

## Presenter/Commentator/Analyst Biogs

### Sue Barker



A former World No. 3 tennis player, Sue started work as a sports broadcaster with Australia's Channel 7 in 1985. She then joined BSB in 1990 and later moved to Sky Sports. She made her BBC Sport TV debut co-presenting the evening highlights programme from Wimbledon 93 with Harry Carpenter. Since then she has gained a wealth of experience presenting world class competitions, including coverage of other major tennis tournaments, Summer and Winter Olympics, Commonwealth Games, World and European Skating Championships, and racing from Longchamps.

In addition, Sue became the established host for *Sunday Grandstand* in 1994 and has worked on the BBC TV documentary *Chalk Flew Up*, a history of Wimbledon's Court No. 1 which made its final appearance during Wimbledon 95. Her credits also include hosting *Sports Review Of The Year* and *A Question Of Sport*. Among her many accolades are the 1998 TRIC award for Sports Presenter/Reporter of the Year.

### John Inverdale

John began his broadcasting career with BBC Radio Lincolnshire in 1982. He joined BBC



Radio Sport in 1985, working for Radio 4's *Today* programme and on Radio 2 sports output before joining Radio 5 in 1988 as presenter of its flagship sports programme, *Sport On Five*.

John has presented BBC Radio Five Live's coverage of many major sports events including Wimbledon Championships, Olympic Games and World Cups (football and rugby). He was named Sony Broadcaster of the Year in 1997 for his R5L drivetime show, and hosts *Any Sporting Questions?*

### Tony Adamson

Radio Five Live's golf correspondent gained his first experience in broadcasting whilst working for the Forces Broadcasting Service. Having worked as a junior newspaper journalist before joining BBC Radio Oxford in 1970 as sports reporter, Tony subsequently became sports editor and, on joining the BBC Sport department in London, presented programmes such as *Sport On Two* and *Sport On Four*. He spent six years working on tennis full time and has been covering Wimbledon for 21 years.

## John Alexander

Australian John Alexander has been a long-time member of the BBC's tennis commentary team. John is best known for representing his country 11 times in the Davis Cup. He has won men's singles three times at Wimbledon alongside many other major grand slams.

## Chris Bailey



Chris is perhaps best remembered for his epic second-round encounter at Wimbledon in 1993 against fifth seed Goran Ivanisevic, which he lost 9-7 in the fifth set. Born in April 1968 in Norwich, Chris reached the quarter-finals at Queen's in 1989 en route to a career-high world ranking of 126. A former national under-12s champion (1980) and Wimbledon junior quarter-finalist in 1986, he retired because of injury in 1994. Chris has also co-presented coverage of the French Open for BBC Choice.

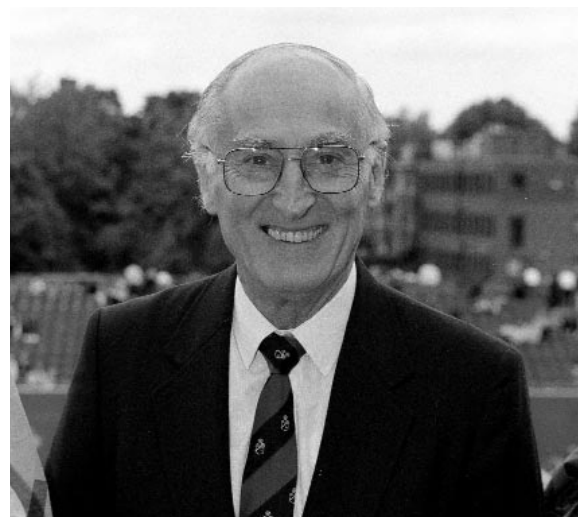
## Clare Balding

Radio Five Live broadcaster and BBC Television's racing presenter Clare Balding fronts this year's Wimbledon coverage on Radio Five Live. Having previously covered a wide range of sports and events from Wimbledon and the Atlanta and Sydney Olympics, through to rugby union and the Cheltenham Festival, Clare



will be going solo this year as the main presenter of Five Live's Wimbledon coverage, leading an expert team of commentators, reporters and summarisers. She began her BBC career with BBC Radio Five Live in 1993, presenting the racing bulletin on *Danny Baker's Morning Edition*.

## John Barrett



John succeeded the late Dan Maskell as BBC TV's "voice of tennis". A former British No. 5, he played in every Wimbledon Championships between 1950 and 1970 and represented Great Britain in the Davis Cup in 1956 and 1957. A

highly-respected tennis coach and administrator, John commentated on his first Wimbledon for BBC television in 1971 and has not missed a year since. He has also worked for TV networks in Australia, Hong Kong, Canada and America, as tennis correspondent for the *Financial Times*, and is the author of many books on the game.

## Boris Becker



Wimbledon crowd favourite Boris Becker has joined the BBC Sport commentary team for the 2002 Championships. Born in 1967, in Leimen, Germany, Boris became the youngest man to win Wimbledon at 17 years 7 months when he defeated Kevin Curren in 1985. Over his career he won 49 ATP singles titles, including six Grand Slam titles, and became World No. 1 for the first time after victory at the Australian Open in 1991.

## Iain Carter



Radio Five Live's tennis correspondent reports on Wimbledon and other major tennis tournaments throughout the year. Iain joined the BBC in 1988 as Sports Producer at BBC Radio Leicester, having previously worked as an agency news reporter and news reporter for BBC Radio Trent. Following that he joined BBC World Service sport and covered cricket tours in the West Indies, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Last year Iain won the ATP Media Excellence Award.

## Pat Cash



Pat was a popular winner of the men's singles title at Wimbledon in 1987, famously climbing through the seats on Centre Court to embrace his family after beating Ivan Lendl in straight sets. Earlier that year, he lost a tough five-setter to Stefan Edberg in the final of the Australian Open. Born in Melbourne in May 1965, he turned pro in 1982 and reached his highest ranking of World No. 4 in 1988. In 1984, he became the youngest player to compete in the Davis Cup Final, helping Australia to defeat Sweden 3-2.

## Andrew Castle

A former British No. 1 singles and doubles tennis champion, Andrew became a professional tennis player in 1986 after completing a marketing degree in America. He was a member of the UK's Olympic teams in Seoul in 1988 and

Barcelona in 1992, and also part of the British teams for the Davis and European Cups.

## Matt Chilton

Matt joined the BBC in 1997 when he joined the *Ski Sunday* team. Matt has worked on the programme every season since joining, but in 2001 he joined the BBC's BAFTA award winning interactive television team to cover the Wimbledon Tennis Championships. He has also branched into other sports, including beach volleyball when, during Sydney 2000, he became the BBC's main commentator for this new sport in the Olympics.

## Mark Cox



Mark's finest hour as a player was as a member of the Great Britain team which reached the final of the 1978 Davis Cup against the USA. In the semi-final against Australia, he partnered David Lloyd to victory in the deciding doubles rubber. Mark won 10 singles tournaments between 1970 and 1977, was twice a quarter-finalist in the Australian Open, reached the quarter-finals of the US Open in 1966, and was runner-up at Queen's in 1977. He was born in Leicester in July 1943.

## Annabel Croft



After taking up tennis at the age of nine, Annabel became, at 15, the youngest Briton to play at Wimbledon for nearly 100 years. In 1984, she was a Wimbledon Junior Champion and a year later picked up her first senior tournament trophy in San Diego. Annabel retired from the international circuit at 21, having established herself as British No. 1, ranked in the world's top 25. She has since carved a career in entertainment, particularly on TV, and has also worked as a tennis summariser for Eurosport. Annabel married former America's Cup yachtsman Mel Coleman in 1993, and the couple have three children.

## Barry Davies

One of the BBC's most versatile commentators, Barry joined BBC Radio in 1963 after leaving the Army. He was part of ITV's commentary team for the 1966 World Cup Finals and reported for ITV on the 1968 Olympics. Barry rejoined the BBC in 1969 and has worked on a succession of World Cups, Summer and Winter



Olympics and Commonwealth Games, plus numerous Wimbledon Championships. A *Match Of The Day* regular, he also commentates on ice skating, ice hockey and badminton.

## Jo Durie

Former British No. 1, Jo reached a world ranking of 5 in 1983. She first played at Wimbledon in 1977, losing in the first round to eventual champion Virginia Wade, and made her final appearance at the Championships in 1995, retiring after 18 years on the professional circuit. Jo won seven national titles, reached the ladies' singles quarter finals of Wimbledon and, with Jeremy Bates, took the mixed doubles title at Wimbledon in 1987 and at the Australian Open in 1991.

## Chris Evert

Commonly regarded as one of the greatest tennis players in the history of the sport, Chris Evert has joined BBC television for Wimbledon 2002 and will commentate on the women's game and be a studio guest. Over her career she won 157 singles titles and reached the semi finals or better of every Grand Slam she entered from 1971 to 1983. She is no stranger to Wimbledon having won the singles title in 1974,

1976 and 1981. From 1975 to 1981 Chris was No. 1 in the world and until her retirement in 1989 she never ranked lower than No. 4.

## Peter Fleming

Peter teamed up with John McEnroe to form the most formidable doubles partnership in the men's game during the Eighties. The pair won the Wimbledon men's doubles title in 1979, 1981, 1983 and 1984 and took the US Open doubles crown in 1979, 1981 and 1983. In total, Fleming and McEnroe took 57 doubles titles.

## Brad Gilbert

Brad, a new signing to the Five Live team, brings his own experience to Wimbledon in his analysis of players' performances. Previously ranked as high as fourth in the world (1990), he won 20 singles titles in a career that stretched from 1982 until 1994. He is equally well known for his role in the career of Andre Agassi; Brad coached Agassi to six Grand Slam titles plus a gold medal at the 1996 Olympics, making Agassi the only male player in history to have won all four Grand Slam singles titles and Olympic gold.

## Tony Gubba



Tony was presenter of *Sportsnight* during 1973 to 1978 before moving on to commentate on a

range of sports, including cycling, ice skating, table tennis and squash. He has been part of the BBC's coverage of World Cup Finals since 1974, all Olympic Games since 1972 and Winter Olympic Games since 1976.

## Hazel Irvine



Hazel's broadcasting career began in 1986 as a production assistant with Radio Clyde. She moved to sport a year later when she joined Scottish Television as a reporter. In 1990 Hazel joined BBC Scotland as presenter of *Sportscene* and in 1992 was part of the award-winning BBC team covering the Barcelona Olympics. Hazel has presented and reported on such important sporting events as the 1994 Commonwealth Games, 1998 Winter Olympics and the 1998 and 2002 World Cups. In 1997 she took over as the regular presenter of BBC Two's *Ski Sunday* and has also presented *Sunday Grandstand* and regularly reports for *Football Focus*. At the 1999 RTS Awards she was named Best Regional TV Presenter/Reporter.

## Christine Janes

At the age of 11, Christine was already predicting that she would become a top tennis player and, true to her word, she reached her first Wimbledon semi-final just five years later. As the

renowned "Miss Truman", she won the French Championships in 1959 and lost the 1961 Wimbledon ladies' singles final to Angela Mortimer. By 1969, she had also claimed the Italian and South African titles. Married to former Wasps rugby player Gerry Janes, Christine retired as a singles player in 1975 and began commentating at Wimbledon the same year.

## Ann Jones

Ann is one of Britain's most successful tennis players ever. Wimbledon ladies' champion in 1969 and the beaten finalist in 1967, she was also a semi-finalist on a further six occasions and a mixed doubles champion (with Fred Stolle) in 1969. She won the French Open in 1961 and 1966, reaching the final a further three times, and was twice a finalist at the US Championships. A table tennis international between 1953 and 1959, Birmingham-born Ann began commentating for the BBC in 1970 and is an experienced tennis administrator.

## John Lloyd

In reaching the final of the 1977 Australian Open, John Lloyd became the first Englishman to reach a singles final of a Grand Slam in the Open era. In the following year he achieved his highest ranking when he finished at No. 21. That year, John led an inspired British team to its most recent Davis Cup final where they were defeated by the US. During his career he collected three Grand Slam titles in mixed doubles, all with partner Wendy Turnbull, including back-to-back victories at Wimbledon in 1983 and 84. He now continues to provide the mix of class and competitive fire that has made him one of the most popular players on the senior circuit. When not competing on the senior tour he coaches GB's Davis Cup team.

## John McEnroe

John first made Grand Slam headlines in 1977 while still in his teens by capturing the French Open mixed doubles title and reaching the singles semi finals at Wimbledon. He asserted his mastery on the professional circuit soon after,



with three successive US Open Championships, in 1979, 1980 and 1981. He ended Bjorn Borg's five-year reign at Wimbledon with a commanding victory in 1981 that promoted him to the men's top-ranked player (and the youngest to achieve it), a position he held for four years.

He took another Wimbledon title in 1983, but John McEnroe's most memorable year was 1984 when he won both Wimbledon and US Open titles. In addition to his singles achievements, John dominated the field as a doubles player. With longtime partner Peter Fleming, John earned four Wimbledon titles and three US Open titles – Masters titles seven years in a row – plus 40 other doubles titles.

John has represented the United States in Davis Cup competition for many years, establishing the record for the most US Davis Cup wins (39 singles and 15 doubles). Currently, John McEnroe excels as a network television commentator for the CBS, NBC and USA Networks.

## David Mercer

Swansea-born David entered sports broadcasting as a freelance via BBC Wales in 1979 and joined BBC Radio Sport in London on a full-time basis in 1984. Tennis has been his



main sport since then, but he has also commented and reported on football, rugby union, rowing, skiing, skating, badminton, snooker, squash, ice hockey and American football. David, a former solicitor, was Welsh Junior Doubles champion in 1968, captained the tennis team at Nottingham University in 1969 and umpired the Wimbledon men's singles final in 1984.

## Martina Navratilova

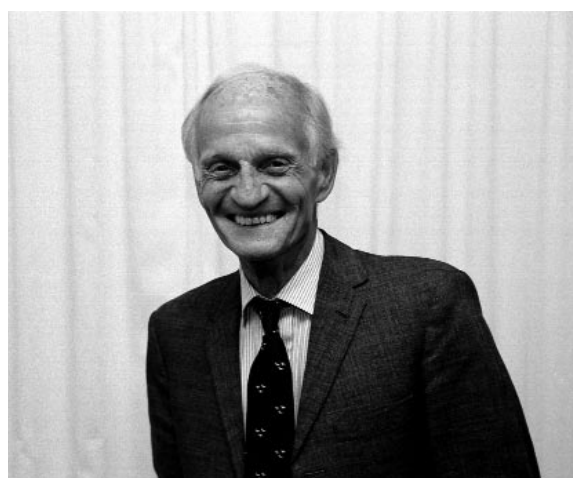
Born in Prague in 1956, Martina turned professional in 1975 and has become a sporting legend. She achieved 18 Grand Slam titles and 149 other singles titles in her career. Her amazing total of 167 singles titles is more than any other woman or man. Her rivalry with Chris Evert was one of the greatest and longest of all sporting rivalries. She won 1,438 matches in her career, including 19 Wimbledon titles (nine singles, seven women's doubles and three mixed), and lost only 212. Martina retired from singles in 1994, her last tournament being Wimbledon.

## Pam Shriver

Baltimore-born Pam turned pro in 1979 at the age of 17 and won 21 WTA Tour singles titles. She achieved a career-highest ranking of world

No. 3, reached the final of the US Open in 1978, and was a semi-finalist at Wimbledon in 1981, 1987 and 1988. Pam won the Wimbledon women's doubles crown with Martina Navratilova five times, and their victory at the 1992 US Hardcourts Championship was the pair's 79th title. She also won gold at the 1988 Olympics with Zena Garrison.

### **Bill Threlfall**



Former Fleet Air Arm pilot Bill began his commentary career with ITV, working for Thames and LWT. He then worked for BBC Radio before switching to BBC TV in 1974. As a player, he won a record eight Royal Navy titles, appeared at Wimbledon in the Fifties and represented England at international level.

Bill began coaching in Italy in 1967 and for the last 25 years has coached at London's Hurlingham Club. A five-times winner of the National Veterans Championship, he has played for Great Britain in veterans' competitions many times.

### **Virginia Wade**



Virginia's victory over Betty Stove in the 1977 Wimbledon ladies' singles final during the Queen's Silver Jubilee remains one of the world-famous tournament's most memorable triumphs. Born in Bournemouth in July 1945, Virginia's career also included winning the US Open in 1968, the Australian and Italian Opens in 1972, and four Grand Slam doubles titles. Awarded the OBE in 1986, she has worked as a tennis commentator for the BBC since 1981.