



December 2013
4th Edition

Let me start by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for 2014. The theme for this edition of the newsletter is volunteering. If you have any suggestions on themes for 2014 editions please let us know.

Andrew Honeyman, Editor

Volunteering

Step Up 2 Serve: The Prince of Wales has launched a campaign to get more young people interested in volunteering, in a bid to tackle unemployment and gang violence. It is aimed at 10-20 year olds and if successful would create almost 90 million extra hours of volunteering each year. Click on the full [article](#) about the launch or visit the [website](#) .

Team London Ambassadors

The Greater London Authority continues to deploy their Team London Ambassadors in various ways. Megan Trace, Team London blogger and general enthusiast for all things London, gives an update on her volunteering plans for 2014 - including visiting schools in Brent as a Team London Schools Ambassador. [Her Blog](#) eloquently shows just how much volunteering can give each volunteer as Megan states that volunteering gave her university application 'a winning edge'.

Encouraging Social Action

The Government's Office for Civil Society (OCS) recently launched a paper entitled Encouraging Social Action. They have been working with a wide range of partners to encourage more social action, including volunteering. The [update](#) paper sets out the Government's achievements and commitments around social action, including the giving of time and encouraging young people to be involved in social action. [The Centre for Social Action](#), in collaboration with NESTA, will be at the heart of Government's plans. OCS is investing up to £40m over the next two years and its ambition is to show how social action – including volunteering - has a critical role in tackling some key public service challenges.





Join In Summer of 2013 was aimed at promoting community volunteering, especially around sport, across the UK and highlighted the importance of volunteering and the fun to be had. There were 11,395 events across the UK with 85% of events open and accessible to disabled people. Almost 110,000 new volunteers were recruited, with 41% of clubs recruiting new volunteers for future events. To read more about Join In they have a journal on their [website](#) which tells the story of Join In's 2013.

Other News

Active People Survey results

The number of people playing sport once a week in England has increased to 15.5 million, according to official statistics published recently by Sport England. The [results](#), which cover the year to October 2013, show an increase of over 1.5m since London won the bid to host the Games. The figures also show a record 1.67 million disabled people now playing sport each week, up by 62,000 over the last year. This is testament both to the impact of the Paralympic Games and Sport England's increased investment in the grassroots. There are also record numbers (2.7 million) of people from Black and Minority Ethnic origin playing sport once a week. While figures for the 16-25 year old age group have declined by 51,000 over the last year to 3.74 million, data on 14 and 15 year olds is included for the first time showing that more than 70% do sport once a week – about double the over 16 average.

Taking Part Survey results

Released on the same day (12 December) the [Taking Part Survey](#) also had positive news. Over the year, October 2012 – September 2013, 22 per cent of respondents who had taken part in sport or recreational activity answered that the UK winning the bid to host the 2012 Olympics had motivated them to do more of these activities, an increase from 8 per cent in 2005/06 and the highest figure ever. Most of this increase has been since 2011/12, when the rate was 7%.

Over three quarters (79%) of adults were slightly or strongly supportive of the UK hosting the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Attitudes have fluctuated since 2005/06 (71% slightly or strongly supportive), with a low in 2007/08 of 60 per cent. Increases in overall support since 2011/12 have been driven by a substantial increase in those strongly supportive of the Games.





Welcome and congratulations to recent licensees for the 'inspired by 2012' brand, including Sweet Spot, PwC, Everyone Active/Fit for Sport, Get Berkshire Active, Character Education Scotland Ltd, Great Ormond St Hospital, Pro-active London, Swim2winGB, Will to Win Foundation, London Youth, Gold Challenge, Active Essex, London Youth Games, Parkour UK, Cornwall Healthy Schools Programme, Harrow School Improvement Programme, Silverfit, King's College London Students' Union and Panathlon.

If you know of any initiatives or projects inspired by the Games which might wish to use the brand then contact Andrew Honeyman at andrew.honeyman@cabinet-office.gsi.gov.uk

The House Of Lords Select Committee published [its report](#) on Legacy on 18th November. The report contains 41 recommendations, mainly relating to sporting and regeneration legacy. The Government and Mayor of London have until 18th January 2014 to respond to the report so details of their response should be with you in the next newsletter!

Securing the cultural legacy of London 2012

The [King's College London Cultural Enquiry](#) a recent report published by the Cultural Institute at King's College London, supported by the Legacy Trust, called for the creation of an independent consortium body to lead, direct and deliver the cultural legacy from future major sporting and national events.

Public Servant of the year Christine Parsloe, leisure and cultural development manager for the south London borough of Merton, has sought to keep the Olympic legacy alive in Merton. It is reported the number of young people taking part in health and fitness activities at the borough's leisure centres between April and July this year was almost double the 2012 figure. Click on [The full article](#)



Healthy Schools London (HSL) is a voluntary Awards Programme that stimulates and recognises schools' achievements in improving pupil health and wellbeing particularly around reducing childhood obesity through healthy eating and physical activity - as shown in this [inspirational film](#). More than a third of London's 11 year olds are overweight and more than one in five are obese. Prevention begins in childhood where it is proven that schools have a fundamental influence, yet child obesity continues to rise year-on-year in London, with widening inequalities.





On 20 November young people from the **StreetGames** Willenhall project in the West Midlands were given a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend the afternoon training with England's Rugby League World Cup squad thanks to a partnership with The Rugby Football League (RFL). For more of this visit the [web site](#)



Having already launched in six schools, the **Kids' Marathon** is set to spread across the West Midlands, with 1,500 children now running in their spare time at school. [KIDS RUN FREE](#) is a regional charity based in Leamington, dedicated to inspiring children to enjoy activity and running at an early age. The charity provides free monthly running races at eight locations in the Midlands for children aged 0-16 years where they can get fun, regular exercise for free.

The **All-Party Commission on Physical Activity** is investigating physical inactivity in this country with a cross-sector group of parliamentary experts, looking at the key strands of Health, Sport, Transport and Urban Planning, and Education. The Commission is running from autumn 2013 to spring 2014 and is run by Parliamentarians including Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, Charlotte Leslie MP and Gerry Sutcliffe MP. The Commission is holding oral evidence sessions on each of the strands and is gathering written evidence submissions. The deadline for written submissions has been extended to 24th January 2014. You can complete [this form](#) in order to submit evidence, and then send it to physicalactivityevidence@fleishman.com . For further information visit the website www.activitycommission.com .

We are happy to receive any legacy news stories/activities or features to be considered for inclusion into the next edition and/or placed via Facebook and Twitter. Please submit contributions to us including links to: olympiclegacy@cabinet-office.gsi.gov.uk

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