



This month we are celebrating the work done in local schools and promoting some of the partnership's initiatives to help schools get the most out of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We are focussing on our ambition of increased opportunities for young people through education and the growth of a countywide talented young athletes programme.

Hertfordshire is the number one county in the UK for percentage of schools registered for the London 2012 'Get Set' education programme, with 85% of our schools and colleges registered. Get Set is the official London 2012 education programme for schools, colleges and local authority education providers across the UK. The Get Set website offers a huge range of opportunities and resources targeted at 3-19 year olds.

Further to this, 142 schools have engaged further with the Get Set programme by applying to become a member of the Get Set Network, which provides further resources, competitions and opportunities such as a free rafting experience for pupils at the Lee Valley White Water Centre and access to the London 2012 'Ticketshare' programme which allocates a share of 50,000 tickets to Get Set Network schools. Find out more about the Lee Valley Schools Festival on page 2.

This month we are calling on all young people in Herts to 'Get involved, Be inspired'.

The Herts 2012 Team

Jon, Sophie, John, Sally and Gareth visit us online at www.hertsisreadyforwinners.co.uk or follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/readyforwinners

London 2012 rally schools to claim their Ticketshare tickets!



London 2012 Chairman Seb Coe sent out a rallying cry to schools across the UK to ensure they do not miss out on their chance to receive tickets to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Schools must submit an application to be part of the London 2012 Get Set Network by 16 December 2011 in order to be eligible receive their allocation of tickets. Further information on how to be part of the Get Set Network and claim tickets is available at www.london2012.com/getset

50,000 tickets are up for grabs to schools across the UK but not in London, London schools have a separate allocation of 125,000. A further 25,000 tickets will be distributed by the British Olympic Association, British Paralympic Association, Sport England and Tickets for Troops. Ticketshare tickets are donated through a levy placed on London 2012 hospitality packages sold by Prestige Hospitality.

Derrick Ashley, Hertfordshire County Council Executive Member and Chairman of the Hertfordshire is Ready for Winners Board, said "Ticketshare is a fantastic opportunity, not to be missed, for Hertfordshire schools. In the County we have the highest percentage of schools registered for Get Set and this gives them a real incentive to make the additional step to becoming a Network school. I look forward to seeing what the total figure for Network schools in the county

will be by December; we already have 142 schools with Network status that are now eligible for Ticketshare, what an exciting prospect for them!"

LOCOG Chairman Sebastian Coe commented, "Schools and colleges across London and the UK have a golden opportunity to give some of their pupils the chance of a lifetime, tickets to see the greatest show on earth. More than 18 000 schools have taken the first step towards claiming their tickets by registering with Get Set. Now is the time for them to go one step further and apply to join the Get Set Network and claim their Ticketshare tickets."

Minister for Sport and the Olympics, Hugh Robertson, said, "This is an amazing chance for schools and colleges to bring the excitement of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to the classroom and really help make London 2012 something special for their pupils to be a part of. With so many unique, money-can't-buy experiences to be gained from joining Get Set and signing up to Ticketshare, any school or college that doesn't get involved is missing out on an incredible opportunity."

Schools need to apply to join the London 2012 Get Set Network by 16 December 2011 to be eligible. Over 3000 schools, including 142 in Hertfordshire, are part of the London 2012 Get Set Network currently and have already guaranteed an allocation of tickets.



Lee Valley's Schools Festival

Get Set Network schools across Hertfordshire have been offered the chance to take part in Lee Valley's Schools Festival and on Tuesday 5th July 360 pupils from across the county have been given the opportunity to be among the first to ride the rapids at the recently opened Lee Valley White Water Centre in Waltham Cross, Hertfordshire. Thousands of school children from across London, Essex and Hertfordshire have been given the unique chance to try out adrenalin-pumping white water rafting for free at the White Water Centre.

Lee Valley launched their Schools Festival in October and offered Education Authorities in London, Essex and Hertfordshire the chance to select a class of secondary school students, aged 14 plus, from each borough or district, to experience a FREE rafting session on the Olympic Standard Competition Course. In Hertfordshire, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority worked closely with Hertfordshire is Ready for Winners Partnership to offer the places to schools that had shown commitment to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games by having joined the Get Set Network.

Hugh Robertson, Minister for Sport and the Olympics, said: "This is a great opportunity for local children not only to experience a new sport, but also to get a flavour of the competition that will be happening on their doorsteps in 2012. Even better, those inspired by this opportunity will be able to use these state-of-the-art facilities after the

Games, creating a real legacy for canoeing and rafting in the UK from the Olympics."

In addition to white water rafting the festival will see students learn about the venue and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, plus enjoy a range of exciting activities on site such as GPS orienteering and taster sessions with Canoe England.

Lucky pupils from the following Get Set Network schools will be attending the Education Festival on 5th July:

- St Mary's C of E High School
- St Michael's Catholic High School
- The Sele School
- Rickmansworth School
- Francis Combe Academy
- Queens' School
- Garston Manor School
- Sir Fredric Osborn School
- Hertfordshire Virtual School
- The Bishop's Stortford High School
- Amwell View School and Specialist Sports College
- Aleyfield School
- Birchwood High School
- Goffs School
- The Leventhorpe School
- Pinewood School
- Richard Hale School
- Roundwood Park School
- St Clement Danes School
- St Joan of Arc Catholic School
- The John Warner School
- Turnford School
- The Meridian School



The centre is one of four London 2012 venues Lee Valley Regional Park Authority will run after the Games, including the Lee Valley VeloPark and Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centres. The Lee Valley White Water Centre will join the other regional sports venues the Authority owns to create a chain of sporting excellence along the 26 mile long, 10,000 acre Lee Valley Regional Park.



Herts School Games

On 17th June school students aged 9 - 18 from across Hertfordshire are coming together to take part in the Herts School Games, a whole day of inclusive, inter school, level three competition.

Hertfordshire has been picked as a pilot area to run the School Games in order to encourage schools to get involved in county level competitive sport, something already well established in Hertfordshire's school sports calendar. The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport Jeremy Hunt will be guest of honour at the Herts School Games opening ceremony which will feature music and dance performances as well as a welcome from former Olympic 400m runner, Mark Richardson.

On the day Herts schools pupils will take part in a variety of sports, activities and disability sports including swimming, cricket, gymnastics, hockey, netball, boccia, tennis, volleyball and Rugby Union as well as a canoeing competition on the lake at the Lee Valley White Water Centre.

In March there was a smaller Herts School Games event at the Hemel Hempstead Sportspace which was opened by Paralympian Danny Crates and Herts Young Ambassador



Lilli Harris-Scott. Children from across the county competed in athletics, badminton and swimming competitions as well as signing up to a fair play charter.



Olympic Hopeful – Michael Pope



Fifteen year old St Albans athlete Michael Pope is not only a talented sportsman; he is also a great role model to his peers. Specialising in not just one but five sports, Michael regularly competes nationally in discus, shot put, javelin, badminton and athletics.

Michael's current UK Athletics ranking is 2nd in discus and 3rd in shot put in his disability classification. He was the UK School Games Shot Put Champion in 2010 and winner of five gold and two silver medals at the National Dwarf Games 2011. These results contributed towards Michael being selected to attend a Paralympic Potentials Training Camp where he received high level coaching, nutrition advice and sports psychology.

Michael received his first sporting medals at the National Dwarf Games at the age of seven and qualified for the World Dwarf Games in Paris at the age of 10.

As a result of his achievements in sport Michael was nominated for and runner up at the OCS Young Sports Person Awards for the Disabled in 2010 and this year was awarded the Gold Award for Young Ambassador for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games for Bushey Meads School and the Borough of Hertsmere. As further recognition of his hard work Michael was selected for the Herts County Athletics Network Young Leader Athletic Academy.

Studying for his GCSE's has not prevented Michael from coaching and officiating at his local club, Watford Harriers, as well as studying for his Level 2 Officials Qualification. Having already gained his Coaching Licence, Michael's dream is to participate in the 2016 Paralympic Games and to one day become a sports coach to disabled athletes.

To follow the progress of Michael and other young talented athletes in Hertfordshire, visit www.hertssportsvillage.co.uk/hertstalentdathletes



School Governors Scheme

In last month's edition of The Governor the Herts is Ready for Winners Partnership launched our call to arms for School Governors across the county. As part of our commitment to get 95% of Hertfordshire schools registered for the London 2012 education programme 'Get Set' we aim to get one Governor Ambassador from each school and so far we are really pleased with the interest and the uptake.

Increased opportunities for young people through education and the growth of a countywide talented young athletes programme is one of the Partnership's key five ambitions and 2012 Governor Ambassadors will be asked to champion the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and to actively encourage their school's involvement with the Games in order to help us to achieve our ambition for the young people of Hertfordshire.

Other aspects of the Governor Ambassador role are:

- To ensure that their school is registered for the LOCOG 'Get Set' Education programme, and that it seeks to become a member of the Network, adopts the Olympic and Paralympic values and utilises the programmes provided in the curriculum offer
- To act as the conduit between Hertfordshire is Ready for Winners and school via the governing body, using HRWP as its principal source of information and advice
- To encourage the school to offer events and activities which are inspired by the Olympics
- To seek to use the schools communication framework for reaching pupil parents with the Olympic messages
- Securing appropriate levels of Herts is Ready for Winners Partnership support for Governor Ambassadors in their role and the wider school community with information and advice.

The first two governors to volunteer for the scheme were Alan Warman of Chauncy School, Ware and Roger Beeching from Leventhorpe School in Sawbridgeworth. Alan heard about the scheme while on an Olympic Park Tour arranged by Hertfordshire is Ready for Winners.

Alan said, "I very much enjoyed the tour and talking about the Governor Ambassador Scheme for the 2012 Games and am happy and willing to get involved.

"I am delighted to become a 2012 Governor Ambassador for my School and I look forward to working with the Partnership to help deliver opportunities and benefits for young people."

Roger stated, "As Chairman of Governors I am extremely happy to become an Ambassador for the Olympics in 2012 and to act in my areas of influence.

"As we all know having a healthy body generates an active and alert mind add to this the Olympic ideals of friendship and competition leading to community cohesion, then we have students becoming well round and complete persons."

Any Governor who is interested in volunteering for the scheme should contact the Herts 2012 team on **01992 555364** or **herts2012@hertsc.gov.uk**.



Rosemary Mula inspires schools to become Olympic supporters!

The Hertfordshire is Ready for Winners Partnership have welcomed Rosemary Mula back this summer with open arms. Rosemary has beaten the jet-lag after flying in from Australia to go and meet local school children who have been doing great work as part of the Get Set London 2012 education programme.

Rosemary's story is an interesting one, Hertfordshire born and bred she attended schools in Leavesden Green and Walthamstow before emigrating to Australia, where she has worked in supporting young disadvantaged athletes and supporting smaller National Olympic Committees at Olympic Games.

Rosemary was one of an elite group of Volunteers at Sydney 2000 and during her last visit to the UK was advising LOCOG (London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games) on its volunteering strategy. Rosemary helped the Partnership secure the signature of the British Virgin Islands National Olympic Committee to use Hertfordshire as their Pre-Games Training Camp in preparation for London 2012 and continues to work with us.

Last summer when Rosemary was last in Hertfordshire she went to The Russell School in Chorleywood and told them of her involvement with Kiribati, a Pacific Island nation poor in natural resources and with

a weak economy. The pupils at The Russell then committed to raise funds to support the Kiribati team Olympic kit. More importantly, pupils decided to 'adopt' the Kiribati team and sent letters of support to athletes competing at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi last October.

Rosemary went back to the Russell School last week (8th June) to find out how the pupils are getting on with their fundraising and support for Kiribati and was really impressed by how eager the pupils are. Rosemary also told them what she has been up to in the last year including a number of photos of her handing over the letters of support to the Kiribati athletes in the athletes village in Delhi and of pupils at a school in Singapore where it is hoped The Russell School can send the Olympic mascots on a trip round the world as a gift to Kiribati.

Rosemary is in the UK until July and has a number of school visits planned around the county spreading her enthusiasm and inspiring people wherever she goes!

The Hertfordshire Virtual School appoints London 2012 Ambassadors

The Hertfordshire Virtual School are currently recruiting a group London 2012 Ambassadors to get involved and promote the Olympic and Paralympic values to their peers in the Virtual school. The Virtual School have been working with Herts is Ready for Winners and both the school and the partnership have been really pleased with the interest and the number of applications received to become London 2012 Ambassadors for the Virtual School.

The Hertfordshire Virtual School is not a teaching institution but a way of bringing together the children and young people who are looked after as if they were in a single school so that their progress can be closely tracked and supported and intervention can be targeted in a more strategic way.

One of their first activities as a newly recruited group will be to ride the rapids at the Lee Valley White Water Centre; having the opportunity to take on the Olympic course before the elite athletes do as part of the Lee Valley Schools festival next month. Other activities and events are in the pipeline.





Team Ready for Winners in a school near you?!

Jon and Sophie from the Ready for Winners team have been doing workshops in a number of schools in Broxbourne to promote a healthy lifestyle and the Olympic and Paralympic values. They have spent a couple of mornings at Turnford and John Warner schools and are scheduled to be going to the Broxbourne School shortly.

Pupils at Turnford School took part in a workshop on the Olympic and Paralympic values with the Ready for Winners team and came up with some great ideas about how to incorporate the values into school events. You can read more on the trip to Turnford in the education section of the Ready For Winners website <http://www.hertsisreadyforwinners.co.uk/education.html>.

An invitation has been sent out to a handful of schools across the county to see if they would benefit from a visit from them, so you may spot them at a school near you soon!



Turnford School celebrates Olympics Day



On 23rd June Turnford School will be celebrating 400 days to go until the Olympics in style with a mixture of sport and cultural activities.

Their first and rather ambitious aim is to walk 100 students from Turnford School over a total of 26 miles to the Olympic Countdown Clock in Trafalgar Square. While the marathon walk is going on the school's art department will be creating a huge mural on the outside of one of the buildings at the school focussing on the Olympic aims and philosophies. Should be a great day of activities for the students and staff and we at Ready for Winners wish them lots of luck!