## The **BBC** team

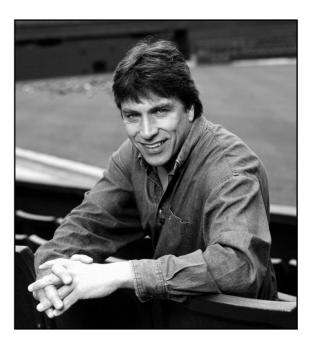
# The **BBC** team

Sue Barker



Former World No. 3 tennis player, French Open champion and Wimbledon semi-finalist, 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, The Grand National, The Derby and World and European Skating Championships. In addition, Sue has also hosted Grandstand and Sunday Grandstand and has worked on the BBC TV documentary Chalk Flew Up - a history of Wimbledon's Court No. I which made its final appearance during Wimbledon 95. Her credits also include hosting Sports Personality Of The Year and A Question Of Sport. Among her many accolades are the 1998 TRIC award for Sports Presenter/Reporter of the Year and the 2001 RTS sports presenter award.

John Inverdale

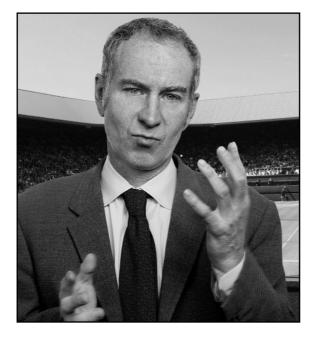


John began his broadcasting career with BBC Radio Lincolnshire in 1982. He joined BBC Radio Sport in 1985, working for Radio 4's *Today* programme and on Radio 2 sports output before joining Radio 5 in 1988 as presenter of its flagship sports programme, *Sport On 5.* John has presented BBC Radio Five Live's coverage of many major sports events including Wimbledon Championships, Olympic Games and World Cups (football and rugby). He also works extensively on BBC Sport's television output, including presenting the BBC's nightly round-up of the tennis action, *Today At Wimbledon.* 

## John McEnroe

A winner of 77 singles titles and 78 doubles, 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,

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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 seven years in a row. John represented the United States 12 times in Davis Cup competition, achieving five championship team wins and establishing the record for the most US Davis Cup wins (39 singles and 15 doubles). More recently, John was a doubles winner of the SAP Open in San Jose ATP Tournament in February 2006 at 47 years of age.

#### Jimmy Connors

Jimmy Connors pounded the tennis court for more than two professional decades. He won 109 career singles titles and was a finalist 54



times. He was ranked No. I in the world for 268 weeks (ranked No. I for 160 consecutive weeks). Connors was also ranked in the world's Top 10 for 16 consecutive years.

### 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.

## **Michael Stich**



Michael began playing tennis aged six and won the German national junior singles title in 1986. In his brilliant showing at Wimbledon in 1991 he beat Courier, defending champion Edberg and three-times winner Boris Becker in consecutive rounds for the title. That year, he posted a 13-match winning streak which included reaching the quarter finals at the US Open and winning titles in Stuttgart, Schenectady and Vienna. He also played the most singles and doubles on the Tour - 149 matches. Other career highlights include leading his country to the Davis Cup title against Australia in 1993, for the first time since 1989, and finishing as German No. I for the first time. Michael served on the ATP Tour Player Council in 1991 and has an overall playing record of 35-11 (21-9 in singles). He began the Michael Stich Foundation in November 1994 to help HIVpositive children in Germany.

### 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 tournament's most memorable triumphs. Born in Bournemouth in July 1945, her 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.

## **Tracy Austin**

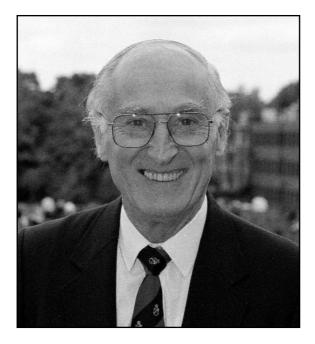


Tracy Austin received her first tennis lesson at age two and appeared on the cover of *World Tennis* at four. After winning 25 national titles as

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a junior, Austin launched her professional career by winning the first tournament she entered (Filderstadt, Germany, 1978) as a pro. Triumphs over Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova produced two US Open crowns for Austin. In 1978, she broke Navratilova's 37-match winning streak and, in the 1979 Italian Open, she broke Evert's 125-match clay court winning streak. Her incredibly consistent record earned her celebrity status and worldwide recognition. She became the youngest person to become No. I in the world in 1980 at age 17.Tracy represented the USA on winning Federation Cup and Wightman Cup teams. When forced to the sidelines in the mid Eighties, she translated her on-court experience into a successful broadcasting career.

### 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. He has also worked for TV networks in Australia, Hong Kong, Europe, Canada and America; as tennis correspondent for the *Financial Times*; and is the author of many books on the game. This will be his last year commentating on Wimbledon for the BBC, after 35 years.

#### 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 compiled three Grand Slam titles in mixed doubles, all with partner Wendy Turnbull, including back-to-back victories at Wimbledon in 1983 and 1984. 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.

### Andrew Castle

A former British No. I singles and doubles tennis champion, Andrew became a

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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. Andrew Castle is a regular anchor on GMTV.

### **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 quarterfinalist in 1986, he retired because of injury in 1994. Chris will be commentating on his 11th Wimbledon since joining the BBC in 1995. In 2005 Chris commentated on his first singles final with Tracey Austin and John McEnroe.

#### **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. He joined the BBC Television commentary team in 1992. Tennis has been his main sport since then, but he has also commentated 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.