

LEXUS

ILKLEY
— OPEN —

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME



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It is with immense pride and excitement that I welcome you all to the Lexus Ilkley Open 2025, held at the historic Ilkley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club. As we celebrate the 10th anniversary of this prestigious tournament, we stand on the brink of our most spectacular event yet, bringing world-class tennis and unforgettable entertainment to the heart of Yorkshire.

The Lexus Ilkley Open has firmly established itself as a cornerstone of the British grass court season, and this year marks a historic milestone. For the first time, our women's event joins the WTA Tour as a WTA 125 tournament, elevating its status and showcasing some of the finest athletes in women's tennis. Alongside the men's ATP Challenger event, we're set to deliver a week of breathtaking competition on our pristine grass courts, meticulously prepared to rival the best in the world.

The journey over the past decade has been one of ambition and growth, working to increase spectators each year and creating a tennis event that appeals to a wider audience. From humble beginnings, we've trebled Centre Court capacity to nearly 1,700 seats, expanded hospitality to accommodate 350 guests, and enhanced our public areas to welcome record crowds. Last year's sell-out days signalled that the appetite for top-tier tennis in Ilkley and the North of England is stronger than ever, and we're hoping for another record year in 2025.

This year, we're thrilled to enhance the experience for spectators, making the tournament a destination for the tennis purist and recreational fan.

Beyond the Baseline is a series of events that extend your day at the tennis and make it a truly memorable experience. It is fitting that in the year of Bradford City of Culture we bring a series of well known performers and cultural acts to the J.Lindeberg stage.

Scouting For Girls headlined the tournament's opening weekend, and there's a great line-up of brilliant acts playing throughout the week, including a Silent Disco, Ibiza Symphonic Orchestra, Toploader and a Chris Moyles 90s Night. These additions, alongside our renowned hospitality, ensure the Lexus Ilkley Open is not just a tournament but a vibrant celebration for all, attracting a new audience to the sport.

We are immensely grateful to our dedicated club partners—Rathbones, OGL, and Victoria Malaga—for their year-round support of the club and tournament. Additionally, a heartfelt thank you to our tournament partner, Lexus and the LTA, for their steadfast commitment to this event. As a beacon for tennis in Northern England, this tournament thrives and grows only with the invaluable support of all our partners.

This year I must give special acknowledgment to our grounds team, led by Will Rigg, whose efforts have earned us the title of Grounds Team of the year at the 2025 GMA Industry Awards. Their work ensures our courts are a fitting stage for the athletes as they prepare for the Wimbledon Championships.

I would like to wish all our players, guests and spectators a fantastic week. Thank you for making this event a sell-out success year on year. Whether you're here for the tennis, the music, or the incredible atmosphere, we are honoured to share this milestone with you.

Let's make the Lexus Ilkley Open 2025 a week to remember.

Rik Smith - Chairman, Ilkley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club and Tournament Director, Lexus Ilkley Open

GENERAL MANAGER'S WELCOME



Welcome to the Lexus Ilkley Open 2025, a cornerstone of summer sporting excellence and community spirit. As General Manager, I've been privileged to witness this tournament's remarkable journey since 2015.

From flipping burgers in the rain for modest crowds 10 years ago to now overseeing a thriving event that draws thousands, the Ilkley Open has become a must-do for tennis fans and sports hospitality. This growth reflects the passion of our dedicated team, whose year-round efforts in planning, marketing, and delivery make our biggest week shine.

The tournament injects over £600,000 into the local economy, fuelled by vibrant crowds enjoying 1,200 litres of Pimm's and 6,000 strawberries! From fully booked hotels and restaurants to bustling shops, it's a celebration of sport and community and I can't thank the people and businesses of Ilkley enough for making it a huge team effort.

I've served as GM at the club for two and a half years and in that time, I'm proud to say we have grown our membership by over 1,000 as we strive to make the club the North's pre-eminent rackets hub.

Guided by our master plan, we're building a legacy at the heart of the local community and we look forward to seeing you for some world-class tennis, unforgettable moments, and the warmest Yorkshire welcome.

Chris Harrison-Bloom, General Manager



 **LEXUS**
ILKLEY
– OPEN –

WTA125  **CHALLENGER
TOUR**

WELCOME

FROM THE LTA

On behalf of the LTA, I'm delighted to welcome you to the Lexus Ilkley Open. This is a special tournament for fans and players alike, known for its picturesque setting and friendly atmosphere. This year we have upgraded the women's event from an ITF 100 to a WTA 125, which sits alongside the men's ATP 125, as part of our commitment to deliver a high level series of both men's and women's tournaments across Britain during the Grass Court season. With top 100 players in the draw and the chance for British players to impress before Wimbledon, we're hoping it will be a memorable tournament.

I would like to thank Lexus and all our commercial partners for their support, along with all the players, officials, tournament staff, volunteers, and fans who make these events so welcoming. Finally, I would like to thank the Ilkley Lawn Tennis and Squash Club for hosting the event once again.

Enjoy your visit,

Scott Lloyd - Chief Executive, LTA



FROM THE WTA

On behalf of the Hologic WTA Tour, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Lexus Ilkley Open.

As the global leader in women's sport, the WTA is proud to, once again, showcase the very best of women's tennis here in Ilkley and at all our tournaments across the world.

The WTA continues to uphold the values of inclusivity, empowerment, and equality, and as one of sport's few truly global properties, the Hologic WTA Tour will travel to almost 30 nations and regions with over 70 tournaments across 2025, reaching a global audience of one billion fans.

The WTA boasts an incredibly diverse array of players and personalities, many of which you will see here at the Lexus Ilkley Open, from established athletes to emerging new talent eager to make their mark on the sport.

The dedicated tournament team at the Lexus Ilkley Open takes great pride in delivering an unforgettable experience for players and fans alike and I would like to thank all the partners, sponsors, staff and volunteers, who continually raise the bar in our collective mission of championing women's sport.

Finally, I would like to thank you, our loyal fans, for your tremendous support and passion for the WTA.

Whether you've been a life-long supporter of women's tennis, are joining us for the first time this season, or somewhere in between, welcome to the 2025 Hologic WTA Tour.

All the best,

Portia Archer - CEO Women's Tennis Association



FROM LEXUS

It is with huge excitement that I welcome you to the Lexus Ilkley Open, an event which forms part of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Grass Court Season, and a significant milestone in our partnership with the LTA.

As we gather at these iconic venues, we look forward to witnessing the passion and talent that define British tennis, and as lead partner to the LTA we continue to celebrate all aspects of the game; from emerging to established players, from those picking up a racket for the first time, to those lifting a trophy.

We wish all players and fans a spectacular summer filled with thrilling matches and unforgettable moments.

Chris Hayes - Lexus UK Director





LBX

SPENDS MORE TIME ON THE STAGE THAN THE ROAD

2X WHATCAR? WINNER

...early here, and the call of
...ors is stronger than ever.
...n is starting to feel like a
...ous routine, perhaps it's time
...sider a refreshing alternative:
... Forget any preconceived no-
... of stuffy country clubs; tennis is
... encing a resurgence, offering
... mic and engaging way to stay
... Imagine the satisfying thwack
... all, the strategic dance across
... t, and the instant gratification
... on your

environment. Consider it a compelling
option for achieving peak summer fit-
ness and well-being.

Beyond the obvious physical benefits
(hello, toned arms and legs!), tennis
offers a mental escape that's hard to
beat. It's a strategic game of angles and
anticipation. Forget endlessly scrolling
through your phone; on the court,
you're forced to be present, focused, and
completely in the moment. And let's not
forget the post-match ritual of grab-
bing drink and bragging rights to
the ATP tour.

...their signature
... performance to the
... says 'I've arrived' quite
... to the club in a sleek Lex
... dominate the baseline.

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brace the thrill of the game.
you're a seasoned pro or a
beginner, tennis offers somet
everyone. Grab a racquet, find
and prepare to unleash
Federer (or Serena, we
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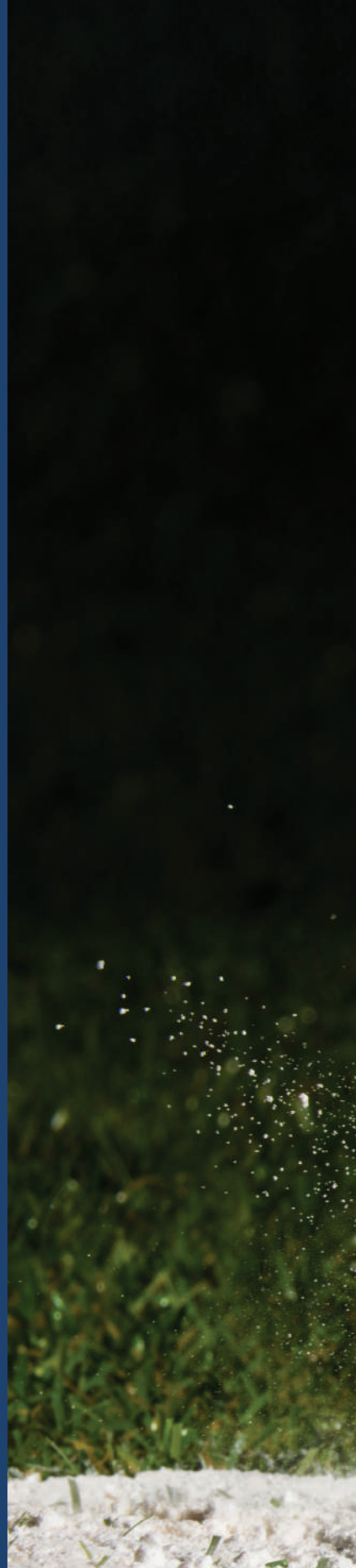
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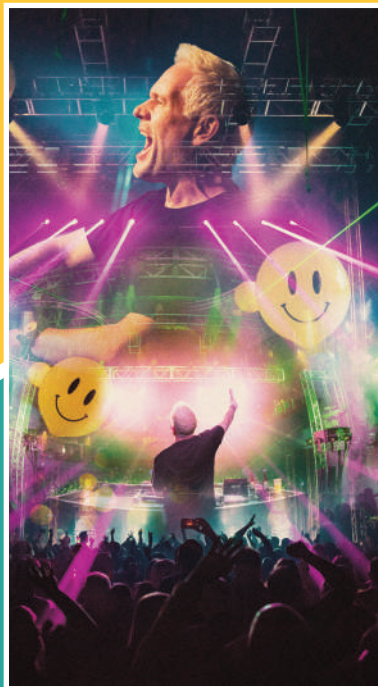
We look back on 10 years of hosting the Lexus Ilkley Open and its growth into the spectacular sporting showcase it is today.



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How the town of Ilkley has embraced the tournament and the boost it brings to the local economy every year.



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PLAY YOUR ART OUT

The Yorkshire artist who has created a series of tennis-inspired prints to mark the tournament's 10th anniversary.



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#WTARALLYTHEWORLD

WTA

THIS IS

MY STAGE



THE CLASS OF '24

David Goffin and Rebecca Marino were crowned last year's Lexus Ilkley Trophy singles champions.

Former world No.7 Goffin wasted no time in defeating 22-year-old Harold Mayot by 6-4, 6-2 to clinch his first grass court title.

The 33-year-old Belgian lost just three points on serve in the second set to clinch the 21st singles trophy of his career.

Canadian Marino was crowned the women's singles champion after defeating France's Jessika Ponchet 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 in an epic battle which lasted one hour and 35 minutes.

It was the 33-year-old's second career W100 singles trophy - the other coming earlier in the season at Irapuato.

Marino only lost nine points in the second set and served out the decider in convincing fashion to see out her first grass court title.

In the men's double, American pair Evan King and Reese Stalder defeated Christian Harrison and Fabrice Martin by two sets to one while in the women's double Kristina Mladenovic and Elena-Gabriela Ruse triumphed in straight sets to lift the crown against Quinn Gleason and Tang Qianhui.





ROLL OF HONOUR

MEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION

2024 David Goffin
2023 Jason Kubler
2022 Zizou Bergs
2019 Dominik Köpfer
2018 Sergiy Stakhovsky
2017 Márton Fucsovics
2016 Lu Yen-hsun
2015 Denis Kudla

MEN'S DOUBLES CHAMPIONS

2024 Evan King & Reese Stalder
2023 Gonzalo Escobar & Aleksandr Nedovyesov
2022 Julian Cash & Henry Patten
2019 Santiago González & Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi
2018 Austin Krajicek & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan
2017 Leander Paes & Adil Shamasdin
2016 Wesley Koolhof & Matwé Middelkoop
2015 Marcus Daniell & Marcelo Demoliner

WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION

2024 Rebecca Marino
2023 Mirjam Bjorklund
2022 Dalma Gálfi
2019 Monica Niculescu
2018 Tereza Smitková
2017 Magdaléna Rybáriková
2016 Evgeniya Rodina
2015 Anna-Lena Friedsam

WOMEN'S DOUBLES CHAMPIONS

2024 Kristina Mladenovic & Elena-Gabriela Ruse
2023 Nao Hibino & Natalija Stevanovic
2022 Lizette Cabrera & Su Jeong Jang
2019 Beatriz Haddad Maia & Luisa Stefani
2018 Asia Muhammad & Maria Sanchez
2017 Anna Blinkova & Alla Kudryavtseva
2016 Yang Zhaoxuan & Zhang Kailin
2015 Raluca Olaru & Xu Yifan



PARK TENNIS PROJECT

Over the last three years, the LTA has been delivering an investment of more than £30million from the UK Government and LTA Tennis Foundation to transform thousands of park tennis courts across Britain.

This landmark investment is bringing over 3,000 park tennis courts across hundreds of local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales back to life for communities and into long-term sustainable use.

In 2021, 45% of park tennis courts across Britain had fallen into disrepair, with poor playing surfaces, subsidence or vandalism causing damage to nets, courts and fencing.

To address this, the LTA's Park Tennis Project has been renovating the courts in the worst condition, to ensure that communities across the country have access to quality facilities in their local parks.

The project is also rolling out digital infrastructure in the form of gate access technology and online booking through the LTA website and Play Tennis app, to make it easier than ever to find, book and get on court, tackling one of the biggest barriers to participation.

But providing accessible, high-quality facilities is only part of the job, and so the LTA has been working with councils and tennis operators to ensure that the right programmes and community engagement are in place to grow participation on newly transformed park courts. This includes Barclays Free Park Tennis, a free weekly session led by local volunteers with equipment provided, opening up opportunities for people to play tennis for free no matter their age, background or ability.

Parks that have been transformed in collaboration with Bradford Metropolitan District Council are:

- Lister Park
- Menston Park
- Myrtle Park
- Northcliffe Park
- Oxenhope Sports Association
- Peel Park
- Silsden Park
- Temple Rhydding
- Bowling Park
- Cottingley Manor
- Haworth Central Park



Scan the QR code to read more about the Park Tennis Project.



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CELEBRATING A DECADE OF WORLD CLASS TENNIS

By Mark Bowness

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Ilkley hosting this prestigious tennis tournament. We look back on the past decade and see how it has grown from a small event into the sporting spectacular it is today.

It's hard to believe 10 years have passed since Denis Kudla and Anna-Lena Friedsam lifted the men and women's singles Ilkley Trophy for the first time.

Back then just a few hundred fans filled the makeshift stand to watch the action unfold, little knowing just how big the event would go on to become.

It was the start of a journey that has seen the tournament elevated to international status and over the past decade seen some of the world's biggest stars grace its courts.

Originally part of the Trophy Series - a new level of tournament introduced in the UK to respond to the extension of the grass court season and run up to Wimbledon - Ilkley initially sat alongside Surbiton and Manchester.

But as the grass court calendar was reshaped and following Ilkley's huge success and popularity, it was decided this year to elevate the Yorkshire venue to an Open event and for the first time, it will now sit proudly alongside Eastbourne, Nottingham and Birmingham as The Lexus Ilkley Open.

It is a rapid rise for a club that is at the heart of the community and which has embraced the challenge of delivering a sporting venue that is now regarded as one of the best in Yorkshire and which has deservedly been dubbed the Wimbledon of the North.

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Its new position as an Open tournament means it will appeal to an even greater calibre of player and alongside the men's ATP Challenger Event, this year will also see the women's event join the WTA Tour as a WTA 125 tournament, pushing its status even further and attracting some of the world's greatest female players to Ilkley.

It is a far cry from those early days and in the space of 10 years, the club has increased its Centre Court capacity from 380 to 1,700 seats, expanded its hospitality offerings from a small tent that held 30 people into a series of banqueting suites that can accommodate 350 guests, plus a food village that caters for the 20,000 fans who now attend the event each year.

Such has been its growth it is now regarded as one of the game's major grass court tournaments attracting the best players in the world as well as acting as a springboard for others to launch successful careers.

In 2016, the tournament saw former world number one Daniil Medvedev grace the courts before he went on to enjoy global dominance just a few years later, while in 2022, current Wimbledon and Australian Open men's doubles champ Henry Patten lifted the doubles crown at Ilkley.

Top players like Maria Sakkari, Alex de Minaur, Jack Draper, Jodie Burrage and Ons Jabeur have played at Ilkley over the past 10 years with all of them enthusing about the club and praising it for its unique setting, friendly atmosphere and incredible playing surface. ►



THEN



But it is not just the players and fans who have benefited from Ilkley's emergence as a tennis hotbed, and it is now estimated the tournament injects over £600,000 into the local economy each year with the influx of fans flocking into the famous old spa town to spend in hotels, bars, restaurants and shops.

Each year the club has expanded its offerings off the court to meet the demands of spectators and this week will see them push the boat out even further with the introduction of their new J.Lindeberg stage which will serve up a week of entertainment and live music featuring acts like Toploader and Scouting for Girls.

Such additions, alongside the club's renowned hospitality which will feature more than 20 food and

drink outlets serving up an array of international cuisine over the week, reflects just how far the event has come in 10 years and club chairman Rik Smith is immensely proud of how the club and the community have helped make it the success it is today.

He said: "This isn't just about tennis—it's about Ilkley coming together. From kids in the ball crew to families in the stands, we've built a festival that's put our town on the map.

"Seeing thousands of spectators from the whole region every year makes me incredibly proud and as we hit our 10th year, I'm excited to welcome everyone to the Lexus Ilkley Open because it is now more than a tournament—it's a celebration of our community."

NOW





Daniil Medvedev



Maria Sakkari



Jack Draper

STARS OF ILKLEY

Since bursting onto the tennis scene in 2015, Ilkley has welcomed some of the biggest names from the game and there's been no shortage of players who have used the tournament as a springboard to go on and enjoy even greater success.

Nobody has done that better than Daniil Medvedev who took to the court of LS29 in 2016 before going on to win the US Open five years later and crowned the world number one in 2022.

Current Wimbledon and Australian Open doubles champ Henry Patten is another star who says playing at Ilkley was the start of his journey to success. The Brit lifted the doubles trophy here in 2022 with Julian Cash and never looked back describing his experience at Ilkley as one he'll never forget.

And this year promises another strong line-up with former British number one Cameron Norrie; 2014 US Open champion Marin Cilic and 2023 Ilkley champ Jason Kubler just some of the big names in the draw.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Denis Kudla, the 2015 Ilkley Trophy winner: "I have nothing but great memories of Ilkley and winning the trophy there was extra special as it was my first tournament win on grass, It's an incredible setting and I look forward to returning one day."

Former British number one Andrew Castle: "The welcome from the people of Ilkley has always been so warm and the courts offer the perfect preparation for Wimbledon. From volunteers to the ball crews, organisers and sponsors to club members and spectators, Ilkley offers so much and is one of the UK's finest and friendliest clubs."

Jodie Burrage, the 2022 Ilkley women's runner up: "I've got nothing but nice things to say about Ilkley and it is a great preparation for Wimbledon. I was blown away by the club, the town and the atmosphere and in terms of a setting, it really does take some beating."

British tennis star Paul Jubb: As a Yorkshire lad, Ilkley is the closest thing to playing on home soil and the support I got there in 2019 was incredible. It's a fantastic club and set up and I'd love to return there one day and lift the trophy."

Henry Patten, reigning Wimbledon and Australian Open doubles champ and Ilkley doubles winner in 2022: "Ilkley will always hold a special place in my heart, and that's all because of the efforts of the entire team. I hope that you continue overachieving and giving British players the best chance at a career in tennis. "



SCHEDULE OF PLAY

SUNDAY 8TH JUNE

Men's and Women's qualifying

MONDAY 9TH JUNE

Men's and Women's qualifying
Men's and Women's main draw singles
Men's and Women's doubles

TUESDAY 10TH JUNE

Men's and Women's main draw singles
Men's and Women's doubles

WEDNESDAY 11TH JUNE

Men's and Women's main draw singles
Men's and Women's doubles

THURSDAY 12TH JUNE

Men's and Women's main draw singles
Men's and Women's doubles

FRIDAY 13TH JUNE

Men's and Women's quarter-final
Men's and Women's doubles semi-final

SATURDAY 14TH JUNE

Men's and Women's singles semi-final
Men's and Women's doubles final*

SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

Men and Women's singles finals

* Men's and Women's doubles finals are subject to a change of day

(All matches are subject to change dependent on weather)

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-  FOOD & BEVERAGES
-  BEER GARDEN
-  COFFEE
-  ICE CREAM
-  ACCESSIBLE TOILET
-  FEMALE TOILETS
-  MALE TOILETS
-  UNISEX TOILETS
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-  GENERATOR

SITE MAP



FROM CENTRE COURT TO SITE SUCCESS

As Principal Partner of the Lexus Ilkley Open 2025, OGL Construction is proud to sponsor this exclusive fixture on Britain's tennis calendar. This partnership celebrates shared values of ambition, excellence, and attention to detail—on the court and on every project we build.

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We Maintain.

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CLUB NEWS

A CUT ABOVE THE REST

It's little wonder the courts at Ilkley look so immaculate again this week, given they are lovingly looked after by the best in the business.

That is the accolade bestowed upon the management team and ground staff at ILTSC this year after they picked up two major prizes at the Grounds Management Association Industry Awards at Liverpool Football Club.

Head Groundsman Will Rigg was crowned Groundsman of the Year while his team also won the Professional Tennis Courts Grounds Team of the Year defeating the likes of Manchester City Football Club and the All England Club, home of the Wimbledon Championships.

It is an incredible achievement for Rigg and his team and testament to the hours and dedication they put in each year to deliver such a world-class playing surface.

Rigg said: "It is brilliant for Ilkley to beat someone like Wimbledon, with the resources they have and I am incredibly proud of the whole team for the long hours they put in, not just this week but over the whole year, to ensure the courts look so good."

Talking about his own coveted award he added: "I didn't have an inkling about that and I was totally shocked when they read my name out but it is nice to be acknowledged for a job that I love doing."

Following the death of much-loved former head groundsman Richard Lord, Rigg took over the reins in 2022 and works alongside full-time groundsmen Pete Crowther and Jamie Teale during the season and a part-time team of up to seven who help out in the build-up and throughout tournament week.



The ILTSC Grounds Team of the Year

Groundsman of the Year Will Rigg



FLYING THE FLAG

Two Ilkley youngsters are lighting up the world tennis stage after been picked to represent Great Britain.

ILTSC club members Isabella Egglestone, 11 and Hugo Asmussen, 10 were both selected for friendly matches against Belgium and France and made a big impression as they proved age is no barrier to talent at international level.

Isabella, with her fierce determination and powerful groundstrokes, showcased a baseline game far beyond her years while her relentless energy and focus left opponents and coaches in awe, cementing her as a future star.

While Hugo, a dynamic 10-year-old, shone with his all-court game, combining precise serves, sharp net play, and a composure under pressure against top European juniors that promises a bright future.

Already making waves on Ilkley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club's performance programme and honed on the club's iconic grass courts, both dream of one day competing in the Lexus Ilkley Open – a tournament that in recent years has been such an inspiration to them.

And now, under Ilkley's expert coaching team lead by head coach Kyle Brassington, Isabella and Hugo are one step further to making that a reality and we'd love to one day see them lift the trophy at their home town club.



Isabella and Hugo

A SOLID FOUNDATION

The LTA Tennis Foundation's mission is to improve lives through tennis by ensuring every child, young person, and adult can access the unique and life-changing benefits the sport offers.

Working throughout Great Britain, the LTA Tennis Foundation focuses on underserved communities and under-represented groups, ensuring they reach those who face the biggest barriers to sport and who can benefit the most.

Local to Ilkley, the LTA Tennis Foundation supports Breaking Barriers Tennis Association (BBTA) which aims to break down obstacles people face when trying to access tennis. The programme works to integrate children from non-traditional tennis playing backgrounds into a traditional tennis environment.

Justin Taundi, the BBTA Founder said: "We have found that good, fun coaching by LTA-accredited coaches, in good tennis facilities, has seen children thrive in our programme. We are grateful for parents who've trusted us and stepped outside their comfort zone, our excellent delivery partners, who play a key role in delivering great consistent, regular playful coaching over a long period which will embed tennis and physical activity into the lives of children from our community, allowing them to reap the social, mental and physical benefits of playing the sport. Most importantly, we're grateful and amazed by the kids in our programme who have embraced tennis and have just been Ace!"

HOW THE LTA TENNIS FOUNDATION MAKES AN IMPACT

Supporting organisations: Financially supporting and collaborating with charities and organisations embedded within their communities, who use tennis as a force for good.

Enabling communities and schools: Funding expertise and equipment to make tennis accessible to all.

Developing facilities: Improving access to tennis by developing, often neglected, facilities and courts.

Support the LTA Tennis Foundation today by entering the raffle for your chance to win tennis prizes. Just head to their gazebo in the Fan Village to purchase your tickets or look out for the team in pink t-shirts around the tournament.





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WINNING ILKLEY MADE ME BELIEVE

By Mark Bowness

Reigning Wimbledon and Australian Open men's doubles champ Henry Patten reveals how winning the doubles at Ilkley in 2022 was the launchpad for his success.

When British tennis star Henry Patten arrived in Ilkley in 2022, little did he realise it would be a tournament that would help propel him to global doubles dominance.

But the likeable 29-year-old says winning the Yorkshire event three years ago was the catalyst for him to become a two-time Grand Slam champ after clinching the 2024 Wimbledon Championships and the Australian Open with playing partner Harri Heliövaara, this year.

Looking back he said: "2022 was the beginning of my doubles career really and winning at Ilkley in a very strong draw catapulted us into the doubles tour and gave us a lot of self-belief.

"I'll always be grateful for that win as it was the start of everything and helped give me a huge amount of confidence and for that reason Ilkley will always hold a special place in my heart."

Having been given a wildcard to the Ilkley event with partner Julian Cash, the pair went on to win the final in straight sets in front of a passionate home crowd and it was the start of a run that saw them win 11 consecutive ATP doubles finals.

He said: "That really was the turning point and of course winning in front of a home crowd at Ilkley made it even sweeter. I'll be forever grateful for their help in getting us over the line."



"Ilkley is now a massively important event on the tour, especially to British players trying to break through in professional tennis. I'm a good example of someone who owes a lot to the volunteers, members and organisers for putting the event on.

"I know plenty of players that have spoken to me very fondly about their time at Ilkley and that speaks volumes not only for the club, but for all the people involved in the tournament."

It has been a meteoric rise for Patten, who having previously played college tennis in America was ready to walk away from the sport before a postgraduate course at Durham University in 2019.

He turned professional a year later, but says it was only after a successful 2022 that began with his victory in Ilkley that he decided to seriously focus on a doubles career.

He said: "A few years ago I don't think I ever thought I would be where I am now. I thought maybe I had a chance of playing in some big events, but winning them is another story. The past 12 months have been a whirlwind, to put it mildly. It's been highlighted by winning Wimbledon and the Australian Open, but there have also been lots of other milestones that I thought would take years to accomplish. I've loved every second of it and hopefully I can continue that success in the years to come." ►



Patten winning Wimbledon in 2024.



In action at Ilkley in 2022

Alongside Daniil Medvedev who was crowned men's world number one in 2022, Patten has gone on to become the most decorated player to have graced the courts at Ilkley since the tournament began in 2015. He is the only Brit to have lifted a trophy there and the only Ilkley winner to have gone on to win a Grand Slam.

Currently ranked number three in the world at doubles, Patten became only the third British player to win the men's doubles title in SW19 and alongside his Finnish partner Heliövaara, their goal is to now become world number one in doubles and retain the coveted trophy at Wimbledon this year.

He said: "We're certainly trying to be the top pair in the world, but as always there are lots of factors that go into such a big feat. We just try to play our best on any given day and hopefully that will come to fruition."

As for his time at Ilkley off the court, Patten says he was blown away by the beautiful setting and the friendly welcome he received from fans.

He said: "I remember being surrounded by the amazing countryside, it's just a stone's throw from the Dales and I remember practising on the grass thinking it doesn't get much better as a setting."

"The club itself is great, buzzing with people and atmosphere, and for an event of its size I think it has surpassed everyone's expectations. Everybody was incredibly friendly, and I also have fond memories of enjoying a few pints in the bar with the team after the final to celebrate, but I'll leave it at that!"

And as Ilkley celebrates its 10th tournament this year, Patten was quick to congratulate the team on their landmark birthday.

He said: "I know that spectators and players are only at tournaments for a week but hosting an event like this is a year-round job and its success is all down to the efforts of the entire team. I loved my time there; have some fantastic memories and I hope that it continues to prosper and give British players the best chance at a career in tennis."

"I'd certainly love to return one day to Ilkley and play again at the club where my career really took off."



Henry Patten lifting the Ilkley doubles trophy in 2022 with partner Julian Cash.



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MOOR THE MERRIER

The Lexus Ilkley Open, widely regarded as the Wimbledon of the North, is celebrating in style this year with the biggest tournament to date and an exciting programme of activities for the whole family to enjoy, both on and off the court.



As Ilkley once again gets ready to welcome some of the world's top tennis players and thousands of fans to this year's prestigious Lexus Ilkley Open, the town is gearing up for another week to remember.

10 years after it first arrived, the buzz about the sporting spectacular gets bigger every year with locals and businesses getting in the mood by dressing their windows and putting out the bunting to mark the occasion.

Set against the stunning backdrop of Ilkley Moor and the River Wharfe, over 20,000 tennis fans are expected to travel to the club this year to enjoy not only world-class tennis action but a whole feast of entertainment laid on throughout the week.

For the first time the club's Beyond the Baseline extravaganza will see a series of evening events with big names including Scouting for Girls, Toploader, Skinny Living and Chris Moyles lined up to entertain the crowds.

It's been a good year for the famous spa town after it was recently recognised as The Sunday Times Best Place to Live in the North and North East 2025 and the return of the tennis will be the highlight of a packed calendar of summer events.

With so many extra visitors expected to attend this year's tournament and the Beyond the Baseline evening shows, it all adds up to a huge financial boost to the local economy as spectators explore the town, book accommodation and visit Ilkley's many shops, bars, restaurants and cafes.

In fact, the club estimates that an additional £600,000 will be generated for the Ilkley economy, not only by visitors, but also by the players and officials who use hotels, restaurants and other local services in the area this week.

With an incredible atmosphere in the town and a sense of community pride amongst the residents and businesses, fans can expect a very warm Yorkshire welcome from the people of Ilkley for this sporting and music festival.

To add to the feel-good factor, 46 businesses, including shops, restaurants, bakeries, art galleries, estate agents, opticians and more, have participated in a special Lexus Ilkley Open tennis-inspired window display competition with the winning business treated to Finals Day tickets.

One of the businesses who went to town on its decorations for the tournament last year is Lister Horsfall Jewellers, whose vibrant and stunning window and door display captured the admiration of everyone who passed by.

Store Manager George Nolan was delighted with the reaction to the display and is looking forward to the excitement the tennis always brings to the town. ►



He said: "We feel so lucky to have such a prestigious tennis tournament right here in Ilkley and it brings such a buzz to the town! It's always a pleasure meeting visitors and locals as they explore everything Ilkley has to offer."

"We loved seeing all the tennis fans stop to enjoy our tennis-themed window last year and we're proud to be part of a community that comes together and makes these moments feel special."

The manager of the Ilkley Business District (BID), Sarah Brookfield-Almond, is a passionate supporter of the Lexus Ilkley Open and is always pleased to welcome the event and its visitors to the town.

She said: "The BID's overall aims are to support the local economy, boost visitor numbers and raise the overall profile and appeal of Ilkley as a great place to live, visit and do business, and we're so pleased that the tournament is bringing new visitors to the area to experience everything the town has to offer, including our amazing businesses."

"We've been working closely with the tennis club and the local businesses to ensure that BID members capitalise on the huge promotional opportunities afforded by this world class tennis tournament. This has included the invitation to feature product samples, offers and promotions in the players' welcome packs, and a joint networking brunch at the club with free access to the tennis."

"We're delighted that our shops, restaurants and businesses are really embracing the Lexus Ilkley Open and it's lovely to see their creative and imaginative window displays and the synergy between the town and the tennis club."



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RALLY FOR TOMORROW

To deliver the LTA's vision of Tennis Opened Up and ensure that tennis is accessible and thriving for generations to come, it's vital that everyone rallies together to protect the sport and the places we play.

This is important for tennis at all levels, from grand slams to local park sessions. A greater number of tennis venues than ever are at risk of regular and more severe flooding, while more extreme temperatures are increasingly impacting delivery of events, and the wellbeing of players who participate at them.

The LTA's Environmental Sustainability Plan is focused on securing a lasting future for tennis in Britain, using the power of tennis to change attitudes towards sustainability and bring about positive change.

The LTA has produced a range of resources for tennis venues to help them to be more sustainable, no matter their membership size or number of courts, such as by reducing energy usage, supporting biodiversity, or eliminating waste.



Through the LTA Buying Group, venues are able to secure preferential rates across areas like green energy tariffs, solar panel installation and electric vehicle charging points, whilst the LTA Tennis Foundation's Quick-Access Loan Scheme offers funding to venues for transition to more energy-efficient floodlighting.

Most tennis balls will only be played with for 4-6 hours on court, but each ball can take up to 300 years to degrade in landfill. The LTA has been working with providers to roll out tennis ball recycling at venues across Great Britain to ensure that balls are recycled for use in other products.

THE GRASS COURT SEASON

The LTA Grass Court Season attracts thousands of fans every year, and it is vital that the events put as many measures as possible in place to reduce any potential harmful environmental impact. The LTA has introduced a number of steps to make their events more environmentally friendly, including:

- Using Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) fuel to power temporary generators on-site, which results in 90% less emissions than standard fuels.
- All tournament fleet vehicles used across LTA events are hybrid and nearly 50% are fully electric models, thanks to a partnership with Lexus.
- Donating more than two tonnes of food to local food charities to reduce food waste
- Water refill stations for spectators, players and officials to fill their water bottles for free and remove over 220,000 single-use plastic bottles, thanks to a partnership with BRITA.

PLAY YOUR PART

Whilst everyone in British tennis must pull together to play their part, as a fan and spectator there are some things you can do which can make a big difference:

- Use your own reusable bottle to fill up at the available refill stations.
- Choose a low carbon option from one of the menus onsite.
- Use the right bin for your waste .
- Use public transport to travel to and from events.



Scan to find out more about the LTA's Sustainability practices across the grass court season.

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SERVING UP A TREAT

After the incredible success of last year's food village and first-class hospitality offerings, 2025 will see the party expand further with even more food, drink and entertainment served up throughout the week.

Just when you thought it couldn't get any bigger, the team behind The Lexus Ilkley Open have once again raised the bar to make this year the most spectacular event both on and off the court.

Ilkley Lawn Tennis & Squash Club will be the place to head this week for a non-stop line-up of world-class tennis and entertainment.

For when the action stops on court, there'll be no shortage of things to do and see in the fan zone with the arrival of the J.Lindeberg stage which will welcome a whole host of top acts to keep you entertained well into the night.

The brilliant Scouting For Girls got the party started at the tournament's opening weekend and throughout this week there'll be no shortage of local acts and unique events to enjoy including a Silent Disco, Ibiza Symphonic Orchestra, Toploader and a Chris Moyles 90s Night.

These exciting additions, alongside the club's renowned hospitality offerings will ensure a vibrant festival atmosphere for all who attend.

Having proved so popular in 2024, the food court will be expanding even further this year to make way for even more caterers and the return of Ilkley's largest beer garden.

Shoot the Bull, the award-winning British street food brand, will once again return to head up the corporate catering with another decadent dining experience lined up for hospitality guests in the Lexus Lounge, The Rathbones Centre Court Hospitality Suite and the OGL Garden Bar.



Meanwhile outside in the food village, tennis fans will be able to take a break from the tennis to tuck into a wide range of tempting cuisine from around the world which alongside Shoot the Bull's famous street food offerings, will be provided by some of Yorkshire's best-loved restaurants, bars and delis.

Included in this year's line-up of gastronomic delights will be stalls from pizza guys Knead n Feed, Juicy Sushi, Friends of Ham, Brook Street Deli, Northern Bloc ice-cream, Love is Churros, Peacocks curry house and Tikk's Thai Kitchen.

And in addition, there'll also be a huge Victoria Malaga public bar and spacious beer garden to kick-back and relax in.

It all adds up to the perfect setting to come and watch the tennis, enjoy live music and bask in the beauty of what promises to be an unforgettable week of action.





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THE DREAM TEAM

We pay tribute to the incredible ground staff, the hundreds of volunteers and the brilliant ball crews who give up their time to help make the Lexus Ilkley Open such a success each year.

For the past 10 years, tennis fans have flocked to Ilkley to see some of the world's top players battle it out on court.

And while they are undoubtedly the stars of the show, a group of dedicated unsung heroes are the real reason the tournament has proved so successful and continues to grow in size and stature.

For without the help of the incredible crews who work tirelessly behind the scenes in the build-up to the tournament and throughout the week, none of it would be possible.

Award-winning head groundsman Will Rigg and his team once again deserve huge credit for getting the courts in such beautiful condition and it was no surprise to many when he won Groundsman of the Year and the team won Professional Tennis Courts Grounds Team of the Year, at this year's Grounds Management Association Industry Awards.

Meanwhile off the courts another big thank you goes to the countless volunteers from ILTSC who have once again stepped up to help ensure the needs of players, members and guests are all met throughout the week.

Headed by Marione Horsley and Simon Bentley, who celebrate 10 years of working tirelessly



to recruit and co-ordinate the 160 generous volunteers to fill over 800 three-hour shifts that are needed to make the tournament run so smoothly.

Simon said: "After 10 years of helping run the tournament we are eternally grateful for the assistance and enthusiasm shown by so many of our members who all help make it such a successful week and it is great to see so many getting involved so willingly in the different roles required."

Another stalwart of the club over the past decade has been Robbie Burnett who again resumes his role of organising the volunteer drivers who take the players and officials to and from their accommodation and transport connections and ensures everybody gets to the club on time.

This year will again see another dedicated ball crew team doing an incredible job with a total of nearly 100 children, mainly from Ilkley Grammar School, running the courts.

Having spent the past five weeks preparing the children for their roles, ILTSC coach Colin Campbell, who has overseen their training said: "Once again the team have stepped up and I can't thank them enough for their dedication and willingness.

"It is a great opportunity for the kids of Ilkley to be involved in such a prestigious event and they play such an important role over the week which doesn't go unnoticed by anybody at the club."





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million pound
boost to the
economy

760

children working on the ball teams

8,000

litres
of Pimms drunk

7,000

hospitality guests

98,000

meals sold

12,000

nights booked in local hotels

2,500

staff and volunteers employed

80,000

fans attended

53,000

tennis balls used

2

Grand Slam
Winners

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strawberries eaten

1.6

million pounds
in prize money

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A DEDICATED WORKFORCE

Made up of Coaches, Officials, Activators, and Venue-Based Volunteers, meet the LTA Workforce who are inspiring countless individuals to pick up a racket and embrace both tennis and padel.

COACHES

Coaches are at the very heart of tennis and padel in Britain. They are often responsible for the very first experience people have when they step on court and play a vital role in growing the sport. Coaches offer expert tactical and technical tuition and drills and help to set short, medium, and longer term goals to drive player improvement.

With a comprehensive qualification pathway and an industry-leading professional accreditation scheme, the LTA supports coaches throughout their career, giving them the guidance and resources to become the best coach they can be.

OFFICIALS

Almost all LTA events and competitions in Great Britain wouldn't be possible without the support of officials. There are multiple officiating roles, from Competition Organisers at local tournaments all the way up to Chair Umpires at Grand Slam events, the LTA supports each and every official to reach their aspirations in the game.

Similar to the LTA Coach Accreditation Scheme, the LTA Officials License Scheme provides world-class

continuous professional development opportunities as well as insurance, legal and tax advice and access to many more fantastic benefits.

ACTIVATORS

Activators play a vital role in helping take tennis to people and places it has never been before. These individuals are currently helping deliver a multitude of programmes, including LTA SERVES and Barclays Free Park Tennis sessions across communities in Great Britain. Activators are facilitators of play (as opposed to coaching), focusing on creating a sense of belonging and community, and helping to make the sport enjoyable and accessible to anyone starting out.

The LTA helps Activators in community groups and venues to facilitate tennis with easy to access training, extensive resources and lesson plans, as well as providing essential equipment.

VENUE-BASED VOLUNTEERS

Over 25,000 people choose to volunteer in tennis across Britain, whether it be supporting at local courts and venues, or helping at the LTA Major Events in the summer.

There are a wide variety of ways to volunteer in tennis and the LTA offers guidance, training and support for people looking to get involved, as well as venues looking to recruit different roles.



Scan to find out more.



ABD-UR'S STORY

Fifteen years after first joining the junior programme at Heaton Tennis Club in Bradford, Abd-ur is now a qualified Level 3 LTA Coach, with an extensive coaching programme, including Visually Impaired (VI) sessions.

After being introduced to VI tennis while undertaking his Level 2 Instructor course, Abd-ur became aware of a visually impaired gentleman at Heaton Tennis Club in need of coaching. Five years later, not only is Abd-ur still coaching the same player but he has expanded the VI programme to include monthly sessions as well as several one-to-one lessons.

Last year, Abd-ur had the privilege of supporting one of his players at a VI event at Wimbledon in The All England Lawn Tennis Club indoor facility and he is delighted at the progress they have made. He said: "The fact my players are travelling all over the country, to Wales, Glasgow and London to do something they really love, brings me great joy and makes me very proud of what they've achieved."

When discussing how developing the VI programme has influenced his coaching, Abd-ur added: "With VI tennis, in particular, trust is incredibly important, so it's key to get to know the person not just the player. Everyone is unique, from VI adults to the kids playing red ball and as coach, you need to be able to cater to their individual needs."

Building that trust and personability has not only helped make Abd-ur a better coach but has also led to him becoming a role model for the younger members of the club.

As well as being inspired by watching professionals play at the highest level, Abd-ur says it was somebody much closer to home who was his greatest role model and he will always be grateful to the team at Heaton who set him on the road to coaching. He said: "Heaton has always had a really strong coaching setup with a great mix of male and female coaches and my first tennis coach, Kyle, who like me was British Pakistani, was a huge inspiration to me as a youngster."

And last year, Abd-ur had the unique experience of leading a one-to-one session for his old coach and he said: "I don't think he understands how much he really helped me. He gave me so much when I was younger, I don't think I'd have gone this far in coaching if it weren't for him, he was a lot more than a coach, he was a role model for me and someone that I looked up to."



Now Abd-ur has transitioned into that position of role model himself, with parents thanking him for building their child's confidence as well as their sporting ability.

He added: "'I've coached the same children from the ages of four and five and it is so rewarding to see their development both as players and young people as they grow up."

Talking about the impact of the workforce, Merlin Van de Braam, Head of Coach & Official Development & Support at the LTA said, "Getting involved in the delivery of tennis can be fantastically rewarding. Whether it is organising competitions, providing coaching, or getting people to play for the first time, tennis is an exciting industry where you get to keep fit, work with great people and learn lots of great skills for life both on or off the court."

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the LTA Workforce, engagement and participation in British tennis continues to grow.



If you have been inspired by Abd-ur's story and would like further information about how to get in to coaching, scan the QR code to see how you can become a tennis or padel coach.



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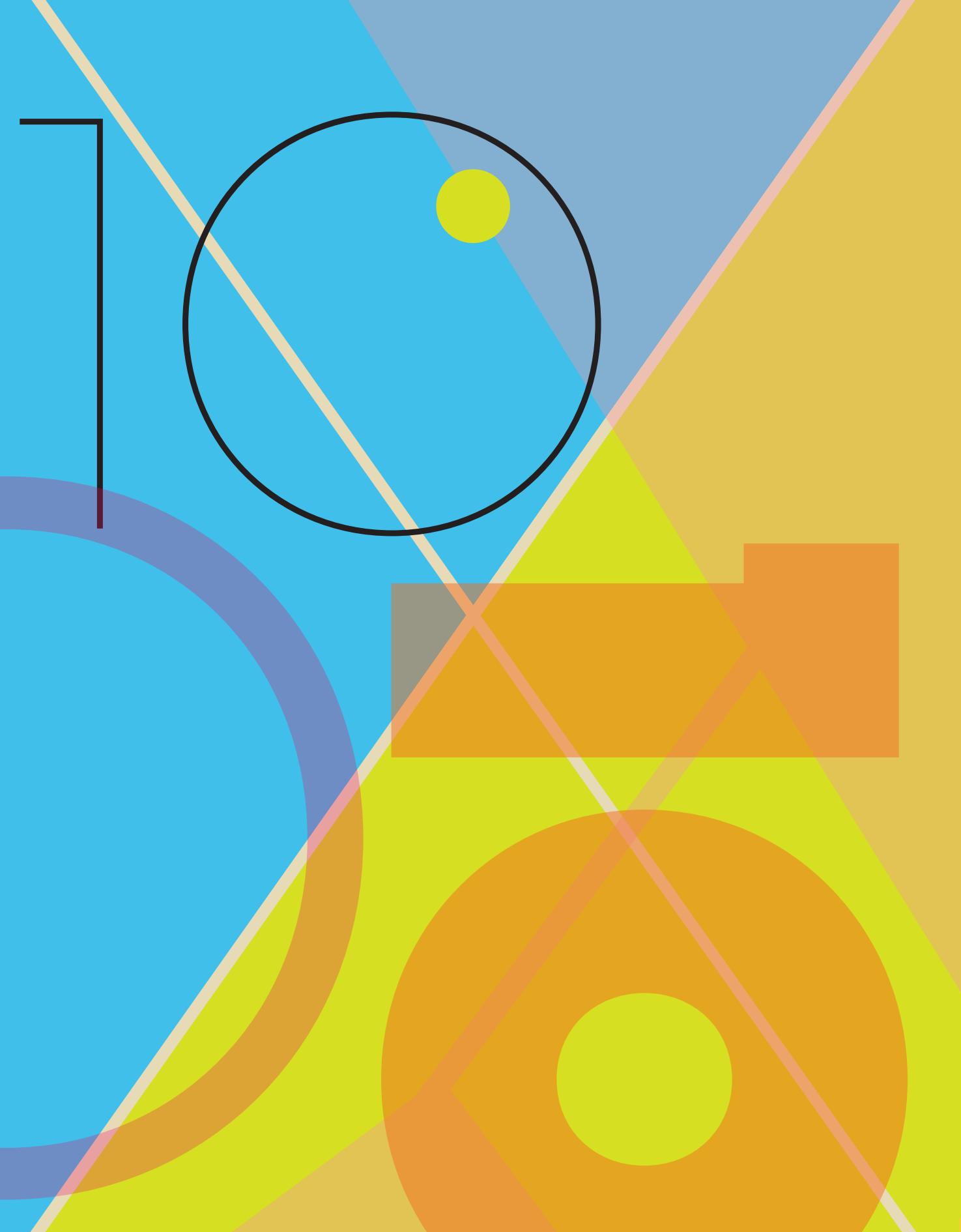
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PLAY YOUR ART OUT

We feature the eye-catching work of Yorkshire artist Justin Burns who has created a series of stunning prints to mark the 10th anniversary of The Lexus Ilkley Open.

The art of words is a beautiful thing and nobody captures that better than Justin Burns whose stunning work has been lighting up galleries across the country.

And the Yorkshire-based graphic designer and artist has now produced a series of stunning prints to commemorate the 10 years that Ilkley has been host to the prestigious tennis tournament.

Justin, who brilliantly combines his passion for art and the written word with powerful simplicity, was commissioned by leading Yorkshire lifestyle magazine **beyond** to produce a striking front cover for their summer issue and as these vibrant images show, he didn't disappoint.

His incredible use of colours, shapes, text and numbers provide the perfect backdrop to his work and earned him a growing reputation in the art world and seen him collaborate with Yorkshire poet Ian McMillan and esteemed typographical artist Anthony Burrill in recent years.

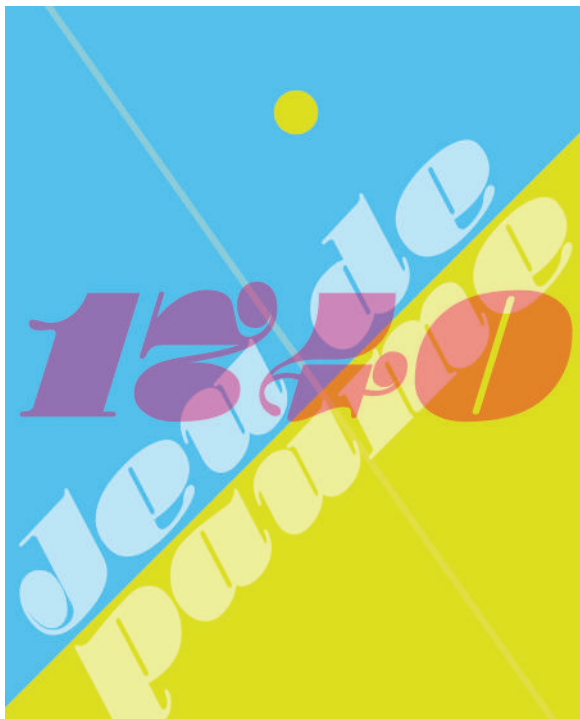
Focusing on how lettering, typography, and graphic design contribute to the development and experience of various landscapes and subjects, Justin has brought to life the sights and sounds of everything from rugged Yorkshire moorland to English seaside resorts and his work to mark the 10th anniversary of this Yorkshire sporting showcase is no exception.

Last year, his stunning exhibition Signs of the Seaside saw him work with McMillan and Burrill to portray the nostalgia of seaside resorts and his use of typography to capture the magic of piers, promenades, fairgrounds and theatres were a revelation.

Based in Menston, West Yorkshire, Justin's work was also showcased at the tennis club last year in a series that perfectly captured the rugged landscape of Ilkley alongside its sporting heritage.

Justin Burns is a graphic designer, artist, and Head of the School of Arts at the University of Derby.

You can see more of his work on instagram @jburnsdesign.



AUTOGRAPHS



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