



**Helping all of us in
West Sussex make the most of
the 2012 Games**

Newsletter

September 2010

There are less than 700 days to go until the start of the London 2012 Games, and there's plenty going on in West Sussex.

We profile our *2012 Hopefuls*, and celebrate those who have competed in previous games in our *Roll of Honour*. There's information on the call to the public to get involved in supporting the Games, and about events coming up, including the pilot for *Whispering Woods*, and the chance to watch the Barbados netball team warming-up for the Commonwealth Games.

Remember to regularly check the website www.westsussex-aheadofthegame.com for up to the minute news.

London 2012 Open Weekend events across West Sussex

'Challenges' Open Weekend

Thousands of people joined in activities to mark the two-year countdown to the London 2012 Games during Open Weekend.

The theme of the 2010 Open Weekend (July 23-25) was 'challenges', and a broad range of events took place across the county.

Events included:

The *GO 5 Freedom Challenge* at Olympos Burgess Hill, Haywards Heath and East Grinstead, which encouraged people to try five sports.

The colourful *Crawley Diego Garcian Society Fair* at K2 Crawley, which challenged the public to learn about different cultures through dance, music and food.

Field of Flags – Dysarticulate at Chichester Library and Pallant House Gallery, where hundreds of recycled flags were made and then planted around the city.

Sparks in the Park in Horsham, which included a wide range of sports for people to try such as Stoolball, Baseball, Karate and Basketball; and 'One World Carnival', which weaved its way through Horsham Park. The Carnival included costumes designed by disabled and non-disabled people involved in *Blue Touch Paper Carnival*, one of the key strands of the *Ahead of the Game* cultural programme, with the London 2012 Inspire Mark. Other costumes were created by Kinetika.

Thank you to all event organisers and helpers. A gallery of photos is available on the Ahead of the Game web site.

Contact: Carolyn Carr, West Sussex Coordinator for the 2012 Games
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West Sussex Olympians and Paralympians

Meet the 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games hopefuls

The [2012 Hopefuls and Roll of Honour](#) features are now available on the *West Sussex-Ahead of the Game* web site.

Each of our *2012 Hopefuls* has a profile, which includes their West Sussex connection, their recent sporting achievements, and their hopes for 2012.

Some of our *2012 Hopefuls* have competed at previous Games, including Paralympic swimmer Sascha Kindred, who used to live in Crawley, and World Champion swimmer Gemma Spofforth, whose family home is in Slindon; others are training to compete at their first Games in London, including Worthing's wheelchair tennis player Lauren Jones, and handball player Mark Hawkins.

The *Roll of Honour* celebrates the county's Olympians and Paralympians of the past. The *Roll of Honour* features people from the Summer Games of 1912 in Stockholm, to 2008 in Beijing. The more well known include Steyning's Sally Gunnell OBE, Daley Thompson CBE and Duncan Goodhew MBE, who grew up in Yapton. Also featured are the achievements of many more such as Horsham born John Sheffield at the 1936 Berlin Games, and Denise St Aubyn Hubbard in London in 1948, who lives near Chichester.

We are considering how we can support our *2012 Hopefuls* over the next two years, and would welcome any further nominations for the *Roll of Honour*.

Contact: Carolyn Carr, West Sussex Coordinator for the 2012 Games
Carolyn.carr@westsussex.gov.uk or call 01243 753849

Physical activity, Sport and Pre-Games training camps

Barbados teams train in West Sussex

Netballers get ready for the Commonwealth Games: watch warm-up games for free.

Hockey and netball teams representing Barbados are enjoying the training facilities West Sussex has to offer in the warm up to international competitions.

The Barbados netball team is preparing for the Commonwealth Games from September 18 - 28 by using the training facilities at K2 Crawley. Everyone is invited to watch them in action as they compete in two warm-up games:

Barbados Vs England Excel Squad at The Triangle, Burgess Hill on Friday 24 September. Game starts at 18:30 Doors open at 17:30
Barbados Vs Team Bath Netball Club at K2 Crawley on Sunday 26 September. Game starts at 19:00 Doors open at 18:00

Entry to watch both games is free, and Under 16's must be accompanied by a supervising adult. To ensure your place in the crowd, e-mail k2enquiries@freedom-leisure.co.uk You will be sent a printable voucher that guarantees entry for anyone arriving at the venue more than 30 minutes before the start of the game. If you arrive early, you will also get the chance to see the teams' warm-up.

The netball squad's visit follows hot on the heels of the country's hockey teams coming to West Sussex for a training camp in June. The men's and ladies' teams stayed in Crawley and played three matches each at the East Grinstead Sports Club.

In July, a meeting with representatives of the Barbados Olympic Association took place to discuss the potential of more partnership working in the lead up to the 2012 Games. Ideas discussed included training camps in 2011 as part of the Barbados teams' build-up to the Pan-American Games; business and tourism links; cultural links; and sporting links, including the possibility of a Barbados team taking part in the *Sussex Legacy Games*. All parties agreed to work towards signing a Memorandum of Understanding for the partnership.

Contact: Carolyn Carr, West Sussex Coordinator for the 2012 Games
carolyn.carr@westsussex.gov.uk

Sussex Legacy Games to start in 2011

Olympic-style competition for talented young sportspeople in Sussex takes shape.

All 9 School Sport Partnerships in Sussex are working together on a new event inspired by the London 2012 Games, which is intended to provide a lasting legacy for talented young sportspeople in the county.

The *Sussex Legacy Games* will take place in July 2011 and July 2012 at K2 Crawley & Thomas Bennett Community College (subject to confirmation after pre-games training camp dates are confirmed). Competitors will be selected from existing school competitions in each partnership, and there will be events for school year 6 (U11s) and school year 8 (U13s) in eight sports: athletics, basketball, football, netball, rowing, rugby, swimming, hockey. There will also be participation events for Street 20 Cricket and indoor rowing, and links with the Parallel Youth Games disability sport competition.

Links to the broader 2012 games activities being considered include a Barbados team taking part; local businesses offering support and sponsorship; and some of the West Sussex *2012 Hopefuls* attending.

Contact: Chris Yelling, Partnership Development Manager, Crawley School Sport Partnership cyelling@wsgfl.org.uk

Paralympic Taster Open Morning

Would-be Paralympic Athletes were put through their paces at a Paralympic Open Morning at K2 Crawley.

Young people with disabilities were encouraged to try Paralympic disciplines including archery, athletics, boccia and table tennis, as part of the two-year countdown to the Paralympic Games in 2012.

The event was part of *Crawley in Motion*, Crawley's programme of projects taking place in the lead up to the London 2012 celebrations. For more information visit the [Crawley Borough Council](http://www.crawley-borough-council.gov.uk) web site.

Contact: Dave Downey, Freedom Leisure's Community Sports Development Officer, dave.downey@freedom-leisure.co.uk

Set4Success in Horsham

Scheme launched to support the costs of training and competing for young talented sports people.

It's been founded by a partnership between Horsham District Rotary Clubs, Horsham District Council and Horsham District Schools, with advice and guidance being provided by the charity SportsAid.

Over the coming months the full details of the scheme and its management will be finalised. Plans include one significant annual fund raising event which will provide an opportunity to showcase the Horsham District, its sporting successes and community spirit.

Businesses, sporting bodies, and any other community groups and organisations are invited to express their interest in getting involved by contacting Horsham Rotary Club.

Contact: John Le Rossignol, Rotary Club of Horsham, 01403 754005 or email jleross@attglobal.net

Sussex Sports Awards 2010

Active Sussex has launched nominations for individuals, clubs and players.

The 14 categories for the 2010 Awards are:

- Active Workplace of the Year
- Active Sussex Professional of the Year
- Coach of the Year
- Young Coach of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Young Volunteer of the Year
- Unsung Hero Award
- Club of the Year
- Team of the Year
- Young Team of the Year
- Disabled Sports Personality of the Year
- Young Sports Personality of the Year
- Sports Personality of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations close on 12 October. Visit the [Active Sussex](http://ActiveSussex.org) web site for details.

Contact: Sally Harper sharper@activesussex.org

Culture

Whispering Woods

The pilot event will take place on Sunday 26th September at Tilgate Park, Crawley, and is already sold out.

Whispering Woods is one of the strands of the *Ahead of the Game* Cultural Programme, inspired by the London 2012 Games. The large-scale singing project is created to bring together hundreds of singers from all over West Sussex to sing in the landscape.

120 residents aged between 18 to 80 from across the County have been working together every week for three months, to sing 10 beautiful and original folk songs inspired by the world's oldest singing traditions. The group will be singing music from local and international composers, including Emily Barden (West Sussex) and the UK premiere of a BBC Commissioned folk song by the eminent Bulgarian composer, Kyril Todorov.

The event at Tilgate Park is a pilot and the first of three events. Next year there are plans to organise the event in a West Sussex forest as part of the London 2012 Games Discovering Places programme. The event is being used to learn as much as possible about the singers' and audiences' experience.

The event is supported by Arts Council England, the London 2012 Games Creative Programmer and is part of the Discovering Places major programme events. The event has been produced in partnership with Crawley Borough Council, The Hawth, West Sussex County Music Service and West Sussex Arts Partnership.

Contact: Paul Ackerley, Creative Producer,
paul.ackerley@talktalk.net

Blue Touch Paper Carnival

Carnival training features in next steps.

I'll Show You workshop: The first *I'll Show You* event has been delivered at the University of Chichester. Carnival experts from the South East and London, all currently working in the county, received expert feedback from disability specialists to make their delivery accessible.

How To: A group of people with learning disabilities from the Strawford Centre, Horsham, are the first to take part in the *How To* two-day residential project. Carnival experts from the *I'll Show You* event put training into practice and worked with 30 people to pass on Carnival skills at the Carnival Learning, Ryde, Isle of Wight. A group from the Strawford Centre, Horsham, also took part in the Ryde Carnival.

Barbados: Representatives from BTP have met with representatives of the Barbados Olympic Association to explore links as part of their on-going partnership with Crawley and West Sussex in the build up to the 2012 Games. It's hoped links can be forged with the Bajjan annual Cropover Festival in July 2011.

Contact: Paul Ackerley, Creative Producer, paul.ackerley@talktalk.net

Inspire Mark for Flying Books

A project designed to capture people's feelings in the run up to the 2012 Games has been awarded the London 2012 Inspire Mark.

Flying Books are a selection of notebooks that will arrive in a suitcase. Each notebook will have a label attached with a title, such as 'a book of seasons' or 'a book of nature'.

People are invited to write their thoughts, hopes and feelings in their chosen notebook, as they fly between destinations throughout the county.

The project is inspired by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games to create a visual legacy of how people felt during the build up to the Games.

The books will be travelling to places such as libraries, children and family centres, museums and colleges.

For a list of public events, visit www.thebigdraw.org.uk

Contact: Clare Halstead, Arts in Educations Co-ordinator for West Sussex County Council on 01243 7568987 or clare.halstead@westsussex.gov.uk

Business

London 2012 Business Support Programme

Partners sought for 2012 business events in West Sussex.

A recent update has been published on the South East Business Support Programme for London 2012, which started in April 2008. The update highlights engagement with CompeteFor, the numbers of contracts won, and attendance at events and workshops. It also highlights the number of businesses that are now 'Fit to Supply' into the Public Sector, in part as a result of their participation in the programme.

The BSK-CiC team are hoping to run further 2012 events and workshops over the next 6 months, and are looking for partners to support the delivery of these activities. Some West Sussex Districts and Boroughs have expressed an interest in this opportunity, and are having discussions with BSK-CiC to take this forward.

The most recent business support workshop in the county, Advanced Bid-Writing, took place in Arundel in July and was sold out, suggesting there is continuing demand for such events.

Contact: Paul Toben, Regional Programme Manager - London 2012 Paul.Toben@bsk-cic.co.uk

Launch of the fundraising programme: Our Team 2012

A new and innovative fundraising programme has been launched to help meet the £25million fundraising target set for Team 2012.

Designed exclusively for small and medium sized companies (SME's), Our Team 2012 provides smaller businesses with an opportunity to support high performance Olympic and Paralympic sport, as we enter this most exciting phase in the build up to London 2012 while raising vital funds to equip our athletes with the best training and equipment required to compete at the highest level.

Our Team 2012 will raise funds by creating a unique opportunity for smaller firms to share in the excitement at the coming of the London Games while providing a catalogue of business benefits.

SMEs will also enjoy networking opportunities in their own region, seminars, insight and training. At a cost of under £10,000 per annum for the two year programme it is designed to be accessible.

For more information log on to www.team-2012.com

Education, Skills and Volunteering

More schools join Get Set

156 West Sussex schools are registered with *Get Set*.

The figure for the end of July shows more West Sussex schools are getting involved in *Get Set*, the official London 2012 Education programme, with 44% now registered. All schools are encouraged to take part, as there are now less than two years to the London 2012 Games.

Bognor Regis Community College remains the only West Sussex school to have joined the *Get Set Network*.

Visit the [Get Set](#) web site for more information.

Tate Movie Truck rolls into Crawley

Crawley Memorial Gardens was the location for a stop on the Tate Movie Project.

The national roadshow gives children the chance to take part in creating the Tate Movie - the first of its kind - an animation film made by, and for, children. The project is part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

The truck is taking in 55 locations across the UK over three months.

The finished film will be broadcast on BBC TV in mid-2011. Meanwhile, CBBC's Blue Peter will be following the real-life production process and encouraging young people to get involved. It is hoped that up to a million children will be involved in the project as a whole.

For further information log on to the [Tate Movie](#) web site.

Transport, security and emergency management

Planning work on track

Transport and resilience work moves forward.

A West Sussex County Council Transport Board meets regularly to identify and plan for key transport issues associated with the London 2012 Games. As part of this work, a presentation was made to the Bus Operators Forum on 2012 plans.

A number of members of the Sussex Resilience Forum's 2012 sub-group met recently to undertake a gap analysis exercise. A full report is being prepared to guide resilience activities up to and during Games-time in 2012.

Firefighters from West Sussex are amongst those who have taken part in a national exercise in preparation for the 2012 Games. All involved agreed it was a useful task as a number of issues were identified.

Contact: Carolyn Carr, West Sussex Coordinator for the 2012 Games
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National and Regional News

Volunteering at the Olympics and Paralympics

The campaign to recruit up to 70,000 volunteers for London 2012 Games Makers has been launched.

Everyone from specialist positions such as doctors, anti-doping personnel and scoreboard operators can apply. Those interested in non-specialist roles, which will cover a broad range of activities such as ticket checking and uniform distribution, are invited to apply to be Games-makers. Applications opened on the 15 September, and close on the 27 October. Visit the [London 2012 web site](#) for more.

Making the most of Volunteering in the lead up to 2012

Voluntary Action Maidstone hosting a workshop.

LOCOG estimate 1million people will be inspired by the idea of **volunteering at the Games**. They have predicted that half a million people will explore applying, and 250,000 will actually apply to be London 2012 Games-makers.

Voluntary Action Maidstone is hosting a free workshop on Tuesday October 19 to enable organisations in the South East to maximise this interest in volunteering and create new opportunities that will excite people and **encourage them to give their time locally**. Organisations will learn how to maximise the excitement and inspiration generated by the Games and use it to attract and keep new volunteers.

The workshop is being run by the 2012 Inspiration and Legacy team at Volunteering England and is the only one in the South East region.

If you would like to attend the free event in Maidstone, please email charlotte@vam-online.org.uk

Discovering Places

Discovering Places, part of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, has been launched.

Discovering Places is a UK-wide campaign giving participants the opportunity to discover, explore, be inspired by and benefit from the UK's hidden gems – historic and contemporary buildings, public spaces and natural places in and around the cities, towns and villages where they live and work. Our own *Whispering Woods* is already involved with the programme.

For more information visit the [Discovering Places](#) web site.

Businesses encouraged to improve disability access

Up to a million disabled visitors are expected in London in 2012 for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Disabled consumers are an often-overlooked market worth £40-£80 billion annually, according to a recent report *2012 Legacy for Disabled People: Inclusive and Accessible Business*, jointly commissioned by the Business Department and the Office for Disability Issues.

For an average business, disabled customers may account for up to 20 per cent of their customers, but yet 32 per cent of disabled people have difficulty getting goods and services they want to use.

This means small companies could be losing one in five of their customers, it's claimed.

Read the full report on the [Department for Business, Innovation and Skills](#) web site.

For general information about *West Sussex—Ahead of the Game*

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