

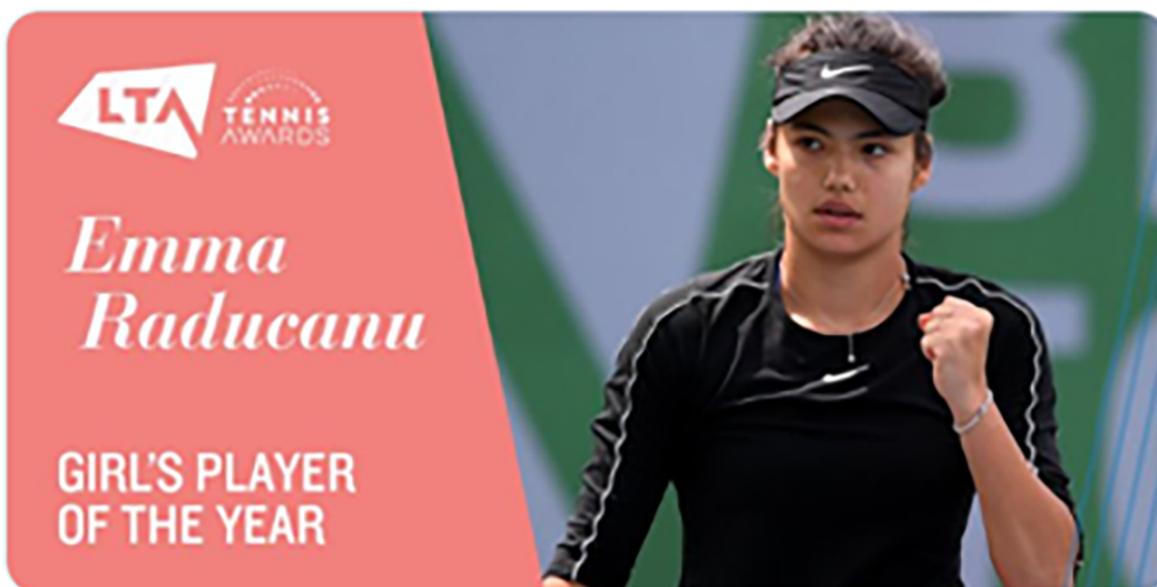


# KLT ONLINE

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## Emma and Ben Win National Awards





For the first time ever the LTA National Tennis Awards was 'virtual'. It was pre-recorded and released on Thursday 30 July at 7pm. Zoom technology enabled many of us in Kent to tune in to the show in the comfort of our own home and at the same time have the company of our tennis friends on a Zoom call. Glasses were at the ready to toast every mention of Kent and we had plenty of occasions to do so. It was an amazing evening.

We knew ahead of time we had three finalists in the running plus an LTA Meritorious Awardee. We didn't know we were in for a few surprises.....

Our first lovely surprise was when Emma Raducanu (Bromley Tennis Centre) was announced as Girls' Player of the Year Award by GB Davis Cup Captain, Leon Smith. This was swiftly followed by Ben Gusic-Wan (Canterbury Polo Farm) announced as Boys' Player of the Year also by Leon. Both junior awards from the same County is unprecedented and Ben is the youngest ever winner of the award. They both made wonderful acceptance speeches.

A rush of excitement followed as Simon Grieve, Ben's coach, was then announced as runner-up for the Performance Coach Award; St Peter's School was announced as a runner-up for School of the year and Denis Costelloe of Catford Wanderers, was recognised by the LTA President with an LTA Meritorious Service Award for his huge contribution to tennis in his club, for North Kent LTA and our County, for over 50 years. The Sadie Bristow Foundation Competition were also in the final seven.

So, two winners, two runners-up, a Meritorious Award winner and a

finalist. Terrific. But it didn't stop there for Kent appearances. Kent's Annabel Croft was the secret announcer for the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Kent's Naomi Cavaday zoomed in a nicely spoken piece about her experience of being on the National panel of judges.

We are very proud of all our Award winners and speakers. What a County!

And get ready... nominations open for next year's awards on 1 October. Think about your club, coaches, officials and volunteers in your club.

## If you missed it all, you can catch it on these links

[YouTube](#)

[More information on LTA National Tennis Awards](#)

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## SUPPORT THE WINNERS COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Kent Tennis are actively seeking new commercial partners to help raise the profile of Tennis in Kent and to help support our Teams, Leagues, Schools, Players and Clubs.

We're here to help as many people as possible get involved with tennis, across the whole of Kent and with your support we can achieve our aim.

CONTACT Kent Tennis Office  
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01689 880757

## Kent Players Galore in British Tour



The LTA organised some events at the National Tennis Centre in July - the British Tour events series, starting with a Men's Battle of the Brits Singles, and a Women's Progress Tour Championships and finishing with the Battle of the Brits Team Tennis – and Kent Tennis was very well represented in all of them!

The British Tour matches have been screened online and it has been great to see so many Kent players competing in these events. Emma Raducanu was seen winning the Women's Premier singles title in week 1, whilst Anton Matusевич lost in the semi-finals of the Men's Premier singles in week 2. Other Kent players competing in the events were Jack Pinnington Jones, Isaac Stoute, Gabby Chidwick, Alice Gillan, Sasha Hill, Sofia Johnson, Nell Miller and Sarah Wray. It was great to see that all Kent players won at least one match, with Nell Miller reaching the semi-finals of the Progress Tour Tier 1 Singles and Sofia Johnson reaching the semi-finals of the Women's Doubles. We also wish Sasha Hill a speedy recovery after her injury during the

group stages of the Progress Tour.

This past week has also seen both Emma Raducanu and Anton Matusevich play in the Battle of the Brits, rubbing shoulders and trading shots with the Murray brothers, Johanna Konta, Dan Evans, Heather Watson, Kyle Edmund and Cameron Norrie, amongst others in a great inaugural team event. Emma continued her great form beating former World No.82, Katie Boulter, former World No.76, Naomi Broady, and Jodie Burrage, as well as partnering Joe Salisbury to a win over Andy Murray and Jodie Burrage. Anton lost a close first match with Kyle Edmund, but then notched up wins over Aiden McHugh and Alastair Gray.

In addition to those competing in the above events, Kent's Naomi Cavaday was providing insightful commentary, Colin Beecher was spotted courtside watching some of his current coaching charges play, Chris Mann (Kent Officials Network) was refereeing some of the events and Rebecca Finch was the Project Manager leading the Hawkeye team at the Battle of the Brits Men's Singles.

Pictured above are Anton Matusevich at the Battle of the Brits Team event, Alice Gillan at the Progress Tour Women's Championships and Naomi Cavaday.

## **For More Information Click on These Links**

[British Tour Events](#)

[Battle of the Brits Team Event](#)

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## **Kent Tennis Summer Series**



With the cancellation of this year's County Championships, we announce the Kent Tennis Summer Series 2020 as replacement competition during the week of 24 to 30 August. These will be one day singles events for ages 9 & under through to Open with 2 tiers to the series. There will be the Kent Summer Invitational which will be for the current County Training players and the Kent Summer Local Matchplay which will cater for all other players wanting to compete. We look forward to seeing all our players back on court enjoying some competitive matches. Further details will be announced shortly on our website here: <http://www.kenttennis.org/>

Pictured above are last year's 18U Singles Champions, Oscar Brown and Daisy Carpenter.

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## Club Play and League Tennis Return

Club Play is back! The latest guidance from the LTA (21 July) allows coaching of up to 15 junior players as well as larger groups for adults and the reintroduction of social club play to venues, all provided that venues follow guidance to ensure that they are COVID-19 secure, in line with published Government guidance on organising outdoor sport and physical activity participation events.

Please check on the LTA website for the latest guidance here: <https://www.lta.org.uk/about-us/tennis-news/news-and-opinion/general-news/2020/march/coronavirus-covid-19---latest-advice/>

Although Grade 1 to Grade 5 tournaments are all currently cancelled, competitive team matches can now be played, be they county or district leagues, or simply inter-club friendly matches. **Entries are now open for clubs to enter** the 2020-21 Kent Winter Inter-Club Leagues and the Junior National Winter Leagues. All fixtures secretaries have recently been sent details on how to enter (entries close 10 and 17 August respectively), and we hope everyone is soon enjoying league tennis once more.

In the addition to next winter, the 2019-20 Kent Winter Inter-Club League Finals and Junior National Winter League Finals will be completed in September.

I hope you are all as excited as us to have the opportunity to play match tennis again!

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## Join Kent Tennis Supporters Club

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### Kent Tennis Contacts

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(The Office Telephone Number is currently diverted through to Phil Lynch during COVID-19 lockdown).

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**If you know someone who would like to receive this communication in the future, please contact the Kent Office at [info@kenttennis.org.uk](mailto:info@kenttennis.org.uk)**



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