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## New Skate Park for Stratford Town

Stratford-on-Avon District Council together with Stratford Town Trust has jointly funded a new skate park for Stratford-upon-Avon. The total cost of the project is almost £50,000.



On Thursday 18 June 2009 skate park users were invited to a meeting at the site of the current skate park at Stratford Leisure Centre to talk with the skate park designer and District Council officers. The meeting was held to give skate park users a say about what new skating equipment would form the new design and layout; it was their chance to have a say about the whole skate park experience.

The young people have already been involved from the start as in the early stages of this project consultation with the young people identified concrete as their preferred skating surface and Bendcrete Skateparks, specialists in the design and build of bespoke concrete skateparks, has been awarded the contract.

The new mini-ramps have now been constructed and are being heavily used.

Stratford Skate Park is the biggest free skate park in the West Midlands and has a reputation amongst users for providing a challenging skating experience.

## We made time for our children to play ...

Play Day is the annual celebration of children's right to play and this year took place on 5th August 2009 at Stratford Recreation Ground and Southam Children's Centre. The theme was 'Make Time'.

Young people and their families took the opportunity to get out and play. Our Play Day was attended by over 700 children and their parents and after a morning of grey skies and torrential rain, the sun finally shone. The children were able to experience:-

Mobile climbing wall, Bouncy Castle and assault course, Sumo Wrestling, Bungee runs, Wildplay, Face Painting, Cake Decorating, T-shirt design, Magic Show, Play on a beach, Messy play and much much more.

They also took part in a giant wave towards another county's children who in turn did the same. Children in Stratford waved to children in Staffordshire who then shouted at children in Stoke-on-Trent, who then stamped to children in Coventry who in turn chanted to children in Solihull and the wave continued.

**We are looking forward to next year so put Wednesday 4th August 2010 in your diary.**



# Summer Holiday Activities 2009

This summer's sports activities were once again a huge success. The Sports Development team this year, as they have in previous years, organised their own Hi-5 brand holiday activities aimed at 5-11 year olds. Alongside the Hi-5 scheme the Sports Development team also organised and delivered other activities across the District that were completely free to children. We received some funding from Positive About Young People (PAYP). This helped us to run special activities aimed at the older children 8 years onwards.



## Hi-5 Holiday Scheme

- Hi-5 ran for 6 weeks from the July 20th – August 28th
- Hi-5 visited 6 different venues and covered all three of the districts regions
- Hi-5 included Sports, Arts and Drama every day and was targeted to the 5-11 age group running from 9am – 3pm
- Hi-5 costs £10 per day or £45 per week
- Hi-5 had a total of 888 places taken up this year, this amount was slightly down on the amount last year and two of the venues were cancelled due to low numbers. However we did see a rise in uptake of our free activities.



## Free Activities

- Activities included; Turn Up For Free Sport (TUFFS), Mobile Climbing Wall and Football Coaching and the PAYP funded Multi-Sport & Swim
- All activities are one session activities running in over 15 different locations covering the whole district
- Activities ran straight through the school holidays for all 7 weeks from July 20th – September 3rd
- Activities ran at various times with some activities having both morning and afternoon sessions
- All activities together had a total of 1,113 places taken up. This number was up on last year and could have been much higher but unfortunately we did have many sessions interrupted by rain.
- A team of 20 staff were employed over the summer and worked very well together to deliver a top notch summer programme

Contact Marcus Ferguson  
 Sports Development Officer  
 Tel: 01789 260115  
 Email: [marcus.ferguson@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:marcus.ferguson@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

## Intergenerational Walk Draycote Waters



This took place on Monday 14th September 2009, an out of town end of season pram and older persons walk at Draycote Waters nr Dunchurch. The turn out was excellent and included, mums, childminders, grandmas and older persons who accompanied all the children in their pushchairs. The walk was either 2.5 miles or 5 miles with three trained walk leaders present. The feedback was very positive and more out of town walks were asked for.

For more details on our walks programme please contact the Active Communities Team by telephoning 01789 260648 and 260650, or email [paula.watson@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:paula.watson@stratford-dc.gov.uk) or [kally-laity@stratford-dc.gov.uk](mailto:kally-laity@stratford-dc.gov.uk)

To access the Walking the way to Health website, please go to: [www.whi.org.uk](http://www.whi.org.uk)

## Sue sets the pace!



Keen walker, Sue Kennedy, 63, is the first of nearly 300 walkers to receive a loyalty award for attendance from Stratford-on-Avon District Council's 'Set The Pace' health walk scheme, designed specifically with those aged 45 and over in mind.

The District Council's Active Communities Team, who organise and lead the hour-long walks along with a group of volunteers from the local community, devised the

loyalty scheme to encourage their members to walk more often. Walkers who wanted to take part were given a card with 32 footprints on it. As an incentive, every time they attend a walk, they become one step closer to completing the card, after which they will all receive a small prize.

However, as Sue was the first to complete hers, after only 10 weeks, she receives a special accolade. She has attended health walks in Stratford-on-Avon, Shipston-on-Stour, Alcester and is a regular at Track Walking on Stratford High School's Athletics Track helping her to complete the card in such a short space of time.



## Ray is bowled over to be 84!

'You're never too old to Get Active' is the message from Stratford-on-Avon District Council's Active Officers as regular 'Get Active' club goer Ray Peachey, from Shipston-on-Stour, celebrates his 84th birthday this month.



Ray is now officially the oldest member of the group since it started nearly three years ago and ironically, Ray's age is the same as that of club organisers Paula Watson and Kally Laity, from the Active Communities Team at Stratford District Council, added together!

The birthday celebrations start this Friday at Stratford Leisure and Visitors Centre and helping him celebrate are the other 16 members of the group, whose joint ages total 1138, making the average age an amazing 71 years!

"I've always tried to stay fit and active and I love going and playing short mat bowls, table tennis and badminton every week with the group. The best bit for me is beating Kally and Paula, who are half my age!" says Ray. "You can just join in and play for fun, or sometimes you can have a really good game and we laugh about how competitive it can get. I also enjoy the social element as we all have a drink and a chat at half time, and the girls always make it so much fun."





## Shottery RFC

Shottery RFC are currently celebrating their 25th anniversary. They were founded in 1984 by the Rev. David Capron who could see an opportunity for a social rugby club in the town, where the performance is more important than the result, and the spirit engendered on the pitch should be maintained in the clubhouse after the game. Shottery also takes their community role seriously and has raised thousands of pounds for charitable concerns.

After having led a somewhat nomadic existence, playing matches on Shottery Fields, the High School and the recreation ground, Shottery are now settled, sharing the facilities of Stratford Rugby Club.

Not having to meet the commitments of league fixtures, Shottery are free to select their own opponents, mostly quite local against the likes of Leamington and Harbury, but sometimes a little further afield to play teams such as Ledbury and Chipping Norton.

Shottery RFC are keen to recruit new players in their anniversary year. All are welcome, regardless of ability or experience, whether you are new to the game, recently moved to the area, or a veteran who still has a couple of years left before hanging up your boots.

Contact Danny Farndon on 07989 321 753 or visit our website [www.ShotteryRFC.com](http://www.ShotteryRFC.com)

We train on Wednesday nights from 7:30 at Stratford RFC, Loxley Road, Stratford-Upon-Avon CV37 7DP.



## Alcester Tennis Programme

7 Week ½ term 2nd November – 18th December 2009

	DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	PRICE FOR ½ TERM INC VAT)
JUNIOR	Monday	Green	5.00 – 5.45pm	£25.50
		Orange	5.45 – 6.30pm	£25.50
		Junior Tennis (11 & over)	6.30 – 7.30pm	£34.00
	Tuesday	Mini Red (beginner)*	3.45 – 4.30pm	£25.50
		Mini Red (improver)*	4.30 – 5.30pm	£34.00
		Mini Red (intermediate)*	5.30 – 6.30pm	£34.00
		Orange Development Squad	4.00 – 5.00pm	£34.00
		Green	4.00 – 5.00pm	£34.00
		Junior Tennis (11 & over)	5.00 – 6.00pm	£34.00
	Wednesday	Junior Tennis (13 & over)	6.00 – 7.00pm	£34.00
Tots Tennis (3-5 year olds)		10.00 – 11.00am	£25.50	
Orange Development Squad		4.30 – 5.30pm	£34.00	
Thursday	Green Development Squad	5.30 – 7.00pm	£51.00	
	Junior Tennis (15 & over) Squad (11 years+)	5.30 – 7.00pm	£34.00	
Friday	Junior Club Night (all ages)	5.00 – 6.30pm	£1.50 Pay & Play/£3.00 non members	
Saturday	Red (5-8 year olds)	10.00 – 11.00am	£68.00	
ADULT	Monday	Improver Coaching	7.30 – 8.30pm	£34.00
	Wednesday	Ladies Coffee Morning	10.00 – 11.00am	£4.50 Pay & Play
		Team Training	7.30 – 8.30pm	£4.50 Pay & Play

\*At The Greig Hall

For more information on the sessions, holiday courses, opportunities to compete and how to book, please call Hollie Sharman on 02476 150688 or email: [info@inspire2coach.co.uk](mailto:info@inspire2coach.co.uk). All sessions run by qualified and licensed LTA coaches. Venue: Alcester TC, Moorfield Road, Alcester, B49 5DA. Website: [www.inspire2coach.co.uk](http://www.inspire2coach.co.uk)

## Clubmark

Sport England recognizes and values the commitment made by sports clubs to develop high quality, welcoming environments for young participants. The development of clubs that encourage young people to take-up sport, improve their talents, possibly play a leadership role and give them the option to initiate and maintain life-long participation in sport is an essential part of supporting the sporting infrastructure in England.

Clubmark accreditation is awarded to clubs that comply with minimum operating standards in four areas:

- The playing programme
- Duty of care and safeguarding and protecting children and young people
- Sports equity and ethics
- Club management

Clubs working towards accreditation can receive support and advice from their NGB and other partners such as county sports partnerships (CSPs).

Circumstances will vary between clubs and sports but the process of accreditation is the same. There is only one set of paperwork to complete and in general most clubs are well on the way to achieving accreditation without realizing it.

- Benefits of Clubmark
- Increased membership
- Retaining members
- Continuous improvement
- Funding
- Facilities - More and more local authorities and other leisure operators give priority-booking slots to Clubmark accredited clubs. Some also offer discounted rates for facility hire.
- Developing coaches
- Volunteers
- Links with schools
- Raised profile
- Better Marketing and communication
- Club development

Not forgetting the most important reason of all - the positive impact Clubmark has on the way in which clubs think about and provide for young people!!



## Focus on Action Unlimited Swimming

Action Unlimited Swimming is a weekly swimming club held at Stratford Leisure and Visitor Centre each Sunday evening.

Its aim is to give people of all ages with disabilities the chance to swim and relax without the pressures of other swimmers around them. Parents and families are encouraged to come and swim together. Assistance may be given locally with transport if necessary.

Volunteers to help in the pool and with transport are welcome. In recent years we have had some excellent young people (15 – 19 age groups) who have played a fine role in helping.

Action Unlimited Trust is a Stratford based charity which supports children and adults with special needs in South Warwickshire. In addition to the swimming, the charity provides financial support and practical assistance to disabled people in the area, and has a specially equipped holiday chalet in Dartmouth for disabled use at a nominal cost.

To find out more about the swimming, contact the organiser,

**Rod Poulter**  
49 Mountford Close  
Wellesbourne  
CV35 9QG

**Tel: 01789 840526**

## What's on in the District

November/December/January

Schools Basketball

December

Mon 21 Xmas Walk

January 2010

Fri 22 Sports Awards

For further details of activities and events please visit the Council's website [www.stratford.gov.uk](http://www.stratford.gov.uk)

### Backstage Walkabout at The Royal Shakespeare Company's Courtyard Theatre and Christmas Lunch

on Monday 21st December 2009 at 1pm

Your Active Communities Team at Stratford-on-Avon District Council are working in partnership with Courtyard Theatre RSC to offer you an exclusive back stage walkabout

Then why not join us afterwards for a Christmas drink and lunch at the Tramway Inn at 2.30pm. Free parking at the Tramway Inn, then walk to meet us at the theatre and after the tour we will walk back to the Tramway for lunch

They are offering us a special 50+ Christmas Club meal (drinks not included):

**\* 2 Courses £5.95 \* \* 3 Courses £6.95 Pre-booking required**

Please contact:

**The Active Communities Team**

Direct Lines (01789) 260650 and 260648

Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House,  
Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon,  
Warwickshire CV37 6HX.

## Passport to Excellence

working towards London 2012

Who is eligible for the scheme?

To qualify you must be:

- Under 21 years old.
- Live in the Stratford-on-Avon District and compete for a club within Stratford-on-Avon District.
- Represent your sport at a International, District or County level.
- Be part of a National Governing Body programme supported by Sport England.
- Be recommended by your coach or teacher.
- All applications will be reviewed by Stratford-on-Avon District Council Officers.

For more information and an application form please contact the **Sports Development Team** at the District Council **01789 260606/260646**

## Warwickshire County Council Grants Scheme

Warwickshire County Council runs a small grants scheme for projects taking place in Stratford on Avon District.

For more information please contact:

Amanda Willson Patterson, Warwickshire County Council Stratford Area office 01789 290784

### Need help to find funding?

You can conduct your own online funding search at Warwickshire County Council's grants website.

If you don't know where to start looking for funding for your project or need some help and guidance contact Voluntary Action Stratford on Avon District on 01789 298115 or email [info@vasa.org.uk](mailto:info@vasa.org.uk)

and also

Environment & Economy, Warwickshire County Council, Sarah James, External Funding Officer on 01926 418027 or email [sarahjames@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:sarahjames@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Contact details

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