

April Update
From Regional Coordinator 2012 Legacy for CYP

Team GB to prepare for 2012 at **Loughborough University!** A well-kept secret was revealed in April which can only have the most positive spin-offs for the children and young people of the East Midlands. Alongside hosting the Japanese squad as it gets ready for the Games, the University will also house the best of British, as top athletes in a host of sports use the University's great facilities. I am now looking at what the possibilities might be for links to East Midlands youngsters, with athletes visiting, training and competing there between now and the build-up to London 2012. I have seen first hand how exciting pupils from **Aldercar Language College** found it to meet a quartet of Japanese stars so am in no doubt that our own heroes can prove inspirational to our region.

After this announcement the University hosted a Pre Games Training Camp event to give ideas to others regionally and nationally about the pluses of having a training camp. I was delighted to be able to tell delegates all about **Musubi** and how we hope this Inspire Mark project will make 2012 even more memorable for local young people. At the event, I was able to chat to the impressive **Chris Holmes**. Formerly a Paralympic winner of 9 gold medals in the pool he is now Director of Paralympic Integration. Hopefully, he will be here in late summer and will come with me to see what is happening in some of the region's most 2012-ready schools.

More schools have been registering for **Get Set** but I am disappointed that on a percentage basis we are amongst the least involved regions. We do better with **Get Set Network** schools and have a higher percentage than most regions in turning registration into Network status. By registering you can access some very good resources on the revamped Get Set site <http://getset.london2012.com/en/home> but those who join the Network are part of a pretty exclusive club. At the end of April we had 16 schools (with another in the pipeline), including our first Special School, **Rowan Gate** from **Wellingborough, Northamptonshire**. Still no Network schools in three of our LAs...

The value of being in the Get Set Network is shown in this month's case study from **Kirk Hallam** in **Ilkeston, Derbyshire**.

Kirk Hallam and the Vancouver 2010 Webcast

'Kirk Hallam Community Technology and Sports College has been working



with students in **Vancouver** leading up to and during the Vancouver 2010 games. In March we went down to London to take part in a global live webcast.

Jonathan Edwards worked with the Kirk Hallam students to ask Olympians, Paralympians and students in Vancouver about their experiences of hosting the winter games. Jade, one of the students who took part in the web cast, said

"The day was a unique opportunity to be involved in a small part of the UK's

sporting history – something that will stay in my memory – we at Kirk Hallam played a part in London 2012!”

The web cast also signified the handing over of the ‘**Globe of Citizenship**’ which our students accepted from the Vancouver team. The students thought this was fantastic and something they are now really keen to continue; to go back to school and share the message about the Olympic and Paralympic values.’

Lorraine Stone, Kirk Hallam

Other news in brief:

I was pleased to be able to attend a great PE and Sport Conference at **Bishop Grosseteste, Lincoln** organised by **Lincolnshire**. I ran a well-attended workshop on 2012 for the region’s schools, with a big focus on Get Set. I am hopeful that there might be an upsurge of action from Lincolnshire. I was also able to hear from some great Young Ambassadors led by **Debbie Foote** and the peerless peer **Baroness Sue Campbell** who spoke as passionately as ever about the importance of school sport and volunteering with great stories from the recent **Step Into Sport** camp.

I am delighted that my latest 2012-related project, **EMPowered**, has been awarded **Inspire Mark**. When all the branding is sorted out we should be



ready to launch the website containing the resources on May 10th. The project links the 7 Olympic and Paralympic values to the 7 Heptathlon events. I was hoping to secure endorsement from **Jessica Ennis** but when that fell through I managed to connect to our World Youth Heptathlon champion, **Katarina Thompson**, pictured with benefactor **Barrie Wells** of the **Wells**

Sports Foundation, of which she is an Ambassador.

I have also met recently with Lucy Stevens who is working with Shauna Richardson, the artist who secured Artists Taking the Lead funding for Lionheart which will see her construct three giant crocheted lions to tour the region in 2012. I am pleased that she is keen to engage the region’s children in her work. I have said it before and, sadly, here I am saying it again – we could get youngsters hooked on crochet.

I was pleased to be able to broker free ‘**Enterprise of 2012**’ days for some of the region’s schools specialising in Enterprise. They had to be able to do the days before the end of the last financial year so most took place in the last week of March, paid for by **LOCOG**. I hope to have a report for May’s update. I hope that as many schools as possible have signed up for **National School Sports Week**, another great opportunity to celebrate sport and maybe try something a little bit different.

Please let me know if you have any exciting 2012 related news or great ideas you want to share across the region. You can email me at

g.nash@lboro.ac.uk

Gaynor