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April 2023



## The Big Help Out!

With the King's backing, 'The Big Help Out' on Monday the 8th of May aims to be a day of unprecedented community mobilisation, the biggest mobilisation and recruitment of volunteers in recent times. The Big Help Out aims to:

- Mobilise volunteers in every corner of the country on the Bank Holiday Monday of the coronation weekend, to make a difference in our communities.
- To create millions more opportunities in the weeks and months ahead to take part in local volunteering.
- Tell a positive story about the personal and community benefits of volunteering.

It is looking to create a volunteering legacy by setting up the infrastructure to enable long term change. This includes creating a database of volunteering opportunities and helping to lower the bar to make it easier to become a volunteer.

For more information [click here](#) #TheBigHelpOut



[thebighelpout.org.uk](http://thebighelpout.org.uk)

#TheBigHelpOut

## Alvechurch FC Mental Health Team

Last month members of the Sport Birmingham team and Neel Sood from Comic Relief visited the Alvechurch FC Ability Counts Birmingham Mental Health League. The mental health group started in December of last year, and has gone from strength to strength. This project has had a hugely positive impact on both the service users (who have been referred from the Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust) and the clubs who have delivered inclusive and welcoming sessions.

We look forward to continuing this positive work through our third Moving Lives Healthy Minds pilot based in Sparkhill. This will be in partnership with the Zinnia Centre (Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust) and Sparkhill

For more info on Alvechurch Ability Counts [click here](#)

For more info email [afc\\_disability@gmail.com](mailto:afc_disability@gmail.com)



## Who's who!

In this issue we introduce Workforce Officer Ben Gutteridge



Hi, I'm Ben!

I am the Workforce Officer with Active Communities based at Sport Birmingham. I support on the Birmingham and Solihull regions Local Delivery Pilot to help knit the city together by working with community organisations, staff, and volunteers to identify how we can collectively become more physically, socially and civically active. I have a keen interest in increasing resilience and transferable/core skills to support this.

Whilst I am new to the sector, I have joined after working in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee as part of the Volunteer project where it was a privilege to see and feel first-hand the pride and motivation of the city/region, and I hope to use this energy, and my understanding of the benefits of training and volunteering to support and grow the cities workforce.

Outside of the office I am passionate about nutrition and wellbeing, grounded through my Masters degree; and can regularly be found either exploring the food spots and green spaces in the city, on a badminton court, or badly cooking up a new recipe.



## Bowls' Big Weekend - 26th to 29th May 2023

The ambition of the Bowls' Big Weekend is to make bowls truly accessible and to increase participation in the sport. Bowls' Big Weekend gives new people the opportunity to have a go. It also gives the bowls community a great opportunity to come together and celebrate this great sport, with clubs opening their doors for new people to start their bowls journey.

To register your club for Bowls' Big Weekend, [click here](#)

## See Sport Differently Accessible Communication Conference 2023

British Blind Sport (BBS) and RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) will host an Accessible Communication Conference as part of See Sport Differently, a Sport England-funded initiative breaking down barriers for blind and partially sighted people in sport and activity.

The free event will take place on Tuesday 16th May 2023 from 9.30am to 4.30pm at Mattioli Woods, Welford Road, Stadium Aylestone Road, Leicester, LE2 7TR. It is open to communication teams as well as Disability Officers at national, regional and local levels who are passionate about accessibility and want to learn more about delivering inclusive and diverse communications.

To register your interest in the event, please [click here](#)



## Want to know more about Crowdfunding? Unlock up to £10,000 of extra funding from Sport England!

Did you know that Sport England and Crowdfunder UK are working together, helping sports clubs and organisations just like yours with crowdfunding campaigns. Thousands have already raised more than £15 million for a variety of projects around the country, building stronger connections with their communities in the process.

There is more than £8 million of extra funding available from Sport England for ideas that will tackle rising costs and overheads or facility improvements. Up to £10,000 can be accessed by eligible clubs and organisations that turn to crowdfunding.

The support team at Crowdfunder are on hand to help you every step of the way with free monthly webinars, help guides, online learning and help centre.

If your sports club or organisation is in the West Midlands, then you'll also be a suitable candidate to have one to one, local coaching to support and guide you every step of the way.

[Click here](#) to find out more details about Crowdfunding

[Click here](#) to book your place on the FREE Introduction to Crowdfunding for Sport - Online Workshop, being held on the 18th May

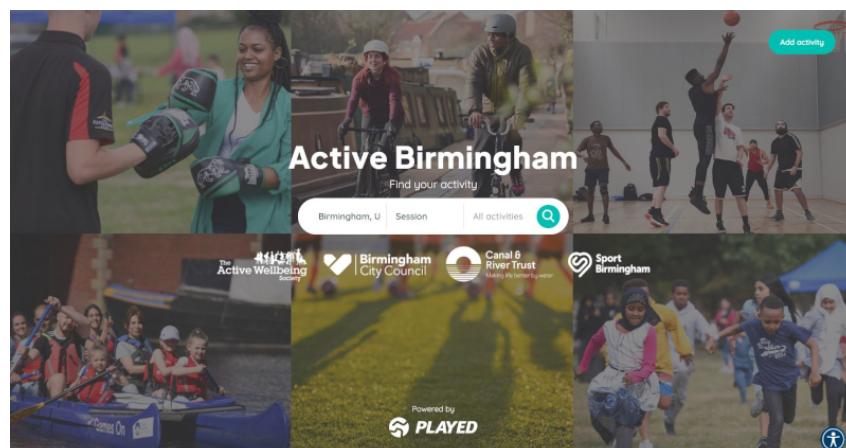
Email [jacky.white@sportbirmingham.org](mailto:jacky.white@sportbirmingham.org) for more info

## Opening School Facilities Programme

Sport Birmingham are leading on the Opening School Facilities programme for the city, with funding being made available by the Department for Education (DfE) to support schools to increase the opportunities available for young people to be active. We have worked with 10 schools so far, and plan to support a further 20 schools to open up their facilities outside of school hours for the benefit of their pupils and the local community.

Our aim is to provide safe spaces for young people to be physically active and ensure that opportunities are aimed at young people who are not currently engaging in sport outside of school. This includes ensuring a long-term plan is developed to increase community use of the facilities during evenings, weekends and school holidays.

For more information email: [schools@sportbirmingham.org](mailto:schools@sportbirmingham.org)



## Do you want to promote your activities to more local people?

The new Digital Activity finder, **Active Birmingham**, is here and waiting for you!

Check it out [here](#)

The activity finder will help organisations like yours, to connect with more local people and raise awareness of the amazing opportunities you provide. We want to make sure we capture as much community based activity as possible and invite you to be a part of it!

Interested in finding out more? Join our online webinar where you will find out how to reach new audiences and fill unused capacity by uploading your activities on Active Birmingham! **Sign up** [here](#)

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May – 12:00 (30 mins)

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*“Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.”*

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Confucius

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