

DECEMBER 2018

CRICKET NEWS EAST

Season's Greetings, Happy Holidays and All the Best for a Prosperous New Year

PERFORMANCE CRICKET

Hunts girls shine!

Christmas has come early for two Huntingdonshire Young Cricketers who have been awarded places on Women's Super League Franchise Regional Development Centre (RDC) Programmes – Katherine Speed will join the Surrey Stars RDC squad for the third year and Alicia Presland has secured a place on the Loughborough Lightning RDC.

Katherine Speed first came into the Huntingdonshire Girls system in 2012 as an U10 with huge potential. With no U13s team in Huntingdonshire at the time, she played U13s Cricket for the County taking her first wicket and scoring her first runs against Surrey.

In 4 years with Huntingdonshire, Katherine shone with both bat and ball despite playing up the age groups from the start. In total she claimed 48 wickets and scored 1,202 runs, recording eight 50s and one 100 – a superb 100 not out against Bedfordshire.

In September 2014, she joined the Huntingdonshire Emerging Player Programme (EPP) as one of their first girls on the Programme set up by then Head Coach Dave Summers, who had developed the girls' link originally with Essex County Cricket Club. She then linked in with Essex permanently from 2016. Katherine has continued to make huge strides, starting for both the Essex Age Group teams and senior Women's Team and well as on the Surrey Stars RDC squad.

Alicia Presland first came to the attention of coach Steve Brown when she was playing in the youth section at Eaton Soccer CC, aged around 8 years. She was obviously going to be a good player even at that young age.

Her ability led to her being a shoe-in in the Hunts County age group teams from U11 upwards. She developed into an aggressive attacking batsman and fast bowler. The highlight of her age group career was probably playing in a very talented Hunts U15 Girls team that won the National U15 Development trophy in 2013 at Moseley.

Having outgrown CAG cricket Alicia now plays for the Northamptonshire County Women's team. Her contributions helped the team to promotion from ECB Div 3 in both the 50 over and 120 format of the game in 2017, her first season, becoming top run-scorer in the shorter form of the game. In the more demanding Div 2 in 2018 Alicia continued to contribute in both disciplines and her performance has earned her an opportunity to take her game to the next level by securing a place on the Loughborough Lightning RDC.

Shaftab Khalid, Performance Lead (Hunts & Beds) said: *'This is fantastic news for both girls and indeed Huntingdonshire. Both girls have worked very hard at their games and we wish them all the very best for their future cricketing careers. We will be looking out for them both on the TV very soon.'*

The EPP is an ECB initiative, locally organised that supports players, girls and boys, who have the necessary attitude, attitude, desire and athleticism to be potential future elite players. The key aim of the Regional Development Centre programmes across the country is to provide further elite cricketing development opportunities to female players that have the perceived potential to be selected into the England Women's Academy programme.

Regional Emerging Player Programme

Some of Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire's most promising young players have started their preparations with the Regional Emerging Player Programme (EPP).

This year's intake includes Zaid Falek, Danyaal Khalid, Dilan Sheeran and Vedant Somal from Bedfordshire and Olivia Greenhow from Huntingdonshire.

The programme, overseen by Essex County Cricket Club, sees players from Bedfordshire, Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire work together at weekly sessions at Essex County Ground and New Hall School in Chelmsford before Christmas and at The Perse School, Cambridge in the New Year, alongside the Essex Emerging Players and coaches.

Good luck to the boys!

Young Cricketers in training!

It is a busy time for our young cricketers in Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire with Winter Training Programmes well underway to get ready for the 2019 season!

In Bedfordshire, fitness testing has taken place for the U14 to U17 age groups including Yo-Yo Endurance Tests, planks and pushup tests. Extra sessions have been provided for the U13 to U17 age groups every other week to give them more training practice.

In Huntingdonshire, coaching at all levels including boys and girls kicked off on 18 November and fitness testing will commence in the New Year.

For more information about our Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire Performance Programmes, contact Shaftab Khalid on 07785 321347 or email shaftab.khalid@cricketeast.co.uk.

NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

All Stars Cricket 2019

Our All Stars had lots of fun in 2018! If you are interested in All Stars Cricket for your child in 2019, you can be the first to hear about new sessions when registration opens - click [HERE](#). If you have any questions click [HERE](#) and see the programme in action [HERE](#).



Pictured: Katherine Speed

Female All Stars Cricket Activators

Do you know someone that might like to be a female Activator in 2019? ECB are looking to increase the number of female activators to give women greater representation within our volunteer workforce. Please complete an expression of interest form [HERE](#) and someone will be in touch to discuss the potential opportunities with you in more detail.

CLUB COMPETITIONS

2019 Women's Club T20 Competition

Final call for clubs to enter the 2019 competition – the deadline has been extended to Sunday 16 December. For an entry form click [HERE](#) and for the competition rules click [HERE](#).



LADY TAVERNERS
Giving young people a sporting chance

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LADY TAVERNERS

Lady Taverners Girls U13 & U15 T20 Club Competition 2019

All clubs are invited to enter the 2019 Lady Taverners Girls U13 & U15 Club Competitions. This is a great opportunity for girls to compete with their friends, initially against local teams in early rounds, to group finals and then National Finals in early August. Clubs can enter by completing the [entry form](#) and returning to [competitions@ecb.co.uk](#) no later than Friday 15 February 2019. You can also download an [ECB Invite Letter and Competition Rules](#). The draw will be published by 22 February 2019.

Bedfordshire Youth Competitions

Registration is now open for the Bedfordshire Youth Competitions in 2019 - ECB U13 and U15 National Club Championships and Lady Taverners U11 and U13 Girls Club Softball Competitions. Click [HERE](#) to enter. The closing date for entry is 31 December 2018. Any queries, please contact Will Sneath on 07884 070103 or email will.sneath@cricketeast.co.uk.

Further details to follow regarding Huntingdonshire Youth Competitions.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Bedfordshire Cricket

Driving and inspiring cricket

Bedfordshire Cricket Board Ltd

The 31st Annual General Meeting of Bedfordshire Cricket Board Ltd will be held on **Wednesday 19 December** at **Fittwick Cricket Club** starting at 7.30pm. Click [HERE](#) for a copy of the agenda and relevant papers that will be available for the evening.

PEOPLE

Huntingdonshire celebrates

The Huntingdonshire Cricket Board Annual End of Season Dinner and Awards Evening took place on Friday 16 November when 160 people from Cricket Clubs across the county gathered for well-deserved recognition and awards to all ages in the county age group, club and community environments after a very successful season.

Nine players across a variety of ages were awarded County Caps based on performances in either batting or bowling in County Representative teams:

Hugo Bell
Harry Gilman
Jack Martin
Freddie St John
Diveesh Vaseeharan

Oliver Lov
Sam Jarvis
Kian Rice
Sreeshari Subramanian

The NatWest OSCAs were awarded to Michelle Mills (Heartbeat of the Club), Dick & Jenny Presland (Lifetime Achiever), Peter Killingworth (Leagues Award), Natalie Durham (Young Volunteer), Tony Edwards (Umpires & Scorers), Warren Daws (All Rounder), Ian Pickett (Groundsman), Richard Saltmarsh & Bill Taylor (Outstanding Services to Cricket in Huntingdonshire), and Waresley Cricket Club (NatWest CricketForce).

The remainder of the awards were as follows:
Newcomer South: Emily Waterman (Houghton & Wyton CC)
Newcomer North: Diveesh Vaseeharan (Orton Park CC)
Most Promising Player South: Luke Ashwell (Eaton Soccer CC)
Most Promising Player North: Jaius Charles (Orton Park CC)

The County Youth Player of the Year for the second successive year was Kaushika Vaseeharan from Orton Park CC and the County Player of the Year was Patrick Harrington from Market Deeping CC. There was also a special Award for the Outstanding Team of the Year and this went to the successful County Hunters Under 12 (Boys) Team. The Gary Whitbread Memorial Trophy for a Lifetime Playing Achievement went to Geoff Clark and The David Holmes Award, an award for Lifetime Volunteering, was awarded to John Walker.

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County Cricket

Bedfordshire

Chairman of Bedfordshire County Cricket Club Ian Smith looks back on the 2018 season.

'Unfortunately, Bedfordshire CCC only had one T20 win from the 2018 season. But there were positives with young cricketers moving up from the Development XI to play Minor County Cricket. Ajay Singh Momi, Jack Fuller, Al Mahmud Hany, Mohammad Ahmadzai, Ajay McBrearty, Fayaz Hanyoon, Harry Thurstan, Liam Everett, Gus Miller and Nathan Healey.

'The season had no friendly fixtures due to April's monsoon, so it was straight into the 50-over knock out with a trip to Harford CC to take on Norfolk. We batted first – at one stage we were 26 for 5, Andy Reynoldson 72, George Darlow 31 and Tom Brett 22 got us to 165 all out. But this wasn't good enough as Norfolk raced to a 10-wicket win.

'We moved on to the new Twenty 20 competition that saw groups of 5 counties, with every county playing twice on the same day. In the past we have done well in this type of cricket. This was going to be the case in 2018.

'We lost twice to Hertfordshire, Suffolk and Norfolk and last, we visited March to take on Cambridgeshire. The hosts needed two wickets to top the Group and go to Finals Day. Cambs won the first game, the second game saw Beds bat first; Ajay Singh Momi hit 54 and George Thurstan being undefeated on 41. This proved too much for Cambs with Alex Evans winning three wickets. Beds only won Norfolk quickly instead of Cambridgeshire.

'The Championship saw us gain draws against Northumberland and Hertfordshire, but four defeats against Buckinghamshire, Suffolk, Cumberland and Norfolk.

'The defeats in Buckinghamshire and Suffolk saw us try and bat out the last day to try and gain a draw. Both times we came close to achieving our objective.

'The County was led by Andy Reynoldson who scored 606 runs in the championship. The highlight was a wonderful 159 against Bucks that nearly got us a draw.

'Drew Brierley 152' nearly got us a draw with Suffolk. The next game he was required by Northants 25. Second Elevation taking players became a major problem.

'Matt Taylor kept wicket well and claimed his first ten vs. Northumberland. In truth the game against Northumberland at Bedford School was our best chance of getting a one-day win. George Darlow claimed 17 wickets with his slow left arm. As Hasan got 15 wickets opening the bowling with great heart.

'Andy Reynoldson will captain us again in 2019 and we will be strengthened by the return of James Kettleborough from Derbyshire 2nd XI.'

Chance to Shine Street

Chance to Shine Street is an inner-city cricket initiative that uses the game to promote social cohesion and create opportunities in diverse communities affected by anti-social behaviour and youth crime. At sessions, young people (16-24 year olds) play a 6-side, fast-paced, high-impact version of tape-ball cricket.

Cricket East is already running Chance to Shine Street sessions in Luton on MONDAYS 8.15-9.15pm at Chalfney High School for Girls and sessions will start in Bedford on SUNDAYS 3.30-4.30pm starting 27 January at Biddenham International School & Sports College.

Four more new projects are currently being planned to start in the New Year across Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire.

For further details about Chance to Shine Street, contact Eddie Ballard on 07880 636482 or email eddie.ballard@cricketeast.co.uk.

Luton Cricket Pitches Support Network

A support network has been set up to improve the long-term growth and sustainability of the game in Luton by improving the pitches/facilities that the game is played on.

For this to happen, everybody involved including clubs, leagues, individuals, National Governing Bodies and Luton Borough Council are working together on this 1-3 year project to get the cricket facilities improved and added to.

Earlier in the year, all grounds/park venues in Luton were visited and assessed by Institute of Groundsmanship Regional Pitch Advisor Phil Jeggo both for grass and non-turf pitches and a plan is being put into place to address the current issues with the pitch delivered his grounds overview at the recent Luton Facilities Support Network Meeting. Options were discussed on moving forward including promoting the role of the cricket groundsmans in Luton, providing training, help and support when it comes to cricket pitch maintenance and improvement. Other aspects will also need to be looked at, for example access to machinery and equipment.

In the longer term, the aim is to move towards establishing a Grounds Trust in Luton with Core City funding for grounds training.

Indoor Women's Soft Ball

Cricket East's FREE Indoor Soft Ball Cricket sessions have been taking place in Luton since September for women and girls aged 14 and over. The sessions, funded by the Luton ECB Core Cities Programme and run by a qualified female cricket coach, focus on keeping fit, learning new skills and having fun!

Each week, our talented ladies have been focusing on different activities including bowling, fielding, moving around the field, running between wickets and hand-eye coordination!

The remaining session for this year is on **THURSDAY 6 December 6-7.30pm** at Denbigh High School Sports Centre, Luton U13 1HE which will be a Bolly Cric-hit session with 45 minutes Bangra Bluze dancing followed by 45 minutes of having fun!

Sessions will also run in 2019 on **THURSDAYS** from 10 January to 4 April 2019 6-7.30pm at Denbigh High School Sports Centre.

For a New Year flyer, click [HERE](#) or for more information, please contact Chantal Hardy at chantal.hardy@cricketeast.co.uk. 07880 641624.

Indoor Big Bash

As part of the ECB Core Cities Programme in Luton, Cricket East is supporting partner to the Indoor Big Bash - an exciting indoor cricket league which started on Sunday 21 October.

Luton has 8 teams: Gladiators, Mavericks, BPU, Spartans, Warriors, Barbarians, Chalfney Strikers and Panthers. The format is 8-a-side, 16 overs and 75 minutes of unstoppage action! Matches take place on **Sundays 11-2pm** at Chalk Hills Academy, Luton.

At the time of going to print, topping the League Table is Gladiators.

Follow the League on Twitter and Facebook or for details, go to the Indoor Big Bash website [HERE](#) or view a video [HERE](#).

Club Support

Clubs get up to date!

Cricket East's recent Club Engagement Evenings were a great success with over 60 club representatives attending and feedback has been very positive. The purpose of these events was to provide an update from the ECB regional team and Cricket East on plans moving forward, ECB National Products and how clubs can get involved in the Cricket World Cup. General club support advice/ guidance was also available.

Be part of the world's greatest cricket celebration

As the Cricket World Cup (CWC) returns to England and Wales for the first time in 20 years, the ICC and ECB aim to engage 1 million kids throughout the tournament, with clubs given the opportunity to apply to become a CWC Club, put on a family day and celebrate and engage a new audience through the excitement of the CWC 2019.

As part of the initiative, clubs are being asked to run a weekend of child/family-based activity, helping to better connect with the local community and engage a younger generation. This could be anything from kids' coaching sessions, parent/child matches, or even a 'Bring a Friend' day. The aim of these family days is to get more kids involved in the game and to help Clubs showcase themselves to a wider audience.

Clubs who apply will have access to official marketing material to assist with the promotion of their event and Cricket World Cup Champions, the lead volunteer at the club, will receive official World Cup merchandise to reward them for their efforts.

Friday 7 to Sunday 9 June 2019 will be the focus weekend for celebrations however club family days can run over any weekend during the World Cup (30 May-14 July).

A Cricket World Cup Club Family Day has also been launched with at least the first 2,000 affiliated Clubs who register, having the opportunity to receive 1,000 to help digitise or upgrade catering facilities.

To register your club or for more information, click [HERE](#).

Funding update

Please note the ECB Small Grant Scheme will not run in 2019 – for one year only. The ECB are excited to be investing in the Cricket World Cup (through the Cricket World Cup Fund) and Get the Game On funding for covers etc. will be launched in Spring 2019 – more details to follow.

Safe Hands

Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire had very few child welfare issues during the 2018 season and this is testament to Cricket East's ongoing efforts to ensure that clubs appoint and train their own Club Welfare Officers (CWO) as well as increased confidence shown by Club Welfare Officers in being able to handle various in-club matters.

If your club's Welfare Officer needs to update their training or you have a new Officer, Safe Hands Workshops will run in advance of the 2019 season as follows:

Tuesday 26 February 2019 6-9pm at Bedford College, book [HERE](#)

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COMMUNITIES

Core City South Asian Hub

A new South Asian Hub was launched in Luton on 15 November funded by the ECB Core Cities Programme, which aims to engage with and inspire South Asian communities to connect with cricket – both as players and as spectators. Earlier in the year, Luton was identified as one of ten Core Cities – the only one in the region.

The first initiative of its kind in Luton is targeting the Afghan community who do not have any fixed club or abode for cricket. There will be a total of 18 sessions running weekly on **Thursdays 7.30-8.30pm** up to 18 April 2019 at Stapsley High School.

Cricket East's Wicketet Development Officer in Luton who is running the Hub said: *'From this Hub we aspire to create Luton's first Under 19 Afghanistan team that will enter the ECB U19 competition and adult leagues as well as provide an entry pathway for the ECB City Cup Competition.'*

For further details of the ECB South Asian Action Plan, click [HERE](#).

Walking Cricket

Cricket East, in partnership with Fusion Lifestyle, is launching Walking Cricket sessions for men and women aged 50 and over. The adapted indoor sessions will take place on **MONDAYS 10-11.30am** starting on 21 January at John Bunyan Sports & Fitness Centre, Bedford at a cost of £83 per further details, contact Will Sneath on 07884 070103 or email will.sneath@cricketeast.co.uk.

Luton Winter Wicketet

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They are FREE for boys and girls aged 8-15 and run as follows:
MONDAYS Lutonians CC Hub 6-8am at Chalfney High School for Girls
TUESDAYS Hightown Hub 5-6pm at Hightown Sports & Arts Centre
WEDNESDAYS Luton Town & Indians CC Hub 5-7pm at Denbigh High School
THURSDAYS Luton Caribbean CC Hub 6-7.30pm at Stapsley High School
FRIDAYS Farley Hill/Caddington CC Hub 3.30-5.30pm at Stockwood Park Academy

Friday 21 December will be the last session before the Christmas break and Hubs will start again on Monday 7 January 2019.

To download a flyer click [HERE](#) or for further details contact Amran Malik at amran.malik@cricketeast.co.uk or call 07493 867729.

Wicketet Champions

On Thursday 3 January, Cricket East is taking the most gifted 14 Luton performers to play in a Wicketet championship at Edgworth with the aim of bringing the cup home to Luton! There will be two teams each from Manchester, West Midlands and Luton and it will be a six-a-side, 10-over match running from 10am to 5pm. Good luck to the Luton team!

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Weekly After-School Hubs

The FREE weekly Hubs have been running in Peterborough for boys and girls aged 7-11 at Gladstone Community every Wednesday 3-4.15pm and at Dogsthorpe Academy every Thursday 3-4.30pm. Sessions will finish for the Christmas break at Gladstone on 12 December and restart on 9 January and at Dogsthorpe will finish on 6 December and restart on 17 January.

A Hub will start at Ormiston Bushfield Academy for boys and girls aged 11-14 on Monday 7 January 3-4pm.

New Community Wicketet Hubs

New FREE Community Wicketet Hubs will start from January for boys & girls aged 8-14:

MONDAYS from 14 January 5.15-6.45pm at the Gladstone Community Centre PE1 2AN
TUESDAYS from 15 January 5-6.30pm at Focus Community Centre PE1 4PE

Half-term Wicketet sessions

As a result of the successful Wicketet sessions that ran in the October half term, more sessions are booked for the February 2019 Half-term break – they are FREE for boys and girls aged 8-14 as follows:

Monday 18 February 2-4pm at Bushfield Sports Centre PE2 SRQ
Tuesday 19 February 2-4pm at Gladstone Community Centre PE1 2AN
Wednesday 20 February 2-4pm at Gladstone Community Centre PE1 2AN
Thursday 21 February 2-4pm at Focus Community Centre PE1 4PE

For more information about Wicketet in Peterborough, contact Jonathan Bigham on 07388 949572 or email jonathan.bigham@cricketeast.co.uk.

Talks and tactics benefit Peterborough school

Cricket Development Officer Jonathan Bigham has been visiting St Thomas More Catholic Primary School in Peterborough every Friday afternoon since June. He has been working with Year 4 and 5 children on a Friday afternoon during curriculum time and with Year 5 & 6 after school doing a mixture of coaching, matches and talks aimed at educating the youngsters about social and wellbeing issues that affect youngsters in primary school. Talks have included subjects such as Healthy Eating, Exercising and Lifestyle Choices, Prevent and Internet Safety. Jonathan was joined recently by Jon Fone (Prevent Officer) from the Eastern Region Special Operations Unit for Counter-Terrorism Policing to talk to the youngsters about Social Media and Internet Safety.

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DISABILITY

New Disability Cricket Community Hubs

Girls' cricket development sessions are underway at Peterborough's IQRA Academy during term time. Some of the girls who are participating are also completing the Young Leaders Programme and only have two more modules to complete – the next one being First Aid at the end of January. The girls' teacher is doing a Coach Support Worker course in April next year which will be funded as part of the ECB Diverse Communities project.

Cricket East will meet with Peterborough United Football Club in the New Year to involve the girls, who are also capable footballers, in a cross-sport festival on the club pitch as part of their Community week at the end of May.

Walking Cricket

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