



 FOUNDATION

OUR IMPACT 2020/21

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH CRICKET

THANK YOU FROM OUR DIRECTOR



As I reflect on a difficult year, I feel proud of my Team and our partners who worked tirelessly to ensure we delivered programmes to thousands of young people in the UK and overseas.

Our National Hub Programme provides free coaching and match play to promising young state-educated cricketers, often from disadvantaged and under-represented groups. At a time when the gap between rich and poor grows wider than ever, it is an ideal platform to bring equality of opportunity to all young players and ensure that cricket really can be a game for all.

Physical and mental well-being lie at the heart of the programme and when our young beneficiaries most needed support, we were there for them. All our efforts to navigate the challenges of Covid-19 were rewarded by the exuberance and gratitude they showed to be back playing again.

The Hundred and the appointment of our Trustee, Clare Connor CBE, as the first female President of MCC have brought welcome momentum to girls' cricket. We are excited to be opening 9 new girls' Hubs across the UK as part of our strategy to increase support for girls.

Early Summer saw the launch of our Under 15 National Hub Competition, generously sponsored by Charles Stanley Wealth Managers. After highly competitive knock out rounds, Bradford and Cotswold Girls' Hubs and Manchester and Slough Boys' Hubs made it to the finals at Lord's. Thanks to MCC, they enjoyed a deeply inspiring and unforgettable experience, playing at the Home of Cricket.

The crisis in Afghanistan is a poignant reminder of the plight of refugees across the world. Having supported the rise of cricket there, the Foundation will make every effort to support its refugees both through our national Hubs and through new initiatives in the year ahead.

Our work in Lebanon with Syrian refugees through Alsama Cricket is empowering girls and boys who have lived through the terrible

trauma of war and displacement. Cricket is helping them to thrive both on and off the field and they are spreading the game across Lebanon.

In Nepal, our partners, Kidasha and Connecting Clubs, have delivered coaching and support to more than 1000 girls and boys despite the pandemic, which has ravaged the country. The young Nepali coaches have stepped up to run the projects whilst our UK coaches have been unable to travel. Whenever the schools open and there is a window of opportunity, they are out there coaching and inspiring the next generation of cricketers.

As the world faces so many challenges, MCC and its Foundation will use our privilege to help the most disadvantaged and are determined to be a leading force for good.

I would like to thank all our supporters for helping us in our vital mission to transform young lives through cricket.

Dr Sarah Fane OBE



TRANSFORMING LIVES IN THE UK

Within the UK, we are working to make cricket a game for all and to open access to the talent pathways so that every young cricketer is **empowered to reach their full potential** in the game, regardless of race, gender, or socio-economic circumstance.

CRICKET HUBS

Our cricket Hubs are working to ensure equality of opportunity by providing free-to-access coaching and match play for state-educated young cricketers aged 11-15. In particular, our Hubs have a vital role to play in helping promising players who have been engaged in mass-participation initiatives or non-traditional formats to develop their hard-ball skills and transition into clubs and the formal talent pathway.

This year, we delivered 59 Hubs across the UK, engaging 2,300 young cricketers. This included new Hubs in ECB Core Cities such as Manchester, Luton, and Sandwell.*

We also collaborated with the Charlie Waller trust to provide mental health training for our Hub coaches. In the context of the pandemic, it is more important than ever that our Hubs provide holistic support and promote positive mental well-being.

Our Hubs typically provide 10 weeks of indoor coaching between January and March but, in response to the pandemic, this year's delivery was adapted to run outdoors between April and June and capacity was restricted at some sessions. We are very grateful to all our Hub coaches and venues for their hard work to ensure the Hubs could deliver safely this year, despite all the disruption and uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

*The ECB's Core Cities are the 10 cities in which 61% of the South Asian population of England and Wales live



"The pandemic has created a seismic shift against children in state schools. Watching the massive improvement in kids who are the same age but attend a private school makes any kind of professional cricket dreams seem impossible to achieve. It is soul destroying for the kids and us parents alike.

The MCCF Hub has given the kids hope and allows them to at least dream about equal chances in the game they love. The Hub coaches also helped my girl find a cricket club that actually embraces ED&I, and we immediately signed her up to a new club. Suddenly it doesn't matter that she is a girl. Suddenly she feels welcome as part of a mixed team and no longer the unwanted number 11. The Hub coaches have gone above and beyond and changed everything for the better for our girl. Thank you!"

Parent of an Eastbourne Hub participant

"My dream and goal is to become a cricketer one day and MCCF helps me to keep my motivation strong and encourages me to work harder."

Slough Hub participant

VERONICA

WHOSE SONS ATTEND THE EASTBOURNE HUB

The Hub is the best experience my boys have had in their cricketing journey, and it has inspired and developed their love of the game.

The school you go to (or don't go to!) seems to play such a big part in the county pathway system, so my boys have often felt demotivated and like they have no chance to succeed or show their potential. Being part of the MCCF Hub has removed all that stigma and made them feel valued and recognised for their cricket, not the school badge they wear!

FELSTED HUB PARTICIPANT

Through the Hub I've learnt what playing cricket as a true team is like, rather than as a group of individuals trying to out-perform each other.

PARENT OF A BRISTOL HUB PARTICIPANT

The Hub has been a great experience, not only from a confidence and playing capability perspective but also in terms of forging new relationships and friendships, and developing communication skills.



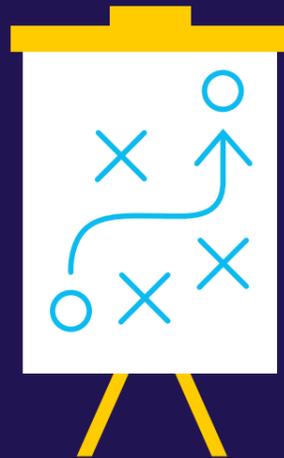
Lockdown affected my son's mental health and self-esteem, but the Hub really made a difference to his mood and confidence - he's like a different boy.

PARENT OF A HULL HUB PARTICIPANT

CRICKET HUBS 2020/21



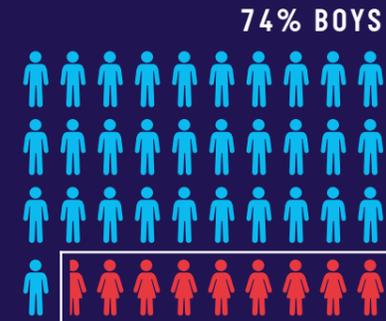
77% of parents believe the Hub improved their child's **personal confidence**



80% of parents believe the Hub has improved their child's **tactical awareness** of the game



59 HUBS across the UK

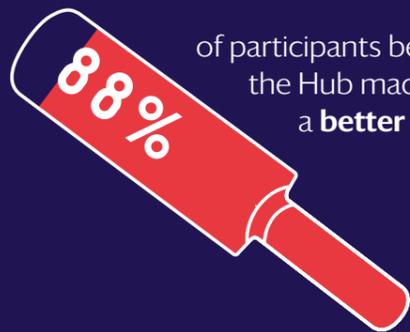


2,300 state-educated young cricketers engaged

19% from Black, Asian, or minority ethnic backgrounds



78% of participants said that being part of the Hub **made them happier**



of participants believe the Hub made them a **better cricketer**



of parents said the Hub improved their child's ability **to work well in a team**

88% of parents said the Hub has increased their child's desire to **keep playing cricket**



83% of parents said that being part of the Hub **improved their child's mental well-being**

These figures come with a 95% confidence level and <5% margin of error.

NATIONAL HUB COMPETITION

New for this year, we were delighted to launch our National Hub Competition, made possible by the generous support of Charles Stanley Wealth Managers.

The tournament consisted of two competitions, one for boys and one for girls, and gave all U15 Hub participants the opportunity to compete in knockout matches across the regions for the chance to progress to the grand finals at Lord's. For all who took part, it was a great opportunity to put the skills they had learnt at the Hub into practice in a competitive match play environment.

The teams who made it to the finals of the girls' competition were the Bradford and Cotswold Hubs, and for the boys it was the Hubs from Manchester and Slough. These four teams enjoyed the unforgettable opportunity to experience what it is like to be a professional cricketer playing at Lord's, from getting ready in the dressing rooms and having lunch in the pavilion, to stepping out to bat at the Home of Cricket.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BRADFORD AND MANCHESTER HUBS, WHO WERE OUR TOURNAMENT WINNERS!



NATIONAL HUB COMPETITION FINALS

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER,
LORD'S CRICKET GROUND

GIRLS:

1st innings - Bradford 136/3 from 20 overs
2nd innings - Cotswolds 24 all out from 12 overs

Bradford win by 112 runs.

BOYS:

1st innings - Slough 102/7 from 20 overs
2nd innings - Manchester 105/7 from 20 overs

Manchester win by 3 wickets.

MAKING CRICKET A GAME FOR ALL

This year, we piloted several new initiatives in London to complement our Hubs and further breakdown cultural, social, and financial barriers to accessing and progressing in cricket. The inequalities we are trying to address include:

South Asians account for **over 30%** of recreational cricketers in England and Wales, but **only 15%** of county age-group players and **4%** of professional cricketers*

Less than 5% of coaches in the 18 First Class Counties are from South Asian backgrounds*

Only 1% of recreational players and **1%** of coaches in the UK are African-Caribbean

Only 15% of cricket clubs have a women's and/or girls' section**



*Statistics taken from ECB's South Asian Action Plan 2018

**Statistic taken from ECB's Women and Girls' Action Plan 2019

AS PART OF OUR **GAME FOR ALL** ACTION PLAN, WE:

- Worked with charity Bat for a Chance to provide cricket kit for Hub participants in need of assistance through our Player Support Fund.
- Collaborated with MCC Community and Middlesex CCC to provide 14 fully-funded L2 coaching qualifications for coaches from under-represented backgrounds. We aim to offer employment to some of these coaches in our Hubs across London next year.
- Employed 2 Mentors to provide an additional layer of support and advice for Hub participants and their parents.
- Hosted a women's softball tournament at Lord's in partnership with MCC Community. Eight teams travelled from across the UK to take part - congratulations to the team from Birmingham who won the tournament!
- Ran our new Springboard Programme - a series of technical workshops, led by Mark

Ramprakash and Ajmal Shahzad, to provide specialist training for 24 of our most promising London based Hub participants from under represented backgrounds. 4 sessions were delivered across August in the run up to County age-group trials, and we worked with Middlesex, Surrey, Essex, and Cricket East to ensure all Springboard participants were known to county talent selectors and invited to trial for representative squads.



"I am proud to be a Patron of the MCC Foundation and to support its work both in the UK and across the world to make cricket a game that champions respect and equality for all."

**Michael Holding,
Patron of the MCC Foundation**



TRANSFORMING LIVES OVERSEAS

Overseas, we harness the transformative power of cricket and the MCC brand to provide life-changing opportunities and to open up access to the game.



Through the cricket camps and gender equality workshop I came to know that both male and female are equal.

Nepal is a male-dominated society where there is unequal treatment for women. We need to provide equal opportunities to women. If done so, women can reach the highest post in different sectors and situations. We should not have any forms of discrimination between males and females.

Aaraoh, female student who took part in a cricket session delivered by Connecting Clubs



NEPAL

Since 2019, we have been working in partnership with MCC's Legacy Tours Programme to nurture and empower the next generation of young cricketers in Nepal and to build a sustainable legacy for cricket in the country.

Through delivery partners including Kidasha and Connecting Clubs, this year we provided cricket sessions for over 1,200 children across 21 schools in the cities of Pokhara and Biratnagar.

Many of the children engaged are from disadvantaged slum communities and lack access to sport or recreation, so the opportunity to play cricket offers much-needed respite and is having a transformative impact for their physical and mental well-being. The sessions also use cricket as a vehicle to empower

women and girls and to breakdown harmful gender stereotypes.

These grassroots sessions have uncovered some very talented young cricketers, both boys and girls, and several players have already progressed to represent their district or province after being introduced to cricket for the first time through our project.

Nepal was hit very badly by the pandemic, and with schools in lockdown our delivery had to be put on hold for much of last year. However, the enthusiasm and natural talent of the young participants and engagement of local schools and partners has been evident even in this short space of time, and we look forward to building momentum next year.

CASE STUDY: KALIKA'S STORY

Kalika is 15 years old and lives with her family in a slum in Pokhara. Her father is an alcoholic, and her mother sells fruits and vegetables on the roadside. Being from such a poor family, Kalika's education and that of her older sister and younger brother have been supported by a local NGO.

Her family's situation had always prevented Kalika from taking part in sports, but when the opportunity arose to participate in the cricket sessions at her school, with a little persuasion from her friends, she signed up to take part.

Despite opposition from her family and no prior knowledge of the game, Kalika started to regularly attend the coaching sessions. She improved rapidly and demonstrated real natural talent, most notably as a left-arm unorthodox spin bowler. Earlier this year, Kalika was selected to play for the Kaski district team.

Before playing cricket, Kalika was quite shy, struggled with her studies, and lived in the shadow of her more academic siblings. Her progress in cricket has significantly increased her confidence and made her family very proud. Kalika now dreams of one day playing for Nepal.

LEBANON

In 2021 we announced our support for a vital project providing hope and opportunity through cricket for young Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

We currently fund two cricket Hubs, delivered by the Alsama Cricket Club, which provide coaching and match play for more than 80 refugee children in the Shatila and Bekaa Valley encampments. Each Hub provides six hours of cricket every week throughout the year. We plan to expand our support to reach the hundred more who are desperate for the opportunities the Hubs provide.

The children occasionally have the opportunity to watch IPL matches at a nearby education centre, and their favourite team is the Rajasthan Royals (RR). We were pleased to be able to facilitate a shipment of some of the iconic pink RR shirts, kindly donated by RR, and these were received with great joy and excitement!

"When I play cricket it makes me feel happy and more confident, like a butterfly".

A young girl who attends a Hub in Lebanon



TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported us this year. Particular thanks to the following:

Adrian Beecroft
Alan and Irene Halsall
Aldridge Foundation
Andy Holmes
Charles Skey Charitable Trust
Charles Stanley Wealth Managers
David Hufton
David Peck
David Wolf Kaye
Dominic Pemberton
Dr Alan King
Englefield Charitable Trust
Enoka David
Eric M Young and Family
Essex and Southend Sports Trust
Fiona and Gary Phillips
Geoff Ball
Gerald Corbett
GKL Leasing
Hamro Foundation
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In Memory of Gerald and Pamela Williams
J. Stuart Williamson
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The Cricket Society Trust
The Cricket Umpires' and Scorers' Trust
The Derek Raphael Charitable Trust
The Dowley Charitable Trust
The Fairstead Trust
The Garfield Weston Foundation
The Holbeck Trust
The Loveday Charitable Trust
The Reed Foundation
The Roden Family
The Rowse Family Trust
The VEC Acorn Trust
Varun Chandra
Zed Cama

Our work is made possible by the generosity of cricket enthusiasts around the world, whose support allows us to bring joy, opportunity, and the chance of a better future to thousands of young people.



£25

can provide an hour of coaching for eight promising young cricketers in the UK, who would otherwise face barriers to participating and progressing in the game.

£50

can fund an hour of cricket for forty young Syrian refugees in Lebanon, giving them a rare opportunity to play after fleeing the unimaginable horrors of war.

£250

can provide cricket kit and equipment for local schools in Nepal, opening access to the game for hundreds of young people who otherwise lack access to sport and recreation.

£2,500

can fund one of our UK cricket Hubs for a season, providing 10 weeks of free-to-access coaching for state-educated young cricketers from disadvantaged backgrounds.

There are many ways to join us in our mission to transform lives through cricket, whether it be through a one-off gift, a regular donation, or by leaving a gift in your will.

Please visit lords.org/mccfoundation/support or call 0207 616 8529 to find out more.



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FROM EVERYONE AT THE MCC
FOUNDATION, **THANK YOU** FOR
HELPING US TO TRANSFORM
LIVES THROUGH CRICKET.



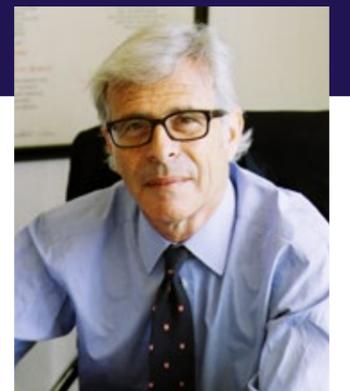
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