemed to cope much better with the conditions and both doubles matches were closely fought; going to 3 sets. However, it was Leicestershire who won the 3<sup>rd</sup> set tie break in both rubbers; therefore, it was a 5-0 loss for Northumberland.

The following weekend we faced West of Scotland at home. This team were strong and despite their best efforts, the team of Claire Whitfield, Fiona Twaddle, Alison Charlewood and Sue Trousdale only managed to secure 1 rubber, thanks to a good singles win from Fiona. So unfortunately, a 4-1 loss.

We then had a long journey to Middlesex, the team being Alli Bell, Fiona Twaddle, Sue Trousdale and Julia Carmichael (again, thanks to Julia who stepped in at the last minute).

In the first round, Middlesex fielded 2 very strong singles players, so despite our best efforts and Julia and Sue winning a set in the doubles, we were 3-0 down after round 1. In round 2 we lost both doubles in 2 sets; a 5-0 loss to a very strong Middlesex team.



Our final match of the season was at home against Cambridge on a beautiful September day, perfect for tennis! The team were Claire Whitfield, Alison Duncan, Alison Charlewood and Sue Trousdale. After round 1 we were 3-0 up with Claire and Alison winning their singles, and Sue and Alison winning their doubles, all in 2 sets. In the second-round Alison and Claire won their doubles, but Sue and Alison lost a very long and close fought match in the 3<sup>rd</sup> set tie-break. Nevertheless, this was a good win and a satisfying way to end the season! Northumberland finished in 5<sup>th</sup> position, with Middlesex winning the league.

This was my first season as captain. In summary, it was a very mixed season, player availability on paper was good at the beginning of the season, however, in reality teams changed at the last minute due to injury and changes in player availability, meaning we fielded a different team every match. Nevertheless, we fulfilled all our fixtures, after disappointingly having to concede last season, and the players thoroughly enjoyed some good tennis. Thank you to all the players who represented the team, and we look forward to this season! Sue Trousdale

#### **Ladies Over 40 – Emily Ogden**

Northumberland Ladies over 40s had a mixed season with some very close losses.

A convincing win against Warwickshire ensure we stay in our division.

#### **Ladies Over 35 – Emily Ogden**

Glorious weather on the lovely grass courts and some great tennis.

We came second in our group. We won all our games on the Saturday and Sunday just loosing on the Friday.

Well done to all our Northumberland players.

## **Junior County Cup Overview – Girls events (James Newman)**

### **18U Girls - Group 5B (Barnstaple): 23-25 February 2018**

Team: Elena Baughman-Saunders, Emma Charlton, Liv Clark, Elizabeth Graham, Clara Loughlin, Louise Smith, Lydia Smith

Day 1: Lost 5-4 to Cornwall

Day 2: Lost 9-0 to Bedfordshire

Day 3: Lost 6-3 to Herefordshire & Worcestershire

RESULT: Finished 4<sup>th</sup> of 4

### **14U Girls – Group E (Boston): 5-7 May 2018**

Team: Emily Allison, Jessica Hart, Abby Kelliher, Kirstin McLeod, Lydia Smith, Louise Smith

Day 1: Lost 6-0 to Suffolk

Day 2: Won 4-2 against North of Scotland

Day 3: Lost 6-0 to Nottinghamshire

RESULT: Finished 4<sup>th</sup> of 6

### **12U Girls – Group H (Widnes): 30 June – 1 July 2018**

Team: Elizabeth Graham, Jessica Hart, Sophie Jackson, Abby Kelliher

Day 1: Won 6-2 against East of Scotland, Won 6-2 against Cheshire

Day 2: Lost 8-0 against Lancashire, Won 5-4 against North of Scotland

RESULT: Finished 2<sup>nd</sup> of 6

### **10U Girls – Group G (Carlisle): 26-27 May 2018**

Team: Elena Baggett, Paige Charlton, Aimee Knowles, Teodora Prisadnikova

Day 1: Won 8-0 against Cumbria, Won 8-0 against South of Scotland

Day 2: Won 5-4 against Lancashire, Won 6-2 against East of Scotland

RESULT: Finished 1<sup>st</sup> of 6

**10U Girls – National Finals (Sunderland): 8-10 June 2018**

Team: Elena Baggett, Paige Charlton, Aimee Knowles, Lilly-May Tod, Teodora Prisadnikova

Day 1: Lost 6-2 to Avon

Day 2: Lost 8-0 to Surrey, Won 6-2 against Cheshire

Day 3: Won 5-4 against South Wales

RESULT: Finished 5<sup>th</sup> of 8

**9U Mixed Team – Group B (Sunderland): 18 August**

Team: Ben Beard, Faye Brannon, Sam Cottrell, Oliver Heron, Jessica Lamb, Lara Savic, Luke Thompson

Day 1: Won 10-8 against Cumbria, Lost 10-8 to Durham & Cleveland, Lost 16-2 to Yorkshire

## **Junior County Cup Overview – Boys events (Jordan Simpson)**

### **18U Boys**

The 18's boys competed in Sunderland in February, narrowly missing out on promotion. After comfortably beating South of Scotland and Channel Islands 9-0 on the first two days, the boys were unlucky to lose to a well-matched Devon side in a final that consisted of four three set singles matches.

Despite being clearly disappointed to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> to Devon, the attitudes on display couldn't be faulted, with great effort levels given throughout the entire weekend. The team consisted of Lewis Scott, Chris Jeffery, Will Gray, Bailey Dawson, Ronan Lunn, Gareth Rickaby, Matthew Nice and Gabriel Rodda.

**CAPTAIN – Jordan Simpson**

**RESULT – 2<sup>nd</sup> in group of 4.**

### **14U Boys**

The 14's boys travelled to Harlow, Essex in May. The team competed well throughout the weekend but unfortunately only came out of one matchup against Cambridge. With this said, the other ties against Kent, Devon and Essex could have gone either way and play was live until the very last matches. The team consisted of Ronan Lunn, Matthew Nice, Marcus Jeffery, Sam Knowles, Dan Burn and Paul Freeman.

**CAPTAIN – Jordan Simpson**

**RESULT – 4<sup>th</sup> in group of 5.**

### **10U Boys**

The 10's boys had a successful weekend competing at home in Northumberland in this year's qualifying competition. They won matches against Lancashire, South of Scotland and East of Scotland comfortably, and came out on top of a tight match against Cumbria to gain qualification to the National Finals. The team for qualification rounds consisted of Kouros Annsarizadeh, Oliver Clark, Matthew Ansell and Stephen Wilkinson.

The boys then travelled to the National Finals at Sunderland and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their round robin below strong Yorkshire and Surrey sides, but above Somerset who they managed to beat in a shootout. In the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> play off, the boys lost to a strong Essex side. With this said, another great year for 10 & Under boys tennis with a second qualification in two years. The team from National Finals consisted of Kouros Annsarizadeh, Oliver Clark, Matthew Ansell and Reuben Webster.

**CAPTAIN – Jordan Simpson/Sam Archer**

**RESULT – 1<sup>st</sup> in a group of 5 (Qualification) / 6<sup>th</sup> in a group of 8 (National Finals)**

### **12U Boys**

The 12's boys travelled to Bury, Lancashire to compete in what would be a close weekend of matches. In ties that could have gone either way, the boys lost two shootout matches against East of Scotland and North of Scotland but competed well in both. After beating Cheshire, they lost another set of tightly fought matches to Lancashire which saw them finish middle of the group over the weekend. The team consisted of Sam Knowles, Dan Burn, Jacob Beard, Alex Nice and Alastair McLeod

**CAPTAIN – Jordan Simpson**

**RESULT – 3<sup>rd</sup> in a group of 5.**

### **NORTHUMBERLAND TENNIS AWARDS 2018**

<b>AWARD</b>	<b>RECIPIENT</b>
Most improved Junior (Male)	Sam Knowles
Most Improved Junior (Female)	Teodora Prisadnikova
Individual Performance of the Year	Abby Kelliher
Education Award of the Year	Grange First School
Team of the Year	Ponteland Ladies First Team
Coach of the Year	Tracy Smith
Junior Volunteer of the Year	Christopher Jeffery
Adult Volunteer of the Year	David Pope
Young Competition Organiser of the Year	Jack Lackenby
Club of the Year	Beverley Park Tennis Club
Gordon Brewis Service to Tennis Award	Graeme Manwell
Ann Horler Memorial Salver	Aimee Knowles
Meritorious Service To Tennis Award	Keith Whitfield
Lifetime Achievement Award	Robin Robinson

**Sport Newcastle Open 2018**

<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Winner</u></b>	<b><u>Runner Up</u></b>
8U Boys Singles	Samuel Walker	Lucas Hart
9U Boys Singles	Oliver Barlow	Harry Cameron – Clarke
9U Girls Singles	Elisha Lax	Grace Fisher
10U Boys Singles	Toby Grant	Joseph McLaughlin
14U Boys Singles	Sam Knowles	Paul Freeman
14U Girls Singles	Abby Kelliher	Jessica Hart
14U Boys Doubles	Alex & Matthew Nice	Jacob Beard & Dan Burn
18U Girls Singles	Kirstin McLeod	Emily Allison
Men's Singles	Michael Seed	Ronan Lunn

## The Northumberland Open 2018 Results

Event	Position	Name(s)
Open Mens Singles	Winner	James Story
	Runner up	Benjamin Lott
Open Womens Singles	Winner	Emma Wilson
	Runner up	Lillian Mould
Open Mens Doubles	Winner	Joseph Newman-Billington & Euan Wilson-Baig
	Runner up	Stephen Gilbert & Andre Thorpe
Open Womens Doubles	Winner	Stephanie Booth & Emma Wilson
	Runner up	Amy Hoburn & Lauren Jones
Open Mixed Doubles	Winner	Adam Barratclough & Amy Hoburn
	Runner up	Ben Lott & Emma Wilson
55+ Mens Singles	Winner	Trevor Herron
	Runner up	Michael Eggleston
45+ Mens Singles	Winner	Andrew Steel
	Runner up	William Ip
Womens Evening Singles	Winner	Cara Todd
	Runner up	Beth Laybourne
Mens Evening Singles	Winner	David Esther
	Runner up	Benjamin Holroyd
Ladies Handicap Singles	Winner	Margaret French
	Runner up	Rachel Salthouse
Men's Handicap Singles	Winner	William Ip
	Runner up	Imran Kirby
Men's Handicap Doubles	Winner	Trent Ackhurst & Ken Forster
	Runner up	Neil Humpleby & Andy Wilson
Women's Handicap Doubles	Winner	Svetlana Freeman-Zakharchenko & Rachel Knowles
	Runner up	Sue Howie & Lou Robinson
Mixed Handicap Doubles	Winner	Rodney Hall & Jane Cockburn
	Runner up	Neil Humpleby & Liza Oliver
Family Handicap Doubles	Winner	Benjamin Kelliher & Abby Kelliher
	Runner up	Sam Knowles & Rachel Knowles
18U Girls Singles	Winner	Olivia French
	Runner up	Anna McBride
18U Boys Singles	Winner	Eliot Glaysher
	Runner up	Lewis Scott
18U Mixed Doubles	Winner	Lewis Scott & Beth Laybourne
	Runner up	Luke Laws & Cara Todd
18U Girls Doubles	Winner	Megan Almond & Olivia French
	Runner up	Elena Baughman-Saunders & Anna McBride



18U Boys Doubles	Winner	Luke Laws & Matthew Telford
	Runner up	Christopher Jeffery & Lewis Scott
16U Girls Singles	Winner	Elena Baughman-Saunders
	Runner up	Chantal Griffiths
16U Boys Singles	Winner	Gareth Rickaby
	Runner up	Matthew Nice
16U Boys Doubles	Winner	Matthew Nice & Gareth Rickaby
	Runner up	Tom Davies & Callum Macleod
14U Girls Singles	Winner	Abby Kelliher
	Runner up	Chantal Griffiths
14U Boys Singles	Winner	Michael Mcdougall
	Runner up	William Gibson
14U Girls Doubles	Winner	Jessica Hart & Abby Kelliher
	Runner up	Isobel Le Clerc & Annique Varty
14U Boys Doubles	Winner	William Gibson & Michael Mcdougall
	Runner up	Marcus Jeffery & Ryan Scaman
12U Girls Singles	Winner	Abby Kelliher
	Runner up	Isobel Le Clerc
12U Boys Singles	Winner	Ben Wrann
	Runner up	Sam Knowles
12U Girls Doubles	Winner	Jessica Hart & Abby Kelliher
	Runner up	Isobel Le Clerc & Annique Varty
12U Boys Doubles	Winner	Adam Clunie & Daniel Smailes
	Runner up	James Duffy & Ben Wrann
10U Boys Singles	Winner	Kouros Anssarizadeh
	Runner up	Toby Grant
9U Girls Singles	Winner	Lara Savic
	Runner up	Rachael Szeto
9U Boys Singles	Winner	Benjamin Rudkin
	Runner up	Oliver Barlow
8U Girls Singles	Winner	Amelie Atchia
	Runner up	Olivia Welsh
8U Boys Singles	Winner	Logan Mccluskey
	Runner up	Jacob Atchia

### **The Northumberland County Closed 2018**

<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>
Mens Singles	Winner	Ronan Lunn
	Runner up	Roman Stepanov
18U Girls Doubles	Winner	E. Baughman-Saunders & L. Clark
	Runner up	E. Allison & Lydia Smith
18U Boys Doubles	Winner	C. Jeffery & R. Lunn
	Runner up	B. Cartmell & C. Cartmell
18U Boys Singles	Winner	Ronan Lunn
	Runner up	Gareth Rickaby
16U Girls Singles	Winner	Abby Kelliher
	Runner Up	Lydia Smith
16U Girls Doubles	Winner	E. Baughman-Saunders & L. Clark
	Runner Up	E. Charlton & K. McLeod
16U Boys Singles	Winner	Gareth Rickaby
	Runner up	Ronan Lunn
16U Boys Doubles	Winner	R. Lunn & M. Nice
	Runner up	M. Jeffery & G. Rickaby
14U Boys Doubles	Winner	M. Jeffery & M. Nice
	Runner up	P. Freeman & S. Knowles
14U Girls Singles	Winner	Emily Allison
	Runner up	Abby Kelliher
14U Boys Singles	Winner	Marcus Jeffery
	Runner up	Sam Knowles
12U Boys Doubles	Winner	J. Beard & S. Knowles
	Runner up	O. Cass & A. McLeod
12U Girls Singles	Winner	Teodora Prisadnikova
	Runner up	Elizabeth Graham
12U Boys Singles	Winner	Sam Knowles
	Runner up	Oliver Cass
10U Girls Singles	Winner	Lilly-May Tod
(best placed in 10U Mixed event)		
10U Boys Singles	Winner	Matthew Ansell
	Runner up	Stephen Wilkinson
9U Girls Singles	Winner	Nikoletta Rozsavolgyi
(best placed in 9U Mixed event)	Runner up	Amelie Atchia
9U Boys Singles	Winner	Ben Beard
	Runner up	Alexander Khomenko
8U Boys Singles	Winner	Adam Mason
	Runner up	Joshua Dowdell
8U Girls Singles	Winner	Amelie Atchia
(best placed in 8U Mixed event)	Runner up	Olivia Welsh