

# Pushing the boundaries

Capital Kids Cricket:  
Impact Report 2018









# Introduction



The need for children to be involved in sport has never been so important. Kids need creative outlets for their energy and to engage them in their own communities, we are fortunate in London to have a huge constituency of bright, dynamic children from a vast mix of backgrounds. Unless organisations, such as Capital Kids Cricket, provide opportunities this energy will be dissipated, sometimes in a negative way.

In its 30 years of existence CKC, although a small charity, can claim to have had a major impact on thousands of children's lives. We bring young people together to learn the discipline and techniques of cricket, this leads to competitive team games, the development of life skills, new cricket clubs and a positive effect on parents/carers and the wider community.

We have unlimited ambitions for cricket in London schools – more and more children playing at ever increasing standards of play. Cricket is a remarkable team game where team spirit, respect for the game, opposition and teammates is everything.

Our broad commitment has allowed CKC to develop programmes for children with special educational needs and those in long stay hospitals, even refugees in the Shatila camp in Beirut.

As Sir John Major said to us “teams not gangs”, our success is built on this ethos, CKC is a team involving school teachers, clubs, county boards, volunteers and sponsors. The more we are successful in getting children to play a disciplined team game the more we unite communities, give young people an outlet and have a positive effect on society in general.

We think you will be inspired when you read this report.

**Haydn Turner**

Chairman Capital Kids Cricket

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# What we do

Through our INSPIRE. CHALLENGE. CHANGE. approach Capital Kids Cricket (CKC) aims to improve the physical, social and emotional development of disadvantaged children and young people living in some of the most deprived areas of the city.

Using cricket to unify people, regardless of their differences, we reach across boundaries and bring people and communities together.

In playing the sport, children learn about the “Spirit of Cricket” which, in addition to the laws of the game, ensures that cricket is always played in a truly sporting manner. As a result, we develop the key life skills of our participants as they learn respect, teamwork and leadership skills to name just a few.

In 2019 Capital Kids Cricket is celebrating 30 years of work in London. Having started out as a small organisation operating in three schools, we now work with over 250 schools a year and, across all our projects, we worked with over 9,000 people in 2018.

We work with all four London county cricket boards, as well as a number of other charities and partners. Our wide range of projects includes work in state schools, hospitals, community centres and local parks across London, and residential centres away from the Capital.



# Year in numbers

9,208

total participants

136

total venues/session locations

4,348

total hours

22

London boroughs





# Why cricket?

Cricket is a unique team sport that relies on individual performances. For example, a batter hitting a hundred, a bowler taking five wickets or a fielder taking a spectacular catch. This blend of team and individual sport is a valuable asset when working with children. Through playing the game children learn how to take responsibility as an individual, work as part of a team and accomplish their goals through doing both.

Cricket is also a unifying sport. Regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion, class or sexual orientation, cricket reaches across boundaries and brings people and communities together. Through participating in cricket, young people have the opportunity to meet and socialise with others from various backgrounds, learn about different cultures and develop their social skills.



Action from the 2018 William Greaves Trophy Grand Finals at the MCC Academy (Lord's)

The “Spirit of Cricket” sets the game apart from other sports. In addition to the laws (rules) of cricket, the Spirit of Cricket ensures that cricket is always played in a truly sporting manner. In playing the sport children learn, amongst other things, respect for their opposition, respect for the officials and the importance of being fair and generous.

Not only is it important to abide by the Spirit of Cricket when playing the game but, by doing so, children learn and develop life skills.

Cricket is a power sport that requires both endurance and the ability to perform short, sharp, explosive movements. For instance, when a ball has been hit, the batters sprint between the wickets whilst the fielders chase after the ball. There are many physical benefits to playing cricket, some of which are listed on the next page.

# The importance of sport



## Why is it important for children and young people to play sport regularly?





# Inspire

Challenge

Change



# Schools

## Primary

Providing opportunities for school-aged children to experience playing cricket, and the added benefits that go with playing the game, remains at the heart of what we do. In 2018 our delivery of coaching in schools received a particular boost in Waltham Forest, Newham and Ealing.

Our Spikes Bridge Junior CC project, based in Ealing and funded by the John Lyon's Charity, entered its second year and had a greater emphasis on using coaching in schools as a pathway into the club setup.

In total, we delivered 700 hours of free coaching across 32 primary schools.

With funding from Chance to Shine, via Essex Cricket in the Community, we nearly doubled our output of free coaching at primary schools in Newham and, for the first time, delivered Chance to Shine coaching at schools in Waltham Forest.





Brian Ellington

## Dano – Essendine Primary

*Dano, a student who moved to Secondary school in September 2018, had been a pupil at Essendine. He became a regular participant in Ray Tudor's (Head Coach for CKC) cricket sessions at Essendine and the impact they had on him has been hugely positive. Below, Brian Ellington, the PE lead at Essendine, recalls Dano's journey.*

“When Dano first joined Essendine he lacked confidence, was very quiet and did not seem to be particularly interested in anything. He had a troubled home life that led him to being quite angry and he would often get into fights. This all changed however when he joined Ray's cricket sessions.

The sessions gave Dano a structure and discipline that brought out the best in him. He was very good at applying what he had learned in drills and was able to put them into practice almost immediately. Having been quiet, Dano grew in confidence and began to demonstrate strong leadership skills. His commitment and focus made him a role model among his peers, and it came as no surprise when, at every competition we attended, the team always elected Dano to be captain.

Being a captain and leader brought out another side to Dano's character. Through setting his own fields and picking the bowling and batting orders, Dano became more responsible on and off the cricket pitch. Despite being one of the best players, Dano remained humble and would always encourage his team mates to give their all and do their best.

Without Ray's cricket sessions, Dano may not have developed in the way he did, and I know from conversations with his family that they are very grateful for the work that Ray did with him.”



# Secondary

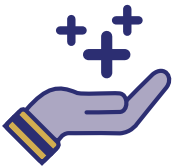
With Chance to Shine now focusing on funding free coaching at primary schools, we have begun to work with our partners and use our own funding to fill the gap and continue to deliver sessions at secondary schools across London.



With funding from Essex Cricket in the Community we ran after school cricket clubs at 11 secondary schools across Newham and Waltham Forest, including two clubs at girls' schools.

In Ealing, as part of the Spikes Bridge Junior CC project and with support from Middlesex CCB, we continued to deliver sessions at Featherstone and Dormers Wells High Schools. We also added a girls' session at Villiers High School and, as a result of its success, are now looking to develop a girls' section at Spikes Bridge Junior CC.

## Added value



Aside from allowing children to experience the joy of throwing, catching and hitting a ball, our coaches incorporate other important skills into their school sessions. From using numeracy in a catching drill to using specially adapted games to teach the importance of team work, our sessions teach more than just cricket!

## Numbers

- Total schools: 58
- Total primary: 44
- Total secondary: 14
- Total girls: 1,805
- Total boys: 2,231
- Total participants: 4,036

## Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Working with children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) has always been a very important aspect of our work and in almost all of our school sessions we work with at least one child who is considered to be on the SEND spectrum.

In most schools SEND children take part in our regular sessions, however, in some cases we deliver specialised sessions for SEND children who have greater needs. Denise O'Neill, CKC's Inclusion Coach, has over the past 10 years become an expert in the field. In 2018 she delivered weekly specialised sessions at 5 schools across 3 London boroughs.

### A day at Jubilee Primary School by Denise

I have been working with SEN (special educational needs) children at Jubilee primary school every Tuesday for a number of years. The age and ability of the children varies considerably with each session adapted specially to include children between the ages of 5 and 11.



Most of the children I work with have autism which makes it difficult for them to interact with other people, including their peers and teachers. They also have other issues with behaviour and this can mean they are very disruptive to the other children. Playing team games is a challenge as they often find taking turns hard to deal with, so we play a number of different sports, including cricket, which are adapted to suit their needs. Little games work particularly well, for example, catching and throwing, new age curling and target throwing are very popular because they are easy to understand and can be demonstrated visually.

Visual demonstrations are vital when working with these children, but you must make sure you get it right – as I discovered recently! During a lesson, I had a problem with my foot and needed to take my shoe off to relieve the pain, so I whipped my shoe off and turned around to find that all the children were now standing with only one shoe on! Obviously not my intention, but also brilliant because the children were doing exactly what I have always said – watch Denise and copy what I do.

To provide added benefit to the sessions we always incorporate numeracy and speech and language skills into the games. This has worked fantastically and given the children greater confidence to do things for themselves. They also learn important social skills such as being patient with others, sharing and not getting angry when mistakes are made but, instead, learning from them and trying again.

These skills may seem quite easy to learn but for a child with autism it is extremely difficult. It is amazing to see the children work so hard and have so much fun every week. They love their PE sessions with me and the staff often comment on how the children have progressed with other lessons in school as a result of this.

I'm very proud of these lessons and long may they continue!

# Women's University Cricket



Last year marked the third year our coach Joe Fisher has worked with the Kings College London Women's Cricket Club (KCLWCC) and, for the first time, the sessions were run at the Oval, home of Surrey County Cricket Club. With support from the Surrey Cricket Foundation the sessions were the most successful to date with greater numbers than ever before and competitive opportunities provided by the "Smash It" indoor Surrey cricket leagues.

Having gained three years' worth of experience working within the women's university cricket environment, we recognised that, unlike at KCL, women at several other London universities did not have the same opportunities. We found that this was mostly due to a lack of numbers to form a team (leading to those who did participate to train with the men's teams) or a lack of funding available to put the relevant infrastructure in place.

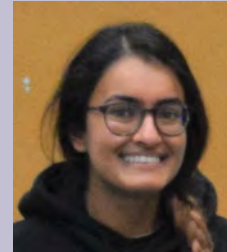
To overcome this we received funding from the Surrey Cricket Foundation to set up regular training and matches on Sundays. We have since provided these opportunities for young women from the London School of Economics (LSE), University College London (UCL), St Mary's University and Imperial College London in addition to the work we continue to do with KCLWCC.





## Tayyibah Khalid, LSE

I've thoroughly enjoyed the Sunday sessions this year and am very grateful for the opportunity to be involved with female cricket. This is the first year at LSE where training specifically for women has been provided; in previous years, all training was joint with the men's first and second teams which is quite daunting if you've never played cricket before.



The Sunday sessions are fully inclusive, so you feel comfortable regardless of your cricketing ability. From attending my first ever session to now, I've improved my cricket skills, played in a Surrey indoor league game and also made friends with girls from other London universities, which creates a fun social side to the sessions too.

It was from the Sunday sessions that I also heard about the opportunity to volunteer as a flagbearer for the Cricket World Cup. Without the encouragement, I may never have heard about this so am extremely lucky the sessions started this year! I'm now going to be a flagbearer this summer at Lord's, along with a friend from KCL who I met at the sessions, which I am really excited about!

From September 2019 we hope to expand our work in Surrey to offer cricket training and matches to more university women's teams in the county and are looking at potentially expanding the project across Middlesex.

### Added value



Our weekly coaching sessions have not only helped to develop the cricket skills of the women who attend but have also provided a fun and sociable way for many previously inactive students to exercise regularly. In several cases this has led to better attitudes toward physical activity, leading to the students taking part in other sports or joining gyms.

### Numbers

Total participants: 78

Total training sessions: 44

Total matches: 25

# Hospitals

In 2018 our work with children and young people in hospitals once again expanded, meaning we now work in 5 hospital schools.

Working in partnership with Chance to Shine we delivered sessions at The Royal Marsden (Sutton) for the first time. We continued our work at Great Ormond Street, Evelina Children's Hospital, The Royal Free and the Collingham Centre (Chelsea Community Hospital).

Ray Tudor and Denise O'Neill, our specialist hospital coaches, developed a new hospital coaching course and have since provided training to four new coaches who are now working regularly across our expanded hospital programme.

## Debbie Thompson – mother of Cruz Brown who is almost 5 years old and is on dialysis

*Children on the dialysis unit at Evelina Children's Hospital range in age from babies to 18 year olds. Denise and Ray have been teaching Cruz Brown since the age of two and he is now almost five.*



Debbie and Cruz

*Cruz's mother, Debbie Thompson, recently shared her experiences of having a child with renal (kidney) problems and how Cruz benefits from the sessions run by Denise and Ray.*

"The PE sessions run by Denise and Ray are brilliant. Cruz loves sport and is always impatient for the next session. Although it can be difficult for him to be sat for hours whilst connected to the dialysis machine, the PE sessions help to take his mind off it. He plays skittles, curling, catching and throwing, and basketball which is his favourite.

As well as learning to play these games and be part of a team, the sessions have also helped Cruz to learn how to count, learn the names of different colours and improve his speech.

As soon as Denise and Ray arrive on a Wednesday, the unit comes to life with all the children laughing, singing, dancing and having so much fun. As a parent, it's lovely to see their smiles as there can also be lots of tears."

*Exercise is very important for people suffering with mental health difficulties (it increases important endorphins that help serotonin levels). However, most of us struggle to get in the crucial exercise due to our mental health. Denise brings new life to sport. Her zealous attitude helps us put in that extra mile and feel like we've achieved something. Her sessions are interactive, innovative and just plain fun. It is a delight to be a part of a fabulous incentive to get in to school every day, every week.*

– a participant at The Royal Free

## **Lisa at the Collingham Centre by Denise O'Neill**

*Lisa\* is an 11 year old girl who Denise works with at the Collingham Centre, a residential (inpatient) service for children under the age of 13 with complex mental health problems, and their families.*



Lisa came into the unit five months ago and was very violent, loud and bossy. She has difficulty being part of a team as she needs everything to be done her way.

I learnt very early on that Lisa loved football and would spend hours kicking a ball around, but I wanted her to try new sports, mainly cricket and tennis, as well as learning how to play as part of a team.

Cricket turned out to be a good game for her as it was a nice and calm environment, she did well and actually really enjoyed the game. However she hated tennis as she didn't like using the tennis racket – so we adapted the game by using a larger ball and using our hands instead. Lisa loved this version of the game and after 5 months we still play it every chance we get.

Lisa is now more focused in class, there are fewer outbursts and her treat is to have time with me, which is an amazing thing for me as it means that she enjoys our sessions and looks forward to it.

This brings me back to what I said before, being a coach is not just about sports, it's about making the child feel comfortable and allowing them to enjoy their time. We had one day last week where we watched nine chicks hatch from their eggs, and then Lisa and I set up their new home and removed them from their incubator, it was an amazing day.

I feel very lucky to work with so many wonderful children.

*\*Name has been changed*

## **Hospitals worked in**

GOSH  
Evelina  
The Royal Free  
Collingham  
The Royal Marsden

## **Numbers**

Total boys: 55  
Total girls: 33  
Total participants: 88  
Total sessions: 166



# Residentials

In 2018 we returned to Arundel Castle with 192 excited inner-London boys and girls, and also took 30 children from across the Capital to Repton School in Derbyshire. In August a group from Leyton Wicketz CC took part in the Lord's Taverners' Wicketz festival for the first time. We were delighted to take children from Spikes Bridge Junior CC to Arundel for the club's first ever residential experience.



For the large majority of those who attend, these trips are their first experience of being away without their parents or families. As a result the children begin to learn important life skills such as independence and responsibility.

The trips also provide an opportunity for the children and young people to develop their social skills as they meet and make new friends with people from across London and, in the case of Repton, from across the country.



Boys from Spikes Bridge Junior CC in Arundel



A team made up of players from Wicketz clubs, including boys from Leyton Wicketz CC, celebrate victory at Repton 2018

## Charlotte's (Wanstead CC) Arundel Diary

### Day 1

We pulled up in Arundel Cricket Ground, everyone was excited, and the view was stunning. John, the very kind coach, took us to the gap view, the famous gap between the trees and looked upon the amazing view. We had a series of fun activities and then went back to Lodge Hill for a delicious dinner and went to sleep.

### Day 2

This day was much the same. We woke up to an amazing breakfast. At the cricket ground we practised and improved our skills and had a fantastic lunch. We then went back to Lodge Hill at around 5pm. After dinner we got to explore the grounds.

### Day 3

We packed up and arrived at Arundel for our last day of cricket! It was a fun day and very hot! The activities were gentle, but for Wanstead, VERY competitive! The lunch was amazing again! Then we said our thank yous and were ready to leave! I enjoyed all of it!



### Added value



As well as having fun and receiving expert coaching, residential trips give children and young people a sense of independence and responsibility and also enable them to improve their social skills

### Numbers

Total boys: 116

Total girls: 96



# Cricket at the Shatila Refugee Camp

During the October half term, Shahidul Alam (CEO of CKC), Kanan Thiyagarajah (a member of CKC's coaching staff) and Helena Eccles (a CKC Trustee) travelled as volunteers to Shatila, a refugee camp in Lebanon, to deliver a week of cricket for refugee children.

Working in partnership with Basmeh & Zeitooneh, a charity based at Shatila, we aim to make this the first of many trips as we help Richard Verity, a CKC Trustee and deputising CEO of Basmeh & Zeitooneh, achieve his goal of making cricket a regular fixture in Shatila.

Before October, none of the participants had even heard of cricket, but by the end of the cricket week, with their bespoke cricket bags (donated by Ganador Sports) and newly gained skills we sparked what will hopefully be a lifelong passion and a feeling of hope among refugee children who have already been through so much in their lives.







## Shatila diary by Ratan, CKC's CEO

### Day 1

After only one day I can already say that volunteering at Shatila is one of the best decisions I have ever taken in my 25 years as a cricket coach.

It is extremely rewarding to see smiles on the faces of children, most of whom are living in conditions we can't even imagine, as they play cricket for the first time. At first I was worried the children wouldn't take to cricket, but even the adults in attendance were surprised to see the levels of excitement. This can only grow, and I hope across the next four days we can keep up our energy and keep the momentum going.

When I first arrived at the camp I met some of the refugees for the first time and it was heartbreaking to learn about their lives and hear their stories.

My plan to show a cricket video as an introduction went very well and it gave the local support team and children a quick overview.

100 children, aged 8-13, attended on the first day with 8 local support staff and they were simply brilliant. The adults are now saying they want to run more cricket sessions with young adults too!

I hope we will have the support and resources to continue this initiative in years to come. I also sincerely hope cricket will change some of their lives.

## Day 2

Seeing the children's excitement is so precious!

I could not of imagined their living conditions in the refugee camp. On day one I experienced them first hand as I went to wash my face during lunch break. The tap water was salty. When I asked why, the manager of our partner charity informed me that it is the same in most of the houses across the Shatila camp. I cannot imagine how people live without proper water.



Children want to go to school and they cannot go as they are not allowed outside the camp area. One girl handed me a piece of paper with writing in Arabic, it said: "I want to go to school, can you help me?". I don't know how to help these children. Not only do they need education, they need basic living conditions and hygiene. World leaders must do something about this!

## Day 3

Our aim was to start games from today, so I decided to play a Kwik cricket match with all the adults who have been supporting us at the camp. After the game they were even more excited than the children!!

On Friday, our last day, we will have a big cricket festival to celebrate the week.



During the day I spoke to some of the children about living in Shatila. It was difficult to ask how they felt about living in the camp, but everyone said they would like to go home someday. We also spoke about their experiences of the cricket week, what they think of cricket and what their parents think. Here's a short excerpt from one of the conversations I had:

*"My parents are glad that I am getting to experience new activities, try new hobbies and learn new skills. They hadn't heard of cricket before, but when I told them about it, they were keen for me to try new things and have new opportunities."*



## Day 4

Our first session went well, but at midday, there was a heavy hail storm and, disappointingly, we had to cancel the afternoon session.

We've had an excellent build up so far with the Kwik cricket games and tomorrow everyone will join in with a big festival.

It was hard to see rain water on the road and people living in danger with power lines everywhere. There are many accidents here when it rains due to people being electrocuted.



I'm hoping that the weather will be much better tomorrow so that we can have a great finish to our cricket programme. There are enthusiastic adults and children who are all willing to continue running cricket once our programme has finished, but I'm not sure how to get something going on a regular basis.

I need to put my thinking hat on, and we need lots of support to keep these children smiling!





## Day 5

Unfortunately, the rain returned on day 5 so we had to move our cricket festival indoors. It was brilliant to see how excited everyone was, and the children couldn't wait to put their skills into practice!

During the week we worked to teach some of the Basmeh Zeeitoneh staff how to run basic cricket games and it was great to see them umpiring and scoring the games. I was worried they would struggle, but they proved me wrong and the festival was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.



At the start of the festival, all of the children received CKC shirts and, at the end, they all received a CKC medal.

It was sad to see our programme come to an end. I am sure we will be back soon though to spread the power of cricket, train more staff members and provide even more fun for the children!

Along with Ratan's diary, our work at the Shatila camp gained national coverage with articles appearing in the *Telegraph* and *The Guardian* as well as coverage from the BBC.

*"They [the children participating] all shared one attribute. "These children are very competitive," said Thaer, one of the Lebanese coaches. "They have only really known the experience of war, so they play aggressively. Cricket is great for them." Thaer teaches refugees in the Beqaa valley, where there about 350,000 Syrians, with more space than in Shatila but even fewer facilities. Most are in tents, surrounded by mud all winter except when the ground floods."*

*– Matthew Engel, writing in The Guardian*

Inspire

# Challenge

Change



# The William Greaves Trophy

With our funding from British Land coming to an end after 10 fantastic years, we launched the newly named William Greaves Trophy in honour of William “Bill” Greaves, a founding member and trustee of CKC, who sadly passed away in 2017.

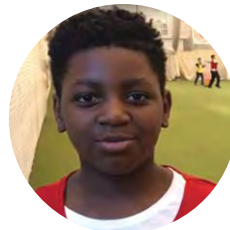
Despite limited resources we managed to keep the 2017/18 league’s momentum going with the familiar format of 14 borough rounds followed by two semi-finals and a Grand Finals day at the MCC Academy, Lord’s.

In September 2018 we were delighted to announce the league’s new sponsor, Moogsoft Inc., a US tech company. Their initial sponsorship will cover the 2018/19 competition and we have already made great strides towards making this year’s competition the biggest and most successful to date.

As of December 2018, we have run 13 borough rounds and are due to run a further four before the semi-finals in February. The Grand Finals day, at the end of March 2019, will once again take place at the MCC Academy and, for the first time ever, we will be introducing live scoring via our website and an opportunity for children to try their hand at commentating on the games.

*“We always have good teamwork, we listen to each other, that’s why I like cricket – because we always encourage each other.”*

*– Caza, Millbank Academy, Westminster*







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## Numbers

Total participants: 2,530

Total matches: 424

Total boroughs: 17

Total schools: 253



*"I think this is a really good tournament to have, especially in November, because they're just starting to develop their skills in cricket. The best thing about the tournament is that we're learning as well and think 'okay, what can we do as a school to then develop cricket at the school as well'. The children who have played know the rules so now they can bring them further into the summer and the school league.*

*The main thing we'll take out of it is that you can't be afraid to bat, you just have to go for it and enjoy it.*

*It's a very fast game and they've obviously been really enjoying it, and it's a very inclusive game as well, we've got lots of children with learning difficulties, including one of our star bowlers, really great to have that. There are also different schools here, so they all kind of come together and learn how to work hard and play as a team."*

*– Callum Fergus, Carpenters Primary School, Newham*

# British Land Inclusive Kids Cricket League

2017/18 marked the fifth year of the British Land Inclusive Cricket League. Throughout 2018, we delivered sessions for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in 25 schools with 8 going on to play in the finals day at the MCC Academy, Lord's, in May 2018. These are children who wouldn't otherwise get to represent their schools and take part in competitions at venues such as Lord's.

Whilst the British Land Inclusive Kids Cricket League is of course a competition, the real meaning behind it can be found in the positive impact that participating has on the children involved.

The 2018/19 league will mark the last year of support from British Land and we would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to them for all the support that they have given us in developing this unique league. We will continue to run the competition in 2019/20 and will be actively seeking sponsorship/funding.



## Added value



The British Land Inclusive Cricket League provides SEND children with the opportunity to represent their school and play at venues such as Lord's. An opportunity they might not otherwise get.

## Numbers

Total boys: 197  
Total girls: 183  
New schools: 3





## Tyssen Autism Resourced Provision (ARP)

Tyssen Autism Resourced Provision (ARP) is one of the three resourced provisions in the borough of Hackney. The ARP support pupils with ASD in their learning in mainstream class. The pupils therefore participate in all curriculum activities including sports and games regardless of their disability.

Last year the children took part in the British Land Inclusive Cricket League, organized by Capital Kids Cricket. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all the pupils who participated in the game. The Grand Final was in May and the pupils engaged so well and won!

This would not have happened without the committed and dedicated effort of our cricket coach, Denise O'Neill. She puts smiles on the pupils' faces whenever she comes around for the weekly training. Pupils are always excited and enthusiastic to play the game.

For some of the pupils, it is the most enjoyable session of the week and they always look forward to their time with Denise!

We at Tyssen ARP would like to support Capital Kids Cricket to continue this wonderful experience for our children!

– Verona De Medeiros, Autism Resourced Manager at Tyssen Primary School



# T20 Asia Blaze and T20 Blaze

Our annual T20 competition, the T20 Asia Blaze, continues to provide an opportunity for aspiring young cricketers to play competitive, high level cricket whilst representing their or their families' country of origin. In 2018, we were proud to work alongside both Essex Cricket in the Community and the Surrey Cricket Foundation to deliver a competition in east London and, for the first time, a tournament in south London.

With the addition of a new competition we reached more people and nationalities than ever before. The 2018 leagues featured teams representing Pakistan, Bangladesh, England, Sri Lanka, Tamil, Afghanistan, India, West Indies as well as a team entered by the Refugee Cricket Project in south London.

Both competitions concluded with the champions of east London (Afghanistan) taking on the champions of the south (Tamil). An unprecedented audience of over 100,000 people on Facebook Live watched on as the match, played at Leyton Sports Ground, saw Afghanistan crowned champions of the inaugural East vs South game.



Action from Pakistan vs Afghanistan, T20 Asia Blaze



The east London Afghanistan team, with the Mayor of Waltham Forest, celebrate victory over Tamil in the East vs South Grand Final

*"It's wonderful, and they're all very keen. The youngsters have really been looking forward to the competition"*

*– TG Singham, British Tamils Cricket League Chair*



Tamil take on the West Indies in the south London competition

*“The Refugee Cricket Project was delighted to take part in the inaugural South London T20 Blaze competition. It was a great experience for our squad which they really enjoyed. Although all the teams were very competitive there was a very friendly atmosphere, and everyone ended up with a better understanding of each other’s community as a result of cricket’s special ability to create a platform for greater understanding. A huge thank you to all the organisers for their support in making it possible for us to participate.”*

*– Antonia, Refugee Cricket Project*

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## Numbers

Total participants: 216

Total matches: 36



# The Youth London Sixes and London Sixes

The London Sixes, our annual fundraising competition, took on a new lease of life in 2018 as we introduced the format to south London for the first time. With funding from the Surrey Cricket Foundation we ran a new Youth London Sixes at Dulwich Sports Ground, and gave six new teams the opportunity to compete in this exciting short format version of the game.



Dulwich Sports Ground – Youth London Sixes

In conjunction with the south London tournament, the London Sixes in east London entered its 9th year. With games taking place across Hackney Marshes and Leyton Sports Ground, the 2018 league featured four women's teams, four youth teams and 14 men's teams.

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## Added value



The London Sixes provide an exciting, fast paced form of cricket. It allows players, who may not have time to play longer forms of the game, to play matches within half an hour and a whole competition within a day.

## Numbers

Total participants: 192  
Total men and boys: 163  
Total women and girls 29  
Total teams: 21  
Total matches: 26





Clockwise from top left:  
 Action from the men's London Sixes at Leyton Sports Ground, Waltham Forest  
 Action from the women's London Sixes at Leyton Sports Ground, Waltham Forest  
 Action from the Youth London Sixes in south London  
 Action from the Youth London Sixes in south London  
 Action from the women's London Sixes at Leyton Sports Ground, Waltham Forest







Inspire

Challenge

Change





# Leyton Wicketz CC

Despite the club still being in its infancy (the club was formed in early 2017 with funding from the Lord's Taverners' Wicketz Programme) 2018 has been hugely successful. Following the club's first full winter season the number of children and young people registered as members swelled to over 40. Going into the 2018 cricket season the club was able to play its first competitive matches with an under 11s side competing in the Metropolitan Essex Colts Cricket League.

The club was also able to attract a group of 14 young Afghan refugees from the local area who now train regularly on Thursday evenings and have ambitions of forming an under 19s side for the 2019 cricket season.

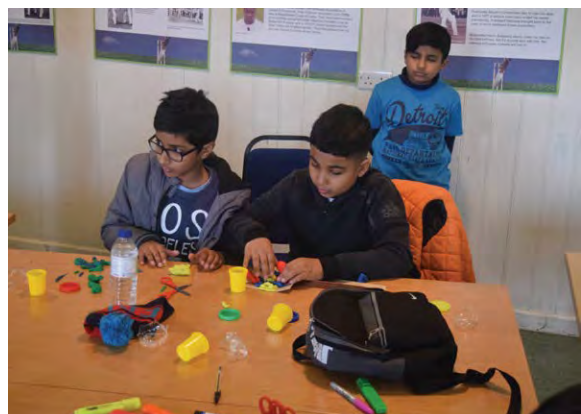
## Learning and Development Workshops – adding wider benefits to our club participants

As part of the club's wider objectives, beyond the cricket pitch, we ran a number of workshop-based activities for the club's member across 2018. In the spring, Sumara Khan, a parent and senior lecturer at Coventry University (London), wrote and delivered her "Empowering Young Minds" course for 30 Leyton Wicketz players.

The 9-week course focused on key development areas for the children and covered topics such as identifying personal strengths and weaknesses, thinking about the future and working on life skills such as team work and problem solving.

Following the course, a celebration evening was held with parents, coaches, staff and The Lord's Taverners brought together to celebrate the children's achievements and watch them present their work.

As part of our Leyton summer holiday coaching programme Tasmia Tahia, a graduate and local resident, volunteered at the club and delivered a range of workshops that focused on fun games and activities to develop the club's players in areas such as team work and problem solving.





## Mohit, Mikhail and Mannan

Mohit Gupta has been assisting with coaching sessions at Leyton Wicketz CC and West Ham and Stratford CC since his two sons, Mikhail and Mannan, joined the clubs in 2016. In 2018 Mohit enrolled himself onto a level 2 cricket coaching course and, with support from Capital Kids Cricket, hopes to be qualified in early 2019.



Mikhail, Mohit and Mannan

Taking part in the course and gaining experience at club sessions has been eye opening for Mohit and, after initially being sceptical about coaching, he has embraced the opportunity.

*“Training to become a coach has changed my character and I now feel much more confident when coaching my sons at home and the children in club sessions. I have already seen a big improvement in Mannan and Mikhail’s cricket.”*

Mohit’s sons, Mikhail and Mannan, aged 9 and 8 respectively, have also become very active members at each club. In addition to improving their cricket skills, the boys both feel like they have grown as individuals as a result of taking part in the sessions.

*“My concentration and stamina have improved because I have learned to bat for a long time and now I am better at concentrating at school and in the other sports I play. I have also learned to be a leader and listen to other people because I was made a captain during some of the training sessions.” – Mikhail*

Mikhail and Mannan also took part in the Empowering Young Minds course at Leyton Wicketz. As a result of the course, Mannan said he has learned “if you give up then you won’t achieve what you’d like to achieve and, if you believe you can do something, you can do it.”

# Leyton Girls CC

With start-up funding from the Newby Trust, 2018 saw the launch of our latest junior cricket club. Leyton Girls CC was established at Leyton Sports Ground and we aim to develop the club over a 3-year period. We hope to eventually have three age group sides training and playing regularly in the heart of Waltham Forest.

Year 1 saw us work in local primary and secondary schools with 46 girls. Of these 20 have gone on to participate in club training sessions.



## ECB South Asian Action Plan Launch

As part of our Leyton Girls CC programme and work with local schools we were honoured to arrange a girls' cricket festival as part of the ECB's South Asian Action Plan Launch.

Taking place at Leyton Sports Ground, the festival featured activities and pairs cricket matches for 40 girls. The event was covered by Sky Sports and the BBC and provided an opportunity for the girls to take photos with both the ICC Champions Trophy and the men's Cricket World Cup.



# Spikes Bridge Junior CC

Now into its second year, 2018 was a year based on growth for Spikes Bridge Junior CC as we stepped up our coaching efforts in local primary and secondary schools and grew the club's membership.

In total, we worked in 4 additional schools and saw the club grow from 35 to 52 members.

Throughout the winter season, the club took part in several indoor competitions organised by Middlesex CCC.

With an increased membership, the club also took part in their first competitive outdoor matches with junior sides competing in games against clubs such as Osterley CC and Tower Hamlets CC. This was one of the club's biggest achievements to date and we are proud to play a leading role in developing grassroots cricket in the heart of Southall.

The club also sent teams to the Youth London Sixes in south London and the Women's London Sixes in east London.



# West Ham and Stratford CC

Jerry Bramble, CKC development coach and head coach at the club, continues to run regular training sessions and matches at West Ham and Stratford CC. Training sessions are attended by an average of 25 children in the winter and 40 children and young adults in the summer. During the 2018 cricket season, the club once again entered an under 11s, 13s and 15s team into the Metropolitan Essex League. The young adults team competed in their second National Cricket League season and, following promotion in their first year, are now competing in the league's third division.







## An interview with Parth Patel - captain of the West Ham and Stratford CC young adults team

- **How old were you when you joined West Ham and Stratford CC and what year did you join?**

I was 13 years old when I joined West Ham and Stratford CC, in summer 2012.

- **Has the club helped you to develop as a person? Have you learned any new skills?**

Yes, this club has helped me to grow mentally and physically, I have learnt new skills such as leadership skills, I have gained a lot of confidence as a player.

- **Have these skills helped you in other areas of your life?**

These skills have helped me a lot with my personal and my sports side, they help me with my university work, helping me to work in a group to overcome a problem in the engineering industry, and also help me lead the group to design stuff and fix problems. I have gained a lot of confidence to speak up in front of 100 or more students in the class.

- **What has been the highlight of your time at West Ham and Stratford?**

The highlight of my time at West Ham has been the great journey till now. I was very young when I joined the club, it was a new club when I joined and my many other friends from colleges and local communities joined as well with me, it has been great, fun days when we had our Wednesday training days, little indoor tournaments, when it's summer late evening netting at Westham park with hard ball, and matches every Sunday and the most fun part when we had trips to Arundel castle and many other places. It's been a great great time at the club and hopefully will be in future.

- **What did you learn during your time as a volunteer on the Wicketz residential trip?**

Volunteering for Wicketz on the residential trip has taught me a lot about leadership, teamwork, confidence and management.



# Tower Hamlets CC

We set up Tower Hamlets CC (THCC), with our partners, in 2009. The club began with a single under 17s team, nine years later it has three adult sides competing in four different leagues and a healthy colts section with teams playing in the Middlesex Colts league.



## Sustainability and employability – CKC’s club development model

Whilst we will always support the clubs we develop, our model aims to create self-sustaining, autonomous clubs by providing opportunities for parents, volunteers and, once old enough, players to gain the necessary qualifications to run the club themselves.

As a result of this model, Tower Hamlets CC now boasts twenty-five qualified coaches with several of the club’s original under 17s team holding positions on the club’s committee and running the colts section.

Of the twenty-five coaches, fifteen are level 2 coaches trained as a result of playing for THCC. 18 have gone on to work as coaches outside the club and seven now hold full time roles with CKC or at county cricket boards. Canary Wharf Group is one of the club’s key funders and supports its continued growth.



## Tower Hamlets Wicketz CC

Since 2015 the club's colts section has been a part of the Lord's Taverners' Wicketz programme and, in August 2018, Capital Kids Cricket took over the programme from Middlesex CCC. Over the next two years we will be working with the Lord's Taverners, Middlesex CCC and the local community to make the colts section self-sustaining.



## Added Benefits

As a Wicketz club, and in line with our own charitable aims, we work with the Lord's Taverners to improve the life skills of the children and young people who attend the sessions. In 2018, we were very fortunate to support an opportunity for a group of THCC young people to attend a workshop with Chris Syrus at his studio in south London.

During the one day workshop the group of young boys learned about music and poetry and wrote and performed a song about their lives and goals for the future.



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## Individual club numbers:

West Ham and Stratford CC: 90 participants with 16 new members joining in 2018

Leyton Wicketz CC: 60 participants with 25 new members joining in 2018

Leyton Girls CC: 20 participants joined within its first year

Spikes Bridge Junior CC: 45 participants with 10 new members joining in 2018

Tower Hamlets CC: 148 participants with 29 new members joining in 2018

# Community

## Working in Newham

We continue to run sessions and build links with communities across London. In 2018 our work across Newham was a highlight as we further developed our relationship with Newham Council and Essex in the Community, the charity arm of Essex CCC.

Throughout the summer, we brought cricket into the heart of local communities with several roadshow and festival events. These included the activation of urban spaces, such as Queen's Market on Green Street, through drop in sessions focused on quickfire games to get local people active.

We also worked with Essex in the Community to deliver sessions at the Ilford Islamic Centre and Barking Mosque.



2018 saw us expand our cricket and aerobics sessions for mothers, with two more Newham primary schools (Earlham and Park Primary) taking part in the programme that began at Elmhurst primary in 2017. Over 100 women took part in the sessions and of these 80% have gone from being inactive to exercising at least once a week.



A participant takes part in a life skills workshop



## Holiday Camps

Outside of the school term our holiday camp programmes play an important role in engagement with local communities, bringing people together and keeping children and young people physically active and occupied.

Parents are happy to see their children enjoying sports and learning new skills in a secure environment during the school holidays.



In 2018 we ran sessions at Leyton Sports Ground (Waltham Forest), Lister Community School and West Ham Park (Newham), Spikes Bridge Park and Featherstone Sports Centre (Ealing), Millfields Park and Stormont House School (Hackney – funded by Access to Sports) and, with support from the North London Muslim Housing Association (NLMHA), ran a summer camp in Finsbury Park for the first time.

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### Added value



Our holiday camps get children and young people active and, through the delivery of specially designed workshops, develop important life skills such as team work and problem solving.

### Holiday camp numbers

Total participants: 151

Total hours: 381

Total workshops: 6

# CKC 30th Anniversary

In 2019, Capital Kids Cricket will be celebrating its 30th anniversary and to celebrate 30 years of cricket in the Capital we will be holding three special events to mark the occasion.

## CKC Champions

In a special celebration event at the MCC Academy, Lord's, past and present staff, supporters and volunteers will receive a special commemorative plaque and jacket in recognition of their contribution to making CKC the organisation that it is today.



In addition, a select group of young people who currently participate in CKC projects will become our first ever CKC Young Champions. In recognition of their outstanding contributions to their projects, each young champion will receive cricket equipment and sponsorship for the 2019 cricket season.

## CKC World Cricket Festival



CKC was originally set up to counter the demise of state school cricket in London and, to show how far we've come, we will be celebrating the growth of the game in schools by running a "World Cricket Festival".

With 50 primary schools and over 2,000 children, teachers and volunteers in attendance we will run a day of cricket activities and games with the aim of breaking the official Guinness world record for the largest cricket lesson at a single venue.

The festival will also showcase London's diversity as we expect to see people from over 50 nationalities, speaking 70 different languages, taking part in the event on 8th July 2019.

## CKC Gala Dinner

Towards the end of 2019 we will hold a special gala dinner as one last celebration of CKC's 30th birthday. With special guests from throughout our history invited, we hope to see out the year in style!

The date and venue for the gala dinner are still to be confirmed but keep an eye on our website for more information.



# Final Word from the Chief Executive



With Capital Kids Cricket (CKC) celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2019, it gives me great pleasure to extend my warm congratulations to all our founding Trustees, past and current trustees, members of staff, both current and past, and the many volunteers who have helped to make CKC what it is today.

It is hard work to run a charitable organisation, but CKC's achievements over the last 30 years, having faced many challenges, are significant. I am proud to be a part of it.

At a time of growing concern around rising rates of knife crime, CKC has a central theme of 'teams not gangs' and is an example of what can be achieved in inner-city schools, clubs and communities. Our Inspire. Challenge. Change. philosophy is at the heart of our various projects.

We aim to INSPIRE children and young people to take up sport, CHALLENGE them with our wide array of activities, competitions and courses and CHANGE their lives through improving their physical, social and emotional health.

I hope this report has given you an insight into what we do throughout the year. My thanks goes to our valuable funders, sponsors and donors. Without them we couldn't do anything at all. I hope to receive all your continued support as we look forward to another big year in 2019!

**Md. Shahidul Alam Ratan**  
Chief Executive

# Our partners

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our supporters and partners for your continued support!



We would also like to thank all of our individual sponsors and donors. Without your generosity we would not be able to carry out the work that we do.

## Photography credits

Cover photo: Girls participate in games of cricket and practice sessions during the ECB South Asian Action Plan Launch at Leyton County Ground on May 10, 2018 in Leyton, England. (Photo by Christopher Lee/Getty Images)

Pages 5,12 and 38, ECB South Asian Action Plan Launch (Photos by Christopher Lee/Getty Images)

Other photographs by CKC staff.



# Staff and trustees

## Staff

**Shahidul Alam (Ratan)** – CEO

**Joe Fisher** – Operations and Development Manager

**Ray Tudor** – Head Coach

**Denise O'Neill** – Inclusion and SEND Coach

**Jerry Bramble** – Development Coach

**Mahbubul Alam** – Events and Competitions Officer

**Adnan Choudhry** – Engagement Officer

## Trustees

**Haydn Turner** – Chairman

**John Challinor** – Treasurer

**Phil Turner**

**Phil Ladmore**

**Helena Eccles**

**Richard Verity**

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## Patrons

**Lady Getty**

## Ambassadors

**Jenny Gunn MBE** – England International

**Tamim Iqbal** – Bangladesh International

**Shakib Al Hasan** – Bangladesh International

## In memory of William Greaves and Chris Winn



To donate or learn more about how you can support Capital Kids Cricket,  
visit our website: [www.capitalkidscricket.org.uk](http://www.capitalkidscricket.org.uk)  
or contact: [office@capitalkidscricket.org.uk](mailto:office@capitalkidscricket.org.uk)









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