

# December News 2018

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## Our Tennis Club



### A Message from our Club President/Secretary - David

How do you measure the success of a tennis club?

Growing member numbers? Thriving junior membership? Successful teams? Financial stability? Sound management? First rate coaching?

I'm sure you could add to that list if you gave it some thought. The good news is, at Davenport LTC, we've got all those things, and many more qualities that make our Club stand out from the crowd.

Above all, though, it's the people at DLTC that make the Club the success that it is.

By the way (in case you didn't know) that success was recognised again by Cheshire LTA with the award for the second year running of runner up in the County Club of the Year

Award. We must be the County's premier four-court club - we only seem to be pipped to the post by much larger venues! But I digress - back to the people.

I see the Club as an inverted pyramid (if you can imagine that!) with the General Committee propping everything up - the Tennis Committee, the Bar and Catering Committees, the Junior Committee, the Facilities Committee - all driven by volunteers to support the much bigger group at the top - the members!

A personal thank you to all the volunteers and Committee members who have contributed to the success of the Club in 2018 and special thanks also to two people who keep our club tidy, inside and out - Pam Sykes and David Longden.

I couldn't end without mentioning one other person - I'm sure you know who I mean. We are privileged to have Ben Bush at our Club. What a contribution he has made - not only to our coaching programmes but also to the life of the Club, and with such enthusiasm and commitment to help us all improve. Ben is also a fine ambassador for the Club and as a two-time back to back Cheshire Coach of the Year (well done again Ben!) we are proud to have him on our team.

I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and that 2019 is kind to us all.

## A message from our Club Captain – Ruth

What a year 2018 has been for our club!

And it's all down to the committees, the coach, the members, the team captains and the volunteers who make our club so special so a big thank you to you all for everything you do for the club!

Some of the highlights include:

\_Ben collecting his award at the Northern for his Club of the year award;



\_A successful and very busy Great British Tennis Weekend where lots of new junior and senior members took to the courts;



\_Hosting my first Captain's Day Tournament;



\_Great team success in the winter and summer leagues – more promotions and best-ever finishes;

\_Joe G designing our new logo and seeing our club merchandise be launched;

\_Lots of people playing in our handicap and open tournaments and a smashing end of season do to celebrate success and give out the much coveted Marjories Awards;

\_Busy social Saturdays and some stand out costumes at the Halloween Tournament – can you guess who behind the mask;



And just finally we ended the year with our Mulled Wine and Christmas jumper tournament – with prices kindly donated by Colin Reynolds in celebration of his birthday

I hope you all have a great Christmas and see you on the courts in 2019!



**A Message from our Coach Ben**

**North East Cheshire League**

Multiple success for our Junior Teams this year with 2 Teams finishing as Division Champions and another team gaining promotion. This really highlights the improvement of our players and the depth we have across the different age groups:

Team	Final Standings	Notes
U13 Boys A	2 <sup>nd</sup> in Div 2	Promotion gained for the 2 <sup>nd</sup> time in 2 seasons
U13 Boys B	7 <sup>TH</sup> in Div 3	Lots of experience gained for a young team
U15 Boys A	1 <sup>st</sup> in Div 2	Undefeated CHAMPIONS – only dropping 4 sets all season
U15 Boys B	1 <sup>st</sup> in Div 3	CHAMPIONS – tied with Urmston on points and sets. This one went down to game difference.
U18 Mixed	5 <sup>th</sup> in Div 1	Tough matches against the bigger clubs

**Touch Tennis Tournament**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> November we hosted our first Touch Tennis Tournament – a fun event played on mini courts with smaller rackets and low compression balls. Over 20 players battled it out under the floodlights. Results were as follows:

<b>U13 Winner</b>	<b>U13 Runner-Up</b>
Sam Adkins	Ben Sturgess
<b>U18 Winner</b>	<b>U18 Runner-Up</b>
Lewis Wilson	Max White



**Tie-Break Tens Awards**

12 tournaments ran across the summer at various clubs with a Tie-Break Tens Format. Davenport hosted 2 of these events. A Grand Prix Points Table ran throughout the summer - Players scored points for each event they enter and extra points for matches played and won. Prizes were awarded at Junior North East Cheshire League AGM in November – Big Nights for DLTC!!!:

Most Points across all Female Players	Olivia Firth (Davenport LTC)
Most Points across all Male Players	Elliot Bentham (Davenport LTC)
Most Points across all Clubs	Davenport LTC

**YES – WE CLEANED UP!!!**



Elliot and Olivia were presented with their awards and a cheque of £70 was awarded to the DLTC Juniors.

The u15 Boys were also presented with their league winning trophies. The photo shows some of our awesome winners!



### Junior Finals Day - 29<sup>th</sup> September

The weather was kind to us this year and the day ran with great success. A big thank you to Hayley and Joe for running a well-received BBQ. An extra age group (u8s) was added to the line-up this year. We had the biggest entry yet across the qualifying matches.



### Winter League - New Mini Tennis Teams!!

Winter League Team Tennis is well underway. DLTC are being represented by two u16 teams, an u14 team and new u10 and u8 teams. Lots of experience gained by our new players through some wins and some tough losses. Here's some photos of our u10 & u8 players from the action so far:



## Junior/Senior Tournament – 11 August

This popular event saw Davenport members - young and old team up in a fun but competitive doubles tournament. Great performances from the juniors and to many peoples surprise the adults managed to keep up!

Our winners and Runners up from the day:

U10 Winner – Aidan Harrison

U10 Runner-up – Imogen Millington

U13 Winner – Ben Sturgess

U13 Runner-up – Sam Adkins

U15 Winner – Josh Adkins

U15 Runner-up – James Doyle



### **Congratulations to all our champions:**

#### **8&U Girls**

**W:** Imogen Millington & **RU:** Rowen Healy

#### **8&U Boys**

**W:** Aidan Harrison & **RU:** George Atherfold

#### **10&U Girls**

**W:** Jess Pennington & **RU:** Mia Fullerton

#### **10&U Boys**

**W:** Ben Sturgess & **RU:** Alex Daughney

#### **13&U Girls**

**W:** Jess Pennington & **RU:** Alice Baggot

#### **13&U Boys**

**W:** Owen Firth & **RU:** Elliot Bentham

#### **15&U Girls**

**W:** Amelia Holland & **RU:** Alice Baggot

#### **15&U Boys**

**W:** Tom Clare & **RU:** Josh Adkins

#### **18&U Girls**

**W:** Olivia Firth & **RU:** Hannah Stead

#### **18&U Boys**

**W:** Thomas Pennington & **RU:** Max White



## **Club Finals Day**

**Thanks to everyone who took part in our Open Tournaments in September.**

**The winners were:**

The Ladies Doubles  
Charlotte Sykes & Josie Saville



The Mixed Doubles  
Charlotte Sykes & Jack Bell



The Over 50s Singles  
Jim Gibbs



The Men's Doubles  
Lewis Wilson & Paul Meredith



## 2018 End of Season Awards night

We had so much to celebrate across the club this year, from Senior Team and Junior Team success to the Annual Marjories Awards that celebrate all the things we love about club and its members.

### Senior Awards

#### Ladies Teams Players of the Season:

1<sup>st</sup> Team – Annie Fletcher

2<sup>nd</sup> Team – All the players had a fantastic season which resulted in a 3<sup>rd</sup> successive promotion for our Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> Team: Emma West, Sue Beales, Juliette Kendall, Hayley Millington, Laura Millington, Rosie Scarll and Olivia Firth



3<sup>rd</sup> Team – Johanna Crowther

#### Men's Teams Players of the season:

1<sup>st</sup> Team – Adam Tomlinson

2<sup>nd</sup> Team – Jem Bentham

3<sup>rd</sup> team – Nathan Scarll

4<sup>th</sup> Team – Ian Stanyer

5<sup>th</sup> Team – Max White





**Junior Tennis**

**Mini Players most improved**

Rowen Healy & Aiden Harrison

**Most Improved Junior**

Jess Pennington & Owen Firth

**Best competitor**

Archie O'Reilly & Thomas Kendall

**Sportsmanship**

Max White & Tom Pennington

**Teams**

U15 Boys A Team & U15 Boys B Team



**Most Improved Social Player – Charlotte Shaughnessy**





contribution to this outstanding result so congratulations to Chris, Joe, Paul S, Paul M, Steve, Stuart, Jack, Ben and Adam.



**DLTC personality of the year – Ruth Connor**



This meant there were several contenders for overall performance of the year:

**Ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> team** - 3<sup>rd</sup> straight promotion on the run

**Jack Bell** – successful singles year, including winning the Club Tournament, victories in Acton Cup matches and winning the Lancashire Men's Adult Circuit Tournament

**Under 12 Boys Winter League Team** - who triumphed in a hard-fought match against Bramhall Lane A Team where they won in a tiebreak shout out.

But the winners were the **Men's 1<sup>st</sup> Team** - who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in Division 1 which is their best -ever finish. Despite Paul Shawcross getting injured early in the season, second team players stepped and everyone made a huge

**DLTC Lifetime Achievement Award – Dave Longden**



**President's award for best set performance went to:**



Men's Runner Up: Adam Tomlinson  
Men's Winner: Lewis Wilson



Hey Big Spender at the Bar Award – Dave Pennington



Ladies Runner Up: Rosie Scarll



Lleyton Hewitt award for most time spent in physio – Paul Shawcross

Jelly Belly Keen Bean Award – Joel & Bernie



Ladies Winner: Charlotte Sykes



Slumberland award for laziest player – Rick Moleneaux



DLTC Evening News Award for overuse of WhatsApp –Rick Wilkinson  
John McEnroe award for angriest player – Tony Morse

The 2018 Marjories Awards:

**Jamie Oliver award for best match supper –**  
Kirsty Mottershead's triple cooked ham



**Hawkeye Award for best line calls –** Elaine Hallworth



**Fashion Show award for worst dressed player –** Ian's Stanyer's headband



**Mary Berry award for best Saturday cakes –**  
Ruth's victoria sponge



**Nobody Likes a show off award –** Adam Tomlinson

## Coaches Tip of the Month

**How can I avoid being lobbed when I come into the net?**

Generally speaking, your opponent will cause more damage with the lob if they have a good opportunity to execute it well. The quality of your approach shot (or serve) could deny them of that opportunity. Put one or more of the following ingredients into your approach shots (or serves):

1. hit deep
2. get your opponent off-balance
3. serve at the body to 'jam' your opponent
4. use slice to keep the ball low
5. aim at your opponent's weaker wing

For help on this or any other coaching information contact Ben now on 07966 973901 or [bbushtennis@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bbushtennis@yahoo.co.uk).

## January 2019 Coaching Programme Starting w/c 7<sup>th</sup> Jan

**Bookings are now open for the following coaching groups:**

**Mondays:**

4.30-5.30pm – 9-11yrs Green Group

5.30-6.30pm – U13/15yrs Group

Wednesdays:

3.45-4.30pm – 3-5yrs Tots Tennis

4.30-5.30pm – 5-8yrs Mini Red

Thursdays:

4.30-5.30pm – U13/15yrs Group

Fridays:

4.30-5.30pm – 5-8yrs Mini Red

5.30-6.30pm – U18yrs Group

7-8pm – Cardio Tennis

Saturdays:

1-2pm – Adult Group

Places are limited and offered on a first come first served basis. Call Ben for more information.

### Social Tennis

If you are new to the club or just haven't got round to joining in any of the social tennis, either on Tuesday or Thursday evenings from 7.00pm or on Saturday afternoons please come and join in. All abilities are welcome and it is an excellent way to get to know more people at the club. There is usually an organiser about so just make yourself known. Don't hesitate, you'll enjoy it once you start.

### Christmas Jumper and Mulled Wine Tournament

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 21 members enjoyed our annual Christmas tournament.

The prizes were very kindly donated by Colin Reynolds in honour of his birthday.

The winners were Rosie and Joel, the runners up Helen and Luke. And Lorraine and Tony won prizes for best Christmas spirit. Thanks to Dave and Nathan for organising it, and everyone who helped with the mulled wine and mince pies.



### Highlights of 2018





Cheshire Club of the Year Finalist 2017 and 2018



If you would like an item putting into the newsletter please email [julia@goodstadt.me.uk](mailto:julia@goodstadt.me.uk) or [angelaruthconnor@hotmail.com](mailto:angelaruthconnor@hotmail.com)

Cheshire Club of the Year Finalist 2017 and 2018



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