

Honours Presentations

2025/2026



For his service to club and coach development nationally, notably at eBaTT TTC

Sometimes all it takes is a single moment to change everything. Aged 13 or 14, I was inspired by a film called *Forrest Gump*. The film struck a particular chord with me because, in society's eyes, I was often seen as an incapable child. Yet here was a story that celebrated dreaming big, something I possessed then and still do today.

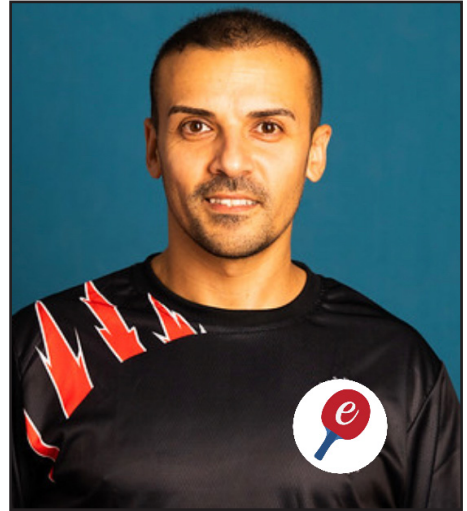
After watching the film, I instinctively decided/knew table tennis was my calling. I engrossed myself in the game/sport and a superpower in my brain began to emerge.

It became clear to me, determination and the pursuit of excellence (for me) can be acquired through this special sport. I imagined a future where I would achieve great things as a player.

While my journey did not unfold exactly as I had envisioned, it led me to something far more meaningful: dedicating my life to helping others achieve their ambitions through table tennis.

For over 25 years, I have been privileged to work across every level of the game, from community centres and schools to performance programmes and national teams. Regardless of the environment, my goal has always remained the same: to elevate both the player and the overall experience of table tennis for everyone involved.

Today, as a coach and full-time table tennis centre (eBaTT) owner, with a second centre soon to open, I take great pride in seeing players, coaches and communities flourish. However, the greatest joy for me is not measured by medals or rankings. It comes from seeing people of all ages, backgrounds



and abilities united through table tennis; competing, learning from one another and elevating each other in an atmosphere of respect, peace and harmony.

If I have achieved anything in the sport, it is helping to create opportunities for others to grow, belong and discover what table tennis can bring to their lives.

For his service as a volunteer in roles at national and international competitions including Olympics and Paralympics

My journey within table tennis started after I had sold my business in 2012 and was available to volunteer at the Paralympics 2012, when I was randomly chosen as a volunteer for table tennis, despite being an avid squash player at the time.

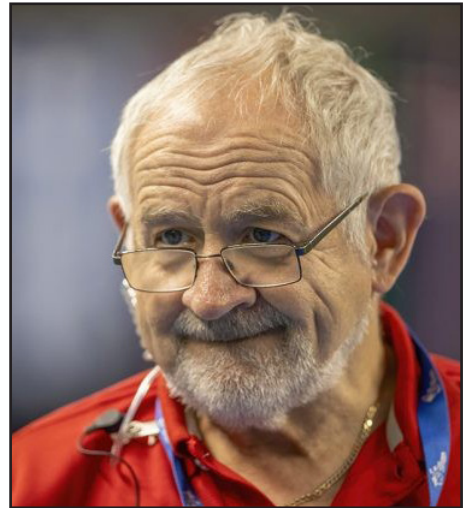
At the London Paralympics I had the free time to enable me to do double shifts when they were short of volunteers, and as a result was invited to be Call Room Manager at the Para European Championships.

Since then, I have volunteered as Call Room/Field of Play Manager at table tennis events all around the world, including Olympics/Paralympics in Rio (2016) and Paris (2024). I have had the same roles at National Championships, Commonwealth Games, World Championships and European Championships, in countries including Denmark, Italy, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Australia and Slovenia, as well as at this year's World Team Championships in London.

I'm also heavily involved with organising British Para Table Tennis Competitions around the UK with Daniel Bullen.

Since 2018, I have become a regular TT player and last year I qualified as an umpire and this year I qualified as a Referee.

It's safe to say that my life now revolves around table tennis.



For his service to club and coach development nationally, notably at Fusion TTC



For his service as Regional Chair South West and as a Board member

Jos has a successful background in the corporate world with world-class companies including Xerox, Kodak and Konica Minolta.

He steadily climbed the ranks through a variety of interesting roles encompassing sales, technical specialisms and various managerial roles until being elevated to board level with responsibility for operations in excess of £100 million.

In recent years Jos has had his own business consultancy. This has seen him supporting companies of varying sizes, providing start-up services to aspiring entrepreneurs, and also working with charities and not-for-profits all with a universal objective to become better organisations.

Jos' involvement in the administrative side of table tennis developed through local league to the county association, organising county and schools' competitions, county General Secretary, National Councillor, member of the Select Committee and Chair of the South West Region.

He co-founded the Somerset Sabres Table Tennis Club out of a local school and helped it grow, fielding teams in local league, to British League, right through to the European Trophy competition.

He is also an enthusiastic TT parent which has regularly taken him to the whole gamut of competitions all over the country for much of the last decade.



For her service as an England international, Senior National Singles Champion five times with 16 national titles overall, European and Commonwealth medallist and as a coach

I began playing table tennis at the age of six on board the QE2 with my parents on a world cruise.

I was national champion at every age group from the onset of under-11 category through to senior.

I was England's number one senior for five consecutive years; won 5x English Women's Singles winner; won a total of 16 Senior English national titles; was a European and Commonwealth medallist and represented my country at multiple European and World Championships.

I was the youngest player to represent England Senior Women's Team, which was featured in the *Guinness Book of Records*.

I was awarded Female Coach of the Year 2003.

I Pioneered the first ever University of Nottingham table tennis academy as Director of Table Tennis.

I now continue to promote the sport with coaching courses where I am able to share my journey to help others.



For his service to club and coach development nationally notably at Nottingham TTC and as a Technical Official

Jason's table tennis journey began at age 14 at an RAF youth club in Germany.

After returning to Newark, he became a multiple Newark League champion before progressing through local leagues in Nottingham, Sheffield, and Worksop and into Senior British Clubs League and national Grand Prix competition. He remains grateful to his early mentor and friend, Howard Knott, whose guidance helped shape his playing career.

Jason began coaching after achieving his UKCC Level 1 qualification in 2007, followed by Level 2 in 2010 and Level 3 in 2015. He has worked extensively within the community, delivering programmes alongside local councils and sports partnerships, and was recognised as Nottingham City Sports Volunteer of the Year in 2013.

From 2014–2017, Jason contributed to Table Tennis England's Talent Development Centre programme and later co-founded Nottingham Table Tennis Club. In 2016, he helped establish Carlton le Willows Table Tennis Centre, now home to the club and supporting more than 100 young players each week. He also serves as Head Coach at Nottingham Trent University.

As both a player and coach, Jason has achieved success across local, county, national, and international levels. His honours include Senior British Clubs League titles (2014 & 2016), multiple Premier County Championship and Veterans' British Clubs Leagues titles, and representing England four times at the Home Nations Championships, winning numerous gold medals. Since turning 40, he has won several VETTS Masters titles and achieved his greatest success in May 2026



by becoming National Over-50s champion.

Beyond competition, Jason is a Level 2 Umpire and Level 1 Referee, organising more than 25 Table Tennis England 2* events annually and supporting delivery of major national competitions including the Senior British Clubs League, National Series and Junior British Clubs League.

Jason has also served on numerous committees including Newark League, Nottingham & District League, Nottinghamshire County Association, East Midlands Regional Committee, and the VETTS Society, where he was appointed Vice Chairman in July 2025.

Jason continues to make a significant contribution to table tennis through his leadership, coaching, officiating, event delivery and competitive achievements.



For his service as an England international, winner of four Senior National Titles, Commonwealth Singles Champion three times with eight Commonwealth gold medals overall

My Dad started me and my brother Peter (also an International) playing in the local leagues, progressing to tournaments all over the country.

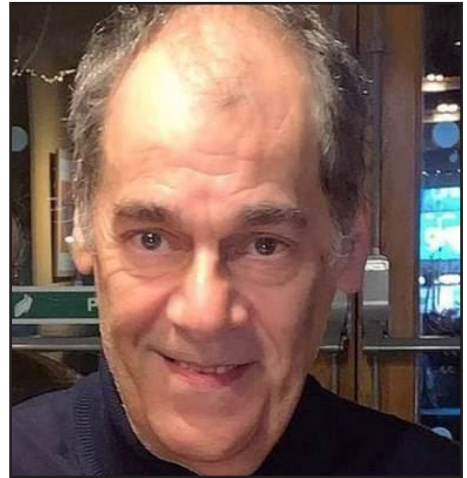
He didn't drive so we had to travel by public transport - not easy, we lived in a village in Bedfordshire. I still can't believe he managed it.

My International table tennis career started in the Juniors at 14, playing for the Seniors at 15. The Captain was a great man, Laurie Landry. He was a fantastic influence on my career, particularly at Butlins Clacton: he was resident table tennis coach, I was on holiday. The *News of The World* sponsored a table tennis coach on every Butlins Camp in the country and ran a national competition introducing so many people into table tennis.

The other big influence was Alan Ransome, who invited me to stay and play for Ormesby. I wanted to change my game from counter-attack to topspin and improving my anticipation from both wings. He wanted to win the European Cup, which we did.

I want to thank the lads, Nicky Jarvis and Jimmy Walker for all the hours we put in practising.

I retired from international table tennis at the age of 22.



For his service as partner through his role as Director of Sport, University of Nottingham

Dan Tilley has served as Director of Sport at the University of Nottingham since 2010. Under his leadership, the University has become one of the UK's most successful sporting institutions, winning the title of Sports University of the Year three times in the past seven years.

As part of this sporting evolution, table tennis has been the university's flagship sport in this era, with the university dominating the BUCS competition since 2014 and also winning multiple European University titles.

The creation of the David Ross Sports Village had table tennis facilities very much at the heart of its design, which enabled England Table Tennis to base their performance programme at the university and has also seen the university host the Mark Bates Ltd National Championships since 2017.

The university has created an environment which:

- Invests in international-standard coaches
- Offers access to cutting-edge facilities
- Provides opportunities to compete at the highest levels
- Delivers a vibrant, inclusive club environment that develops the pipeline of future table tennis leaders, coaches, officials and volunteers

Consequently, the university has been able to support some of the country's most promising talent such as Tin-Tin Ho, David McBeath, Maria Tsaptsinos, Danny Reed and Jasmin Wong.

The university's unique relationship with China and Dr Deng Yaping has also helped



attract elite performers from China such as Jiaqi Meng, Liu Haoyu and Zhang Sining, whose presence has enhanced the English table tennis talent pathway.

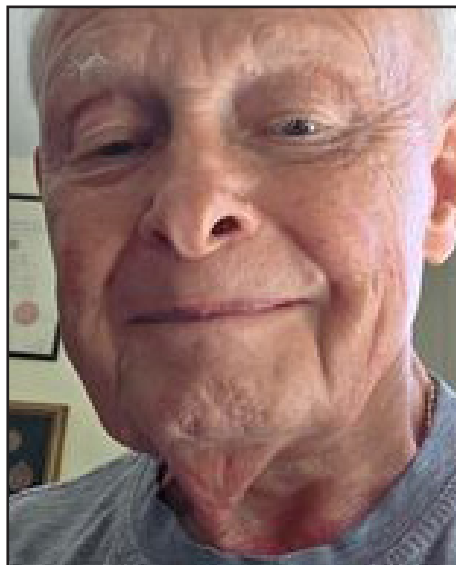
Through his leadership, the University of Nottingham has championed the investment in table tennis and made a meaningful and lasting contribution to the development of table tennis nationally.

*For his long and outstanding service to Table Tennis England
notably relating to financial matters*

I started playing at a young age at a Boys' Club and played competitively from age 21 to date in the Wolverhampton League and several others, in addition to playing British League and VETTS competitions that took me all over the world.

Appointments:

- General Secretary & Treasurer, Bromsgrove & District league 1985-2005
- Treasurer, Worcestershire County TTA 1995-2025, Secretary 2024 to date
- Finance Director, English Table Tennis Association Ltd (ETTA) 2002-2013
- Treasurer, Veterans English Table Tennis Society (VETTS) 1995-2015
- ETTA delegate for ITTF & ETTU congress 2003-2014
- 'Financial expert' to European Table Tennis Union (ETTU) 2005-2014
- Member of ETTU Veterans Committee 2008-2013
- Director, British Table Tennis Federation Ltd (now Great Britain Table Tennis Ltd) 2006-2013
- Finance Director, Table Tennis Ireland 2013-2015
- Worcestershire National Councillor 2013 to date
- Finance Director, British Para Table Tennis (BPTT) 2020 to date
- Treasurer, Association of English Table Tennis Umpires (AETTU) 2018 to date



Having had the benefit of playing table tennis for over 60 years, I have been pleased to put something back into the sport.

My appointments to the ETTA and VETTS in particular are largely due to the then Chairman Alex Murdoch, who encouraged me to take up the appointments that have given me much satisfaction in addition to travel as a player and administrator.

For his outstanding service relating to the ITTF World Team Table Tennis Championships 2026

At 18 years old Richard held the position of Harrogate league tournament secretary, aged 21 he became Harrogate league general secretary and joined the Yorkshire TTA county management committee.

Appointed to the ETTA national umpires and referees committee aged 25, he became Chair of both the tournaments committee and the NURC. He served on the ETTA management committee for three Chairs - John Prean, Alan Ransome and Andy Seward.

He was referee of 21 national championships between 1980 and 2007, including five English Opens.

Qualifying as ITTF International Referee in 1991, he was referee for the Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games and Athens 2004 Olympic Games; in 2008 he became the LOCOG Table Tennis Manager for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, followed by Technical Delegate appointments at Rio 2016, Birmingham 2022 and Krakow 2023.

He was full-time ETTU Secretary General from December 2013 to December 2022, serving three Presidents - Ronald Kramer, Igor Levitin and Pedro Moura - and was awarded ETTU Honorary Membership in 2024.

Appointed Chair of Table Tennis International Events Limited in 2024, the joint venture responsible for the recent ITTF World Team Championships in London, his 25th World Championship since 1977.

Currently ITTF Council member, Swaythling Club International Treasurer since 2019, and Yorkshire TTA President.



For his significant contribution to County Championships Committee

Tony's journey in table tennis began at a remarkably young age in Mumbai, where his passion for the sport quickly developed both on and off the table.

At just 17, he was already demonstrating leadership and organisational skills by taking charge of the local parish championships, laying the foundations for what would become a lifelong commitment to the game.

In 1986, Tony emigrated to the UK, where he immersed himself in the local table tennis scene, competing in leagues such as Dulwich and North Middlesex for several years before taking a short break from the sport.

After relocating to Uxbridge in 1997, Tony joined the Wembley & Harrow league, representing Eastcote TTC. In 2007 he joined the League's Management Committee as Summer League Secretary. Over the following years, he took on several additional roles, including Knockout Cup Secretary and Closed Championships Secretary, before being elected Chair of the League in 2010 - a position he continues to hold.

Tony's contribution to the sport has also been significant at county level. Since joining the Middlesex TTA in 2009, he has served in a variety of key roles, including Veterans' Match Secretary, Press and Website Secretary, and County Match Secretary across multiple age groups. He was appointed as Honorary County Secretary in 2018.

In this capacity, Tony has played a pivotal role in the growth and development of table tennis across Middlesex, working closely with leagues, coaches, and administrators to encourage greater youth participation and



strengthen the county pathway. His efforts earned him the honour of being nominated as Middlesex's National Councillor.

In 2019, Tony took on the role of Organiser for the Junior and Senior Premier Divisions in the County Championships. A few years later, he expanded his responsibilities to include the Cadet Premier Division and became a member of the County Championships Committee.

Tony is a Level 1 Coach, a Level 2 Umpire, and a qualified Tournament Organiser, and is currently working towards completing his Tournament Referee qualification.

He coaches at Salvatorian College in Harrow Weald, where several of his students have progressed into the local league structure. He also established a table tennis club in West Harrow.

*For her exceptional service to Yorkshire Table Tennis Association
and its County Championships teams*

I must thank my father Norman Deakin for introducing me to table tennis. Dad was a keen league player in Warrington and at the age of 11 he would take me and my sister to his club Thames Board Mills to play table tennis.

As a family from 1974 we went to Butlin's and we took part in the coaching scheme. I was lucky enough to have Nigel Eckersley coach me in 1974; Dennis Neale in 1975 and Paul Beck in 1976. My dad took his coaching qualification and thereafter was my coach, taking me all over the country to play in competitions.

In 1980, I achieved an England Junior ranking of 6. I was also by this time playing in the local league and for my county Cheshire. I went on to play at university, achieving titles in the BUSF and UAU competitions.

After a break of 10 years and having moved to Holmfirth in 2006, I started playing again and shortly after signed up for Yorkshire. In 2016 I took over the role as County Championship Secretary and in 2022 General Secretary for the YTTA.

My other roles are membership secretary for VETTS (2018), Chairperson for Huddersfield League and I am a level 1 umpire.



**AK Vint OBE Staff Award
for exceptional service as a staff member**

JADE GRIFFITHS

For her exceptional contribution notably relating to data compliance, reporting processes, company culture and Britain's Greatest Rally

Jade joined Table Tennis England in October 2016 after completing a Master of Arts by Research degree at the University of Bedfordshire, where she worked with Volleyball England to explore ways of overcoming barriers to participation in the sport.

Starting as a Mass Market Administrator, Jade supported the delivery and administration of the Ping! programme and quickly developed a passion for data, insight and evaluation.

Since then, her role has evolved significantly, with a growing focus on insight and evaluation for the Ping! programme before progressing to her current position as Data, Insight and Compliance Manager.

Throughout her time at Table Tennis England, Jade has played an integral role in a wide range of data and insight projects, including membership surveys, competition and event feedback, the Gender Eligibility Policy consultation, and the ongoing monitoring of projects and programmes across the organisation.

Jade is passionate about sharing stories that demonstrate the positive impact of table tennis on individuals and communities and strongly believes in the power of sport and physical activity to create meaningful change and improve people's lives.



Johnny Leach MBE Most Improved England Player Award for a player representing England

CONNOR GREEN

For his continuing improvement with a notable success beating the world number 51 in WTT Star Contender, London 2025

Connor has made an excellent start to his senior career.

He has made history alongside Tin-Tin Ho in March beating Borgar Haug & Anna Hurse at the WTT Feeder Dusseldorf to become England's first ever WTT Mixed Doubles Champions. Connor & Tin-Tin then reached the final in the following event in Otocec.

Connor also reached the quarter-finals of the Men's Singles at Otocec.

At WTT Star Contender London, Connor beat WR 55 Feng Yi-Hsin, pushing his ranking higher.

Connor played all matches at recent World Team Championships in London. He pushed China's top 10 player Liang Jingkun all the way, losing 11-9 in the fifth. He also beat Moldovan Denis Terna 3-1.

Connor has been selected for the England team at the Commonwealth Championships in July.

At the European U19 Top 10 in Tours, France in November, Connor placed third, beating first-placed Nathan Lam along the way in this round-robin event.

Connor was seeded No 7 in the U21 European Championships in Romania in June. He was paired with Mael Van Dessel and seeded #4 in the Men's Doubles and Veronika Matiunina, seeded #2, in the Mixed. He returned from the competition with bronze medals in both the Men's Singles and Men's Doubles.

In the TTE Senior Nationals 2026 he was champion with Tom Jarvis in the Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles runner-up with



his sister Anna, losing in five in the final.

Connor is currently WR 158 in singles and WR 27 in Mixed Doubles.

**Victor Barna Award
for the most notable performance by an English player**

BLY TWOMEY

For her outstanding performances at the European Para Championships 2025 in winning two gold medals (Women's Singles Class 7 and Mixed Doubles Class 14) and one bronze medal (Women's Doubles Class 14)

In November 2025 15-year-old Bly Twomey won her first major title; the Women's Singles Class 7 gold medal at the ITTF European Para Table Tennis Championships held in Helsingborg, Sweden.

She secured the European title by defeating the current European Champion, Turkey's Kubra Korkut 3-0 in the final.

Alongside her singles victory, Bly also had a highly successful championship across other events, winning double European gold by taking the top spot in the mixed doubles class 14 alongside her childhood hero, Will Bayley and earning bronze in the women's doubles class 14 with Fliss Pickard.

This ended a great year for Bly, who won many more medals at international para events and represented England U15's at the European Youth Championships in the summer.



For her exceptional contribution to the development of women's and Girls' table tennis

Sally was born and raised in Sussex where she began playing table tennis at the age of eight.

Represented her county from the age of 11 and England from 14.

More recently she became the Operations Director for Worthing Table Tennis Club and joined the TTE Board of Directors in 2023, elected by members of the table tennis community following her work to offer more opportunities for women and girls to play and enjoy table tennis.



