

Honours Presentations

2023/2024





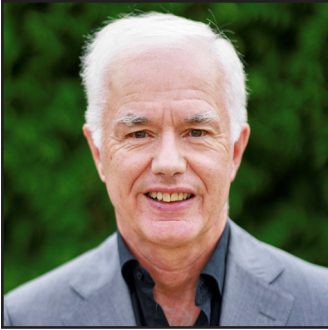
Graham Frankel

For his service to archives and governance as well as in Essex

Graham has been involved in table tennis continuously since 1962, initially as a player (in local leagues and representative competitions until 2011), as a coach (first qualifying in 1973 and requalifying as a Level 2 licensed coach in 2013), and as a tournament organiser since 2013.

In 2012, he began an extensive period of research into the history of table tennis in the UK (mainly covering the period from around 1950), which resulted in two books published in 2020 and 2021.

He has a BA Hons Psychology from Hull University and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development. His career has been mainly as a human resources generalist, working primarily with scientists. Since 2004 he has worked independently through his company Genesis HR Ltd.



Neil Hurford

for his service as Chair of Members Advisory Group, on Committees notably County Championships as well as National Councillor for Oxfordshire

Neil has played table tennis for over 50 years and has played in over 12 local leagues across the country – from Lancashire and Yorkshire in the North to Oxfordshire and Berkshire in the South.

He has also played in the County Championships at Junior, Veteran and Over-60s levels.

Volunteer Roles

1984-85: General Secretary, Hertfordshire

1986-94: Secretary Eastern Region Coaching Panel

2003-24: Chair, Oxfordshire

2014-24: National Councillor (Oxfordshire)

2017-18: Member of the Review Group on Governance

2019-23: Chair, Members Advisory Group

2019-24: County Championships Administrator & Over-60s Premier Weekend Organiser

2023-2024: Chair, National Council

2024: Chair, County Championships

2021-23: Member of Rules Committee

2024: Member of Articles & Regulations Committee

2023-24: Member of the Competition Committee

2023-24: Member of the South-East Area Local Organising Committee

Awards

2018: Ivor Montagu Award

2023: Pride of Table Tennis, Volunteer of the Year (South Region)



Linda Jarvis

for her service as an England International, notably winning gold and silver medals in the 1976 European Table Tennis Championships Women's Doubles and Team respectively as well as representing England four times at the World Team Championships

Linda first started playing table tennis with sister Sue at a young age and went on to represent England juniors at age 13 then on to the seniors, making over 250 appearances, including playing in four World Championships and five Europeans.

Domestically, she won 12 National titles plus a number of Commonwealth titles, including:

1973 - European Junior Mixed Doubles gold medal with Des Douglas

1976 - European Women's Doubles gold medal with Jill Hammersley (Parker)

1976 - European Team Event silver medal

1980 - European Mixed Doubles silver medal with Des Douglas

Reached a highest ranking of 12 in Europe.

Linda married Nick Jarvis in 1979 and the couple have two boys and four grandchildren.



Mathew Kenny

*for his service with British Para Table Tennis,
notably as a Coach at four Paralympic Games*

Mat's journey with table tennis began at the age of nine, representing England in the cadets and juniors, with some experiences on the senior national team as well.

These formative years were marked by notable achievements, including a national junior singles title, two boys' doubles titles, and two mixed doubles titles.

At 19, he transitioned from playing competitively to coaching, starting as a part-time sparring assistant coach with England's juniors and cadets and becoming a full-time coach for the Great Britain Paralympic squad, a role which has taken him to the Beijing, London, Rio, and Tokyo Paralympic Games.

Currently part of the GB Paralympic table tennis squad coaching and support staff team at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield.

Mat says: "Accepting the Table Tennis

England Vice President Award is a profound honour. This recognition is particularly special because my father, Jim Kenny, received this award several years ago. Sharing this achievement with him is a source of immense pride for our family.

"I would like to extend a special thank you to Gorazd Vecko, the performance director, whose unwavering support and guidance have been instrumental in my coaching journey. I have learned so much from him, and his mentorship has been invaluable."



Kim Mudge-Johnson

for her service as a Technical Official as well as Regional Chair for South East.

Kim started at the age of 13 and played in the Silvertown league, East London, captaining her first Fellows Cranleigh team at 16 and becoming Essex County No 1 and champion at Junior & Senior levels.

She represented England 'B' in the 1980 Schools Six Nations U19s and reached the Senior Top 20 in England.

After breaking her shoulder in 1987 playing cricket, she became a Special Constable, rising to Inspector in her 20 years of service, and also volunteered as a National Hockey umpire.

Reconstruction surgery allowed a return to top level table tennis at 40, where Kim soon became Kent Senior & Veterans champion, English and VETTS Nationals Doubles champion and singles runner-up between 2004 and 2007, once again being selected for England at the Veterans Six Nations in 2004-2008 before a serious back injury on duty once again stopped her.

Kim is best known for her years of volunteering in every aspect of the game. She has held posts such as Surrey County Chairman and Coach, Chair of South East Region, Tournament Approval Panel Secretary and VETTS Tournament Organiser.

She is also a Tournament Referee and International Umpire, and has umpired at a number of events abroad, as well as England Internationals, the 2022 Commonwealth Games and the Para European championships 2023.



Peter Simpson

for his service as Northern Staff Coach and National Team Coach

Peter, who was born in Leeds in 1934, joined All Souls Youth Club, where he started playing table tennis.

Leaving school at 15, he commenced a career as a tailor which lasted 20 years. He joined Leeds Central YMCA, which gave him more time to concentrate on his table tennis. This is where he met his future wife Pat, who he married in July 1957. He also met his lifelong mentor Alan Thompson, who introduced him to coaching.

Peter joined Victoria Table Tennis Club in 1951, it was here where he met Jack Carrington. Critically, it was also the time where he recognised he was a good local player, however, his expertise was in coaching.

Peter excelled and was National Coach for many years. In this time, his achievements were numerous, leading England and individual players to major honours.

Peter continued to coach locally and

globally. He is also author of three published books on table tennis.

Peter still resides in the family home in Otley, where he shared 65 years of marriage with Pat before her passing in 2022. He enjoys regular visits from his son Ian and his wife Amanda, as well as his grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Steve Smith

for his service as a Technical Official and on Competitions and Technical Officials Committees

With his father playing in many local leagues, with roles on various committees and running one of the largest clubs in the Birmingham League, it was inevitable that Steve would join the table tennis family at a young age.

Initial experience of tournaments began with local league championships and by age 17 had joined the Birmingham League Committee.

In 2006 became a member of Cippenham TTC and immediately got involved in open tournaments, playing regularly in Grands Prix and helping organise Cippenham's tournaments; quickly progressing to refereeing and spending four years as Cippenham's Events Officer.

National Referee status attained in 2009, he began refereeing Grand Prix and National Championship events.

The 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games kicked off Steve's

international experience and saw him become an International Umpire in 2014, qualifying as International Referee in 2022.

In addition to his national and international commitments, Steve still enjoys refereeing for the RAF and Inter-Services. He has also served on the Technical Officials' and Competition Committees.

Significant International Appointments:

2012 London Olympic Games (Assistant)
2012 London Paralympic Games (Assistant)
2014 Primary School International
2014 Cadet Six Nations International
2015 Jersey Island Games
2019 Gibraltar Island Games
2023 Dusseldorf WTT Feeder
2023 European U13 Championships (Zagreb)
2023 European Para Championships (Sheffield)
2024 Primary School International
2024 Home Nations Senior International

Keith Ponting President's Memorial Award

For exceptionally long and outstanding service to Table Tennis England



Richard Scruton

for his long and outstanding service to Table Tennis England

Richard is an Honorary Life Member of Table Tennis England (2005), having previously become a Vice-President in 1999. He won the Ivor Montagu Award in 1991.

As a player, he competed in the Harrogate League Closed from 1967, and organised the competition from 1971. He was Harrogate League Assistant Secretary from 1972 and Secretary from 1974.

He played league division 1 level in Harrogate, Leeds, York, Northallerton, Middlesbrough, Stockton-on-Tees, Darlington and London Banks/Civil Service.

Among his many roles with the ETTA and Table Tennis England, he was Deputy Chair (elected 2013), a member of the Management Committee, Chair of the Marketing Committee, Chair of the Tournaments Committee, Chair of the National Umpires and Referees Committee (member since 1978) a

member of the National Championships Committee and a member of the Honours Committee.

In Yorkshire, he was elected to the county committee in 1974 and has been Social Secretary, Handbook Editor, Tournaments Secretary, Competitions Secretary, Umpires Secretary and Treasurer. He received the County Special Badge Award in 1986 and the Leslie E Forrest Memorial Award in 2005 and was appointed President in 2019.

As an official, he qualified as a County Umpire (1970), National Umpire (1975), International Umpire (1977), National Referee (1978) and International Referee (1991).

Tournaments refereed:

19 National Championships (1979-2007)

5 English Opens

Olympic Games Athens 2004

Keith Ponting President's Memorial Award

For exceptionally long and outstanding service to Table Tennis England

Commonwealth Games Manchester
2002

European Youth Championships 2000,
2001, 2002, 2003, 2004

ITTF World Cup 1991

Commonwealth Championships Jaipur
2007

Olympic test events Barcelona and
Athens

Paralympic qualification event
Johannesburg 1999

Deputy Referee ITTF World
Championships 1985, 2000, 2003

Other roles:

Venue Manager, European
Championships Birmingham 1994

Venue Manager, World Championships
Manchester 1997

Table Tennis Manager, Commonwealth
Championships Glasgow 2009

LOCOG Table Tennis Manager, Olympic
Games and Paralympic Games London
2012

European Table Tennis Union
(ETTU) Secretary General December
2013-December 2022

ITTF Technical Delegate: Olympic Games



Rio 2016, Commonwealth Games
Birmingham 2022

ETTU Technical Delegate: European
Games Krakow 2023

Treasurer, Swaythling Club International
(elected 2018)



Steve Pratt

for his service on the Members Advisory Group and Nominations Committee

Steve's introduction to table tennis was in the mid 1960s, playing for Rothborough in the Kettering and District league, where he won just two matches in his first league season.

Moving to Portishead in 1987, he immediately joined Portishead Table Tennis Club and has been playing in the Bristol & District League ever since.

After being on the Portishead TTC committee for some years he became the welfare officer and worked on various club policies to support work towards the Clubmark accreditation status.

Appointed to the Members' Advisory Group (MAG) in early 2019 and given a background in working with volunteers, he became heavily involved in the volunteer project and also represented MAG on the shortlisting and interview panels for Table Tennis England Directors appointments, as well as the current Chief Executive appointment.

On the local front, Steve also joined the Bat & Chat session at SGS in Bristol, became chairman of Portishead Table Tennis Club and continued to support young players and coaches and parents at National Junior League and Bristol Junior League events.

His current aim is to help PTTC play in their home town as they currently have to play in two local village halls outside of Portishead.



Adrian Christy

for his service developing and supporting the successful bid for the World Team Championships 2026

Adrian joined Table Tennis England in December 2021 and immediately saw the potential to grow the game.

Along with the Senior Leadership Team, Adrian drafted a new strategy, *Table Tennis United*, and significant progress is already being made.

A new Area Network means the sport is connected to more clubs, leagues, coaches and volunteers at local level; the talent and performance programme has begun to establish a network of Pathway Development Centres and an Elite Training Centre has opened at the EISS Sheffield, paving the way for the development of talented English, and British players and coaches.

Adrian has developed a groundbreaking partnership with the ITTF and WTT in order to support the ambition for table tennis to be more visible through the hosting of major events.

In August 2023, Adrian led the

successful bid to stage the World Team Table Tennis Championships in London in 2026 and, in February 2024, England hosted the first ever WTT event in this country, with more major international table tennis events planned next year - the major event strategy will continue to be a catalyst for further reach and engagement with a growing fanbase.

Adrian continues to oversee the reforms of Table Tennis England's governance structure to ensure the organisation is leaner, more efficient and effective and is sufficiently agile to support the ambitions of our strategy.



Tony Dias

for his service to the County Championships on behalf of Middlesex

Tony's journey in table tennis began at a young age in Mumbai, India, where he was actively involved both as a player and in the administrative side of the sport, at 17 taking charge of organising the local parish's championships.

He emigrated to the UK in 1986 and integrated into the table tennis community, playing in leagues such as Dulwich and North Middlesex for several years before taking a sabbatical from the sport.

Moving to Uxbridge in 1997, he played in the Wembley & Harrow Table Tennis League for Eastcote. In 2007, he joined the Management Committee of the League, initially as the Summer League Secretary. Over the years, he took on additional responsibilities, including the roles of Knock Out Cup Secretary and eventually Closed Championship Secretary. In 2010, he assumed the role of Chair of the League, a position he still holds.

Beyond the local league, he has been a member of the Middlesex Table Tennis Association since 2009 and served in various capacities, from Press and Website Secretary to County Match Secretary across different age categories.

He has been the Honorary County Secretary of the Association since 2018 and in 2019 took on the role of Organiser of the Junior & Senior Premier Divisions in the County Championships and became a member of the County Championships Committee.

Level 1 Coach and Level 2 umpire, Tony is working towards completing the Tournament Organiser qualification.

He has established a table tennis club based in West Harrow.



Johnathon Driscoll

for his work in London especially on the Jack Petchey projects and competitions

Johnathon is an avid sports fanatic and has been involved in table tennis in some capacity for over 20 years, as a player and committee member of his local club in Northamptonshire, after being introduced to the sport at the age of 11 by an aunt and uncle.

As a Sports Development and Management graduate with more than 10 years' experience, he has passion for using sport as a vehicle to change people's lives.

He has worked for Table Tennis England for five-and-a-half years across many roles and projects, from working closely with clubs, leagues and partners to being involved with the TT Kidz initiative, the Pride of Table Tennis Awards and more recently working on the Jack Petchey Foundation programme.

He still plays table tennis at a local level and was captain of the Chesterwell TTC

team which won Division One of the Wellingborough and District League in the 23/24 season.

Victor Barna Award

For the most notable performance by an English player

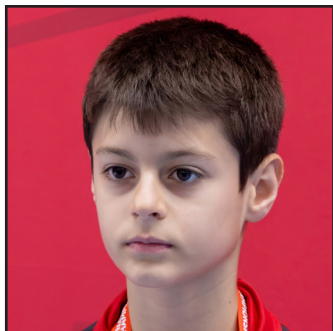


Tom Jarvis

for beating Jonathan Groth, number 28 in the World, in the WTT Stockholm Feeder in the year he won his second Senior National Championships Singles title

Johnny Leach MBE Most Improved England Player of the Year Award

For a player representing England



Abraham Sellado and Dimitar Dimitrov

for their gold medal success in WTT Youth events
