

**Active Sussex Network 2023**  
Partner Updates

**Barry Squires**, Head of Sport, University of Brighton  
Email: [b.squires@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:b.squires@brighton.ac.uk)

As many will be aware the long lease of the former Virgin Active site at Falmer was bought back by the University in October 2021. Under the plans, the School of Sport and Health Sciences will be relocated to the University's Falmer campus, and co locate with Sport Brighton in the repurposed facility as of the start of the 2024-2025 academic year. Sport Brighton will be moving into and operating the new sport and health facility as of November 2023 which will allow for some community use around academic teaching and student sport. Please do get in touch if you wish to sign up to know more about access and opportunities available to community users and clubs when this is available.

**Brian Spicer**, Associate, Janet Spicer Table Tennis Academy  
Email: [brianspicer@btinternet.com](mailto:brianspicer@btinternet.com)

Brian is a level 2 Coach License player and develops safe table tennis in West Sussex and Surrey

**Conrad Brunner**, Director, St Ann's Tennis, St Ann's Tennis CIC  
Email: [conrad@stannstennis.co.uk](mailto:conrad@stannstennis.co.uk)

I would like to update people about the significant ongoing tennis activity within Sussex: the rise of local parks clubs, significant investment in parks tennis facilities by the LTA, the development of youth tennis in the county, and the community leagues, including the legendary Parks League of Brighton & Hove.

**Ed Bartram**, Regional Project & Events Officer, Active Sussex  
Email: [ebartram@activesussex.org](mailto:ebartram@activesussex.org)

I have recently started a new role at Active Sussex, working with Active Partnerships across the South East on multi-sport facility projects. This exciting role will see me helping link national facility strategy to local priorities, knowledge and, most importantly, partners.

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**Fiona Dean**, Operations Manager, Sportitude  
Email: [Fdean@sportitude.org.uk](mailto:Fdean@sportitude.org.uk)

Sportitude run lunch time and afterschool clubs as well as CPD where we support schools in their P.E delivery. We run both private camps and partner with ESCC for regular HAF funded holiday camps at various schools in the Eastbourne area and at Knockhatch. We are keen to speak to anyone wishing to take up our services, support us in expanding our business or discuss the use of the venue for future camps.

**Jackie Wood**, Healthy Communities Coach, Freedom Leisure  
Email: [jackie.wood@freedom-leisure.co.uk](mailto:jackie.wood@freedom-leisure.co.uk)

Working to engage with people who are less likely to be physically active for all sorts of reasons.

**Liz Bartlett**, Service Manager - Sports, Grace Eyre Foundation  
Email: [EBartlett@grace-eyre.org](mailto:EBartlett@grace-eyre.org)

Grace Eyre is a charity based in Brighton and Hove which provides support across all areas to adults with Learning Disabilities. In our Active Lives programme we provide a weekly schedule of art, learning and development and sport and wellbeing opportunities. The latter includes sessions such as cricket with Sussex Cricket, boccia, health walks with Brighton and Hove City Council, tennis with St Ann's, chair yoga, table tennis, dance and 10 pin bowling. We are always keen to work with new partners to provide additional opportunities and so please do get in touch if you are interested in getting involved.

Brighton and Hove Special Olympics is a local club under the umbrella of Special Olympics GB. We provide sporting opportunities for adults (14+) with a learning disability and / or autism whether that be to try a sport for the first time or to compete at local, regional or national level. We are in the process of renaming to Special Olympics Sussex to allow us to cover a wider geographical area, with West Sussex being a priority for the coming year. If you either work in a sport that you feel there may opportunity to work together, or you are looking to set up a new activity that we may be able to support with, please do let me know.

**Loretta Lock**, Managing Director, Defiant Sports  
Email: [info@defiantsports.org.uk](mailto:info@defiantsports.org.uk)

We are currently expanding and so any ideas on requirements or helpful hints for an excellent sport and leisure facility would be wonderful!

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**Matt Davey**, Director, Head On Board CIC  
Email: Head.On.BoardCIC@gmail.com

Organic community Men's mental health programme using skateboarding as a tool to prevent suicide, improve mental health and well being. Set up to address the suicide's of 3 men in Hastings all who skated. Delivered by team of volunteers from the skateboard community and lead by experienced community worker, skateboard coach and manager at local charity Matt Davey.

**Melanie Kinnear**, Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme manager, Brighton & Hove City Council  
Email: melanie.kinnear@brighton-hove.gov.uk

HAF funds activity providers to provide enriching activities and a meal to those in Reception to Year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals, during the school Easter, summer and Christmas holidays. Providers benefit from funding to support disadvantaged families, help in strengthening policies and procedures, and free training for staff.

**Miguel Tello**, CBI CIC Lead, Community Basketball Initiative  
Email: tellomiguel9@gmail.com

The CBI would like to learn more about facility management.

**Nick Chellel**, Strategic Workforce Officer, Active Sussex  
Email: nchellel@activesussex.org

**Coach Core Apprentice Application Window Extended**

The Sussex Coach Core apprentice application window has been extended until the **28th of March**. There are still some positions available for young people to apply to, more information (including links to the application forms) can be found on the attached flyer or on the Active Sussex website: <https://www.activesussex.org/developing-the-workforce/coaching/coach-core/>

**Sussex Project 500 Midweek Mingle @ Malmaison**

The next Sussex Project 500 Coaching Community event will take place on **Thursday 16th of March** from **10.30am-12.30pm**. Aligned to Project 500 10th birthday and International Women's Day (8th March), the focus of this meeting will be celebrating female coaching and supporting each other.

Refreshments and lunch are included and places are FREE. Places are running out fast so book your place now to avoid disappointment: <https://www.activesussex.org/sussex-project-500-coaching-community/>

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**Project 500 National Webinar ‘Learning from today, shaping tomorrow – 10 years of women in coaching’**

**How could the learnings and recommendations from Project 500 help you support the female workforce better?** Join the Active Partnerships from the Southeast to discuss Project 500, a regional initiative that has been supporting women in coaching since 2013.

As the sport and physical activity landscape has evolved, so has Project 500. Coaching is considered in the broadest sense, it includes all sports and physical activities, it recognises that some people consider themselves coaches, whilst others prefer the term leader, activator, or teacher. Whatever their role, Project 500 has consistently delivered support, advice and guidance through social media channels, online events, and face to face networking opportunities.

More recently the Project 500 Coaching Communities have invested in champions to support the female sport and physical activity deliverers in their local communities, aligning with place-based priorities and target audiences.

This 90-minute webinar will focus on:

- **Understanding Women in Coaching:** their motivations, experiences, and challenges to start, stay and progress.
- **Recommendations for the future:** improving the experience of women in coaching through effective engagement, flexible qualifications, and training support.

**Book your free place**

**here:** [https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=DaJTMjXH\\_kuotz5qs39fkJ65dBeFv-BOmb3AAHe3Z99URTFZNEY1RVc0Qk5ZQ0xEUTNJT0ZKMzU1VSQIQCN0PWcu&web=1&wdLOR=c649ACB07-0036-4633-86C9-1A07BEA329EE](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=DaJTMjXH_kuotz5qs39fkJ65dBeFv-BOmb3AAHe3Z99URTFZNEY1RVc0Qk5ZQ0xEUTNJT0ZKMzU1VSQIQCN0PWcu&web=1&wdLOR=c649ACB07-0036-4633-86C9-1A07BEA329EE)

**Sussex Health Instructor Network**

Active Sussex will be publishing a press release in March to formally launch this pilot project. In the meantime instructors can sign up by completing the Expression of Interest Form here: <https://forms.gle/htjCRhrEq9rXVpcm9>. If you have any questions/would like further information or to discuss how you could support the delivery of the network, please contact Nick Chellel: [nchellel@activesussex.org](mailto:nchellel@activesussex.org)

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**Pam Gordon**, Director, Rise Life Brighton  
Email: [pam.gordon@rise.life](mailto:pam.gordon@rise.life)

Rise Life is an adapted seated sport provider so looking for connections with care home groups, charities, schools, hospitals, PCN's social prescribers, also anyone looking at running community events. It's understanding how what we provide can link with the plans to get Sussex more active but for us it's also about social inclusion through a gentle activity, so all age ranges and capabilities.

**Sophie Sargeant**, Sports Facilities Programme Manager, Brighton & Hove City Council  
Email: [sophie.sargeant@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:sophie.sargeant@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

**Changes for the King Alfred Leisure Centre**

As part of the delivery of Brighton & Hove's approved Sports Facilities Investment Plan (2021-31) we are developing plans for a new facility to replace the current King Alfred Leisure Centre. The centre plays an essential role in providing sport and leisure opportunities for the city and is really popular, but it is starting to show it's age with some parts being over 80 years old. This means increasing maintenance and running costs are making it costly and inefficient to run.

The new facility will provide a much more modern, energy efficient building and offer a greatly improved environment for all users. We are working to ensure it will be a facility that meets local need, continues to attract visitors, and enables the city to host major competitions and events.

We have already started engaging with regular users of the centre and local sports clubs and resident organisations, but over the coming weeks and months we will be wanting to work with a wider range of stakeholders and hear the views from all parts of our diverse community.

To keep up to date with the project and find ways to get involved, please visit our dedicated webpages [here](#) or contact us on [KA\\_Redevelopment@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:KA_Redevelopment@brighton-hove.gov.uk)