

TWIRL *talk*

Welcome to the 1st edition of the United Twirl England Newsletter, your quarterly insight into baton in England. It has been an exciting year as UTE formally came together in November 2024 uniting Baton Twirlers and Majorettes across the country. So far, 2025 has been an exciting start on our journey together. Baton Twirlers have competed at their area competitions and National Individual Championships as well as selections for the upcoming international competitions this summer.

The Majorettes ran their first UTE Majorette Open at Blackpool in March, with teams attending from both North, South and the Isle of Man. The whole weekend was a success, with lots of dancing talent on display, not so much on the Karaoke though! England training is well under way, and in the final stages of planning for our first ever UTE Majorette international trip. The South hosted a very successful competition in May and the North just had a sell out competition on the 1st June.



We are a **CHARITY!**

United Twirl England is delighted to announce success with its application to become a registered charity. UTE is now a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This should benefit our members in the following ways:

- **Enhanced public perception of our sport**
- **Tax benefits for the organisation**
- **Increased fund-raising opportunities**
- **Attracting possible sponsors**
- **Reduced venue hire costs**

United Twirl England is now listed under the Charity Register, with the number 1213210. Having charity status will save the North Majorettes a lot of money for their National's venue hire next year and will hopefully provide similar benefits for all UTE areas. When booking a venue, remember to ask if there is any reduction for a registered charity. If you have any questions regarding this registration, please message:

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Athlete SPOTLIGHT



ROBBIE JOHNSON



I got into twirling because it runs in the family - my mum was a twirler, and so was my nan, but there wasn't a para section when I was younger, so I didn't have the chance to twirl. Growing up, I was never very confident as I was born with Cerebral Palsy, so for a long time I didn't think I'd ever be able to twirl properly, but now with para section it's given me one of the biggest achievements of my life - winning the overall title. Baton twirling gives me something to get up for in the morning, and for the first time, I feel proud to be me. I love my team, I love Maxine my trainer, and honestly, this is the best thing I've ever done.

PAISLEY JAMES BOOTS & PHOEBE SELBY

At the National Championships in October, our members were given the opportunity to vote for someone who shines a positive light on the Majorette world and is well respected by athletes, coaches and supporters from all teams. The Members voted for were Paisley James Boots from Insync and Phoebe Selby from Yorkshire Supremes. Both athletes set fantastic examples both on and off the arena and are truly dedicated to the sport. Both take part in weekly Development training with Team England Majorettes alongside their own team training and have both recently taken part in the baton Twirling Nationals in Crawley, with Phoebe placing as Junior Basic Strut National Champion. They both have an exciting year to come and will be fulfilling their duties as role models by reading the Athlete Oath at the Majorette Nationals in October while handing over to next years recipients of the role model award.



DATES FOR YOUR *diary*



JUNE

22nd - Witham Majorette Competition
28th - SC Open Competition, Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth

JULY

1st-6th - IBTF European Rhythmic Twirl and Freestyle Championships, Lledia, Spain
13th - Barnsley Majorette Competition
20th - Witham Majorette Competition
27th - SW Open Competition, Wellsprings Leisure Centre, Taunton

AUGUST

2nd-10th - IBTF World Majorettes and Baton Twirling Championships and Nations Cup, Turin, Italy

SEPTEMBER

20th - SW Open Competition, Broadoak Academy Sports Centre, Weston-Super-Mare
21st - SW Seminar, Broadoak Academy Sports Centre, Weston-Super-Mare

OCTOBER

22nd - 25th European Majorettes Cup, Porec, Croatia
25th-26th - UTE National Team Championships, Bournemouth
27th - 29th - Twirlfest 2025, Bournemouth

FYI - Information and dates will be coming soon regarding 2026 European Selections

info@unitedtwirlengland.org

UNITED TWIRL ENGLAND CHAIR: ANITA STANFORTH | VICE CHAIR: NICOLA O'NEILL

WHO'S WHO?

GET TO KNOW THE UTE EXECUTIVE BOARD



Chair – Anita Stanforth

Anita has been involved in twirling since 1997 when her daughter joined our sport. It has been an incredible experience after joining the NBTA executive board and later becoming Chair. Anita is now the Chair of our united associations.



Vice Chair - Nicky O'Neill

Nicky has been involved in twirling since 1974. She has been a key figure in uniting our organisations as well as internationally and looks forward to the exciting times ahead for us all.



Treasurer – Val Towers

Val joined the twirling world over 40 years ago on the Isle of Man. Over this time, she has held various roles until becoming treasurer for BBTSA and is now treasurer for UTE.



Secretary – Tony Pratt

Tony was involved in the Scottish Federation from 1980. He became secretary for BBTSA in 2016 and has continued this role for UTE.



Competition Manager – Claire White

Claire has been involved in the twirling world for 35 years, from competitor, to club leader and coach and now a twirling mum. Claire became competition officer for her region in BBTSA and is now competition manager for UTE.



Business Manager – Denise Pearse

Denise was a founding member of NBTA in 1985 after being a twirling mum years before. Denise has served on executive committees at both European and World level as well as being England team manager for NBTA. She is now lending her talents to UTE as business manager.



Comms Manager – Liz Mouzer

Starting out as a twirling mum, Liz became the England team manager and later joined the BBTSA executive committee. She is now the Comms and Media manager for UTE. She is excited to help put the face of UTE on the map and showcase our sport through social media.



Sponsorship Manager - Ann Cullum

Known to us as the "Raffle Lady" Ann brings her fund raising and sales skills to us from her work at Norwich City Football Club. She has been in the twirling world by way of her daughters and granddaughter for 35 years.



Technical Director – Zoey Gaskin

Zoey has evolved from athlete to coach to judge and clinician at various levels. Serving on the BBTSA executive committee since 2009. Zoey is committed to our sport and is looking forward to a bright future as a united front.



Member at Large – Maxine Halford

Maxine has been involved in twirling for 50 years, as an athlete, coach and judge at both BBTSA and NBTA. She was part of the NBTA Europe technical board for many years, supporting teaching and judges development and she now sits on the IBTF board helping support judges courses.



Member at Large – Jenna Lumb

Jenna started her twirling journey at age 7 and evolved from athlete into judge, judging internationally since 2002. At NBTA she was the judges coordinator and is looking forward to bringing her experience into UTE.



Member at Large – Chris Wells

Chris was introduced to twirling 35 years ago through her daughter. Over the years she held various roles at NBTA including Chair, and looks forward to the times ahead as UTE.