



Name	Nicky O'Neill
Role(s)	BBTSA Chair WBTF – Vice President WBTF – Chair European Commission
How did I get involved in Twirling	<p>I began my involvement with twirling back in 1974 when my mum, Audrey O'Neill MBE, started a majorette club, The Thurrock Bellettes, based in South Ockendon, Essex. My Brother was a member of an all boys marching band and my mum was the secretary.</p> <p>There were many girls attached to the band who had nothing to do and so with a loan from my dad and Much encouragement from him she began a majorette team, we never looked back and the Bellettes, the marching band, Which they formed a few years later became our lives.</p> <p>My mum was also a founding member of the British Majorette Association, which evolved into the BBTSA and took the role of the Competition Director, a position she held for some 30+ years, only retiring from her involvement in the sport when she was 85.</p> <p>My mum has been my biggest role model and I continue her legacy for the sport she introduced me to and the one she loved</p>
Most memorable twirling occasion	<p>The Youth on Parade march past down the Mall in London to celebrate the Queens Silver Jubilee.</p> <p>Appearing on the front page of the Sunday Times, outside the Albert Hall in London waiting to perform.</p> <p>Being present at Buckingham Palace when my mum received the MBE on behalf of her involvement in the sport of baton twirling.</p> <p>Coaching so many super athletes and watching them perform, from the local fun competitions to European and World Competitions.</p> <p>Working as a coach with the National Squad and all involved, both athletes and coaches.</p> <p>I never imagined all those years ago that I would not only be the chair of the BBTSA but be working on behalf of twirling every day of my life but I am and feel very lucky to be involved in such a wonderful diverse sport.</p>
Interesting fact about me	I'm a qualified sports and drop tissue massage therapist