# GET TO KNOW THE **LOCKDOWN LEGENDS**

### SARAH GODDARD

#### TEAM SOLENT KESTRELS BASKETBALL CLUB - WELFARE OFFICER/COVID OFFICER

Sarah's efforts during lockdown were invaluable in keeping Team Solent Kestrels on track with Basketball England's Return To Play and COVID-19 guidance, making sure that everyone at the club could enjoy their basketball safely.

### CHLOE BURDETT JUST PLAY UK - CEO

Chloe created a mental health campaign called 'Bounceback' with 'Train Your Brain' affirmation packs. She is always trying to get others involved with online games and competitions and is a true asset to members, the community and the game of basketball.

# **BEN FOX**

#### PLYMOUTH RAIDERS DEVELOPMENT - COACH

Arranging weekly zoom sessions and strength and conditioning sessions for youth players, Ben deserves a massive thank you and from all the Plymouth Raiders family, his efforts are truly appreciated. Well done!

# **BEN ROPER**

#### PLYMOUTH RAIDERS DEVELOPMENT - HEAD COACH

Ben organised development session for all coaches within the club, involving guest talks from top coaches across the UK, Europe and the US. He worked hard to ensure coaches still had the chance to develop to be in the best position for our young players when they returned.









Steve Butler - Tees Valley Mohawks

### **STEVE BUTLER**

#### TEES VALLEY MOHAWKS BASKETBALL CLUB - CHAIRMAN AND COACH

Steve has worked tirelessly to support all of the club's members and their families. He ran a 'Bake Off' series for the club as well as basketball sessions in parks when possible. He also organised coaching clinics to keep the community involved and engaged in the sport.

# JORDAN WATKINS

#### WEST BROM BASKETBALL CLUB - SOCIAL MEDIA

During lockdown, Jordan kept spirits and engagement up through a weekly online quiz on the club's Instagram account. He is a real unsung hero, often found behind the camera lens or keyboard. Thank You!

### LUKE ORWIN & ABBIE NAISBITT

#### **NEWCASTLE EAGLES / LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS - VOLUNTEERS**

Both Luke and Abbie were already involved with Newcastle Eagles and have continued to help during the pandemic with set ups and de-rigging to turn the Eagles' Arena into a vaccination centre. From the start of the pandemic they also held a virtual pub quiz each week and raised more than £7,000 for the local foodbank.



### PHIL GORDOS

#### MANCHESTER MAGIC AND MYSTICS BASKETBALL CLUB - CEO

Phil has worked tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 period. He has arranged all junior practices for every age group in the club, both boys and girls. Thanks must go to his efforts and relentless work for the club's programmes. Phil also provided support for players who were struggling financially, accepting no payment for club fees and understanding the impact of that COVID is having on people's lives.



# SAM MARTINEZ

#### **BRIGHTON COUGARS BASKETBALL CLUB - CHAIR AND HEAD COACH**

Sam has held the fort on a coaching front, using boundless enthusiasm to keep in contact with all the club's coaches. Without individuals such as Sam, clubs like Brighton do not survive. He represents all that is good in basketball, the sport we all love.

### **GREENHOUSE PIONEERS BASKETBALL CLUB**

Greenhouse Pioneers kept their programmes going virtually on scheduled training days throughout lockdown to ensure continuous contact with players and parents, providing a platform to keep players mentally healthy. The club provided basketballs to players in need of one to practice and brought in motivational speakers, including GB players, to speak on 'resilience & motivation through adversity'. The virtual sessions were extremely valuable.

### SADIE MASON

#### MAXIS GB BASKETBALL - PROGRAMME COORDINATOR

Sadie's tireless efforts led the charge on a huge number of players getting an opportunity to play again following the easing of lockdown restrictions, as well as coaches and backroom staff getting new opportunities.

# IAN DAVIDSON

Leicester wants to pay tribute to a legend, Ian Davidson, who sadly passed away during lockdown last year. Ian has left a huge hole within the club as he brought a wealth of knowledge and built amazing relationships between current sponsors and the club. He loved his sport and up until the time of his death he was putting together a book on the history of Leicester Riders. Ian was so passionate about his colleagues and helped young people access public transport to give them a route into basketball in the city and at Loughborough.





Sam Martinez - Brighton Cougars

# **PHILIP CLEEVE**

#### WINCHESTER CITY ROYALS BASKETBALL CLUB - CHAIR AND COACH

Philip arranged for the club's coaches to make fitness/skills videos to be sent to players to keep them active and motivated during lockdown. He also organised a fundraising run for the players and their families to take part in, raising valuable funds for the club.

### **DENIK TANNIS HARRIET**

#### LONDON WARRIORS BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH

Denik trained London Warriors' U10s and U12s online since the start of COVID, under the supervision of her father Rudi. She is so polite and a total inspiration to all players. She is well loved across the club and everyone is very grateful to her for all the effort she's put in.



Bal Birdy - Broadway Casino

### **BAL BIRDY**

#### **BROADWAY CASINO BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH**

Bal has gone above and beyond to keep the basketball world entertained, connected and together. Bal runs the 'Basketball in Birmingham' Facebook group and the 'BBL 80S AND 90s' group, always answering questions - his knowledge of the game is amazing. He has put a smile on not just the faces of the West Midlands basketball family but the whole country.

### RUPERT CHARLES THAMES VALLEY CAVALIERS BASKETBALL CLUB - VOLUNTEER/MEDIA

Throughout the pandemic, Rupert ensured that basketball was streamed throughout the season for fans and followers across the world. He worked hundreds of hours and also recruited over 40 other volunteers to help deliver programs online. Rupert runs a 100% volunteer organisation, including his own time, he is true example of a Lockdown Legend. His tireless efforts and personal sacrifices should be rewarded and noticed.





Sam Bannon - Mersey Mavericks

### SAM BANNON

#### **MERSEY MAVERICKS BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH**

Mersey Mavericks have tried hard to keep families motivated during the last year. Sam has been an absolute star as he supported with keeping things going. He has maintained the club's social media channels with regular challenges and activities. The club accessed some funding to deliver basketballs to families and Sam spent many, many hours delivering them across Liverpool.

# CHARLIE HAYNES

#### **READING ROCKETS BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH**

Charlie set up Zoom calls for the girls' team twice a week. In fact, he made Zoom training so good that he kept the whole team engaged and with an even bigger appetite to continue playing once lockdown was over.

### JAKE BROWN DERBY TRAILBLAZERS BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH

As well as studying for his degree, Jake continued to coach Derby's U14 boys team throughout lockdown and he kept in touch with them through Zoom meetings, fitness sessions and quizzes. As soon as lockdown was lifted, Jake represented the club in delivering community coaching in inner city Derby primary schools. The club's Lockdown Legend, he has undoubtedly made a difference.

### CHRIS FAIRS MAIDSTONE WARRIORS BASKETBALL CLUB - CLUB SECRETARY



Jake Brown - Derby Trailblazers

Chris found a sponsor to help offset some of the costs and then ordered, collated and distributed the items for PPE packs. He also led the club's COVID committee of medical and operational expertise to provide a comprehensive COVID policy and risk assessments for running basketball.



### **BROOKE THOMAS**

#### **BRISTOL FLYERS BASKETBALL CLUB - U14 GIRLS PLAYER**

Brooke raised £2,357 for Cancer Research UK during lockdown in February 2021 by scoring 10,000 hoops in less than 2 weeks. She chatted with elderly neighbours every day that she was shooting.

### **GREG BURTON**

#### LONDON PULSE BASKETBALL CLUB - HEAD COACH

Greg arranged for the players at London Pulse (as well as players around Europe) to meet over Zoom with other players and coaches of various levels from USA. He also worked with players around London to understand their own personal route towards playing basketball at a higher level.

# MATT LITTLE

#### **IPSWICH BASKETBALL CLUB - CLUB SECRETARY**

Matt has done an amazing amount for Ipswich basketball club as the secretary as well as the appointed COVID officer. His efforts with coordinating volunteers to support twice a week at training sessions to screen and conduct lateral flow tests on players and coaches have allowed basketball to continue at the club.

### DANIEL HILDRETH, KARL YOUNGMAN, BARNEY BLAKE, FREDDIE WINTON & ALEXIS LEWIS

#### **CRAWLEY STORM BASKETBALL CLUB - COACHES**

Storm created a free 12-week programme that took place every day, including skills sessions in the morning, strength and conditioning sessions in the afternoon, video analysis in the evening as well as Zoom quiz sessions. At a time when many clubs found it difficult to come to terms with the challenges of COVID, Storm and their dedicated staff stepped up and delivered something very special to make a difference.



Brooke Thomas - Bristol Flyers





Tracey-Anne Lanham - Great Yarmouth

# **TRACEY-ANNE LANHAM**

#### **GREAT YARMOUTH BASKETBALL CLUB - WELFARE OFFICER**

A registered nurse working in ICU at her local hospital, Tracey spent each day during lockdown in full PPE and supporting patients on ventilators. She still managed to find the time to be ever-present for her club, smiling, supporting, to not only her family and friends but the rest of the club. Tracey is the inspiration that underpins Great Yarmouth BC.

### LUCIO SEMEDO

#### **GREENHOUSE SPORTS - HEAD COACH**

Lucio had been running sessions throughout the summer to help keep players fit and engaged. He has helped them become stronger, both physically and mentally, and helped them believe that they can do something, even if it takes some time. He's always supported the club's ex-players in everything that they've done as well.

### SHAB NIAZ HARLOW HAWKS BASKETBALL CLUB - HEAD COACH

Shab has been in charge of all things Harlow Hawks for over 21 years and his passion, energy and organisational skills are as good now as they have ever been. He continues to work tirelessly to ensure basketball continues at Harlow Hawks in the safest environment possible. Shab has created an amazing basketball club which continues to thrive.

### **READING ROCKETS SPORTS & EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

The Rockets Foundation worked tirelessly, staying connected with their members, keeping them active and engaged. They ran 21 Zoom sessions per week for community players, club players and players with additional needs. Coaches also signed up as NHS responders and food bank helpers to deliver food and medication to vulnerable people in the community.



Shab Niaz - Harlow Hawks



# LAMAR ROBERTS

#### **RIGHT DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION - OWNER**

Throughout lockdown, Lamar helped the club set up online Zoom training. He also supported members by using a minibus to transport those outside of the area to training, whilst the Foundation also provided food packs for people and families in need.

# PHIL HAYFIELD

#### HARINGEY ANGELS - COACH

Phil's focus, dedication, welcoming balanced and calm presence has been appreciated this year and throughout the years that he has continued to help develop, support and coach the team and individual players at Haringey.



Franck Batimba - Haringey Hawks

### FRANCK BATIMBA

#### HARINGEY HAWKS BASKETBALL CLUB - HEAD COACH

Franck is more than a basketball coach, he is a local hero, who consistently has a positive impact on the lives of his players, colleagues and the local community. He's donated and delivered Christmas presents to disadvantaged residents in Haringey, and also delivered hot meals to disadvantaged and at-risk residents in Haringey over the entire Christmas period.

### REBECCA ORLEANS POLLY CAMP - SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER/TABLE OFFICIAL

Becki has uploaded and shared lots of useful information, collated by herself and other basketball providers, to try and help everyone with some much-needed information keep people interested, focused and well informed. Ensuring people are ready for when basketball could resume, Becki has done all this within her own time, driven by her love for basketball.





Matthew Barwell - Leicester Riders

### MATTHEW BARWELL LEICESTER RIDERS FOUNDATION - COACH

Not only is Matt a key worker as a primary school teacher and worked all the way through lockdown, he constantly stayed in touch with all the Foundation's players and coaches and always possessed amazing enthusiasm to help boost their mental health. He became a father just before lockdown but this didn't stop him constantly being in touch with the basketball teams.

# ADAM STOREY

#### **TBL TROWBRIDGE BASKETBALL CLUB - CHAIR**

Adam has worked hard to keep the interest in basketball going during lockdown and kept every club member up to date with what was going on. He put in the hours to help and encourage new players into the sport, regardless of their ability. Without people like Adam, clubs would not survive.

### COURTNEY BENNETT SHEEFIELD HATTERS BASKETBALL CLUB

Courtney organised weekly fitness challenges as part of the Tuesday Zoom sessions which also included a Q&A with senior players and legends of the club. She went above and beyond for these sessions and the club were thrilled to see her newfound confidence in the virtual workouts. It even helped her to secure a full-time job in a gym!



### TOM FAIREY LEICESTER RIDERS FOUNDATION - VOLUNTEER

Tom was always one of the first people to volunteer to referee, table or coach during the lockdowns. He agreed to work at the club's holiday camps at Christmas and was also involved in our key workers camp. Originally a member of our Junior Academy since he was 11 years old, he is now 17 and has developed into an incredible young man.



Courtney Bennett - Sheffield Hatters

# HANYA CORREIRA

#### **LEICESTER RIDERS FOUNDATION - VOLUNTEER**

Hanya showed amazing talent during lockdown in keeping the Basketball England All Girls campaign going. As an U13, she showed amazing confidence and put together a video montage of all our girls putting in the extra work in their gardens during the first lockdown. Hanya shows the same supports to her parents at home as well as she has younger siblings.

### **KEVIN ROUTLEDGE**

#### LEICESTER RIDERS BASKETBALL CLUB - OWNER

Kevin has been involved in basketball for nearly 50 years, he is always in the background working on the future of the club and the involvement of sponsors and how the club can expand its work in the community. Leicester Riders Basketball Club and Foundation wouldn't be in the position they are today without Kevin's innovative mind.

### ELLIOT GODDARD team solent kestrels basketball club - club secretary

Elliot has been a godsend and makes sure the court is set up for home games, following all the Basketball England Return To Play guidelines and helps with sorting out any issues. Working with his mum to take temperatures at sessions, he's always on hand to help clear the court after games as well.

### WINGS TEAM

#### **NEWCASTLE EAGLES BASKETBALL CLUB - VOLUNTEERS**

The Eagles venue has been home to a COVID vaccination centre since December, with the Eagles Wings volunteer team providing a key role in making the switch from a basketball arena to setting up the vaccination centre after each game.









Paul Mundy-Castle - Woodcote High

### SIMON AHMED

#### STOURPORT SPARTANS BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH & PHYSIO

During COVID-19, Simon set up a website and provided free resources on health and injuries for basketballers. He also gave up his own time to provide free online physic sessions to basketballers who have struggled financially throughout the pandemic. He helped so many people to keep going during the lockdown.

WOODCOTE HIGH SCHOOL, CROYDON - HEADTEACHER

**COVENTRY TORNADOES BASKETBALL CLUB - COACH** 

Paul worked selflessly to break down the barriers that black, Asian and minority ethnic teachers face in the education system, opening the pathway to equal leadership opportunities for all talented teachers. Has been representing the views of BAME staff around COVID-19 and supporting fellow staff members through

Justin was fantastic during lockdown. Several times a week, since the very beginning of lockdown, he offered online fitness sessions and helped to keep players (and some willing parents) in peak fitness. Having watched the sessions, Justin deserves a lot of credit for everything he did for the players.

**PAUL MUNDY-CASTLE** 

this difficult time.

**JUSTIN DANIEL** 

### RICH STYANTS WINCHESTER CITY ROYALS - COACH

When COVID hit, many Winchester City players struggled but Coach Rich really stepped up to help. He sent challenges, tasks to try, and kept people focused. As soon as restrictions relaxed and people could begin to mix outdoors, he gave up his time to meet with players and do 1:1 training sessions. He kept spirits high in a time when they were low and everyone at the club is very grateful.



### **ELLIE PIERPOINT**

#### **REDDITCH BASKETBALL CLUB - PLAYER**

During lockdown, Ellie raised money for Redditch basketball club by walking the length of the Grand Canyon, raising over £1,000 for the club. She organised a just giving page and even featured in the local Redditch paper. Ellie is incredibly selfless and most definitely a lockdown legend!

# PETER TAYLOR

#### **MILTON KEYNES BASKETBALL CLUB - CHAIR**

Peter is an absolute ambassador of basketball. Since he took over the club with his wife in 2017, he's organised basketball camps, quizzes, and engaged young people in the Kickstart scheme from the Government. Peter has done so much for MK basketball. COVID can't stop the work of this incredible person!

# MARTIN DYAN

#### THE GG 3X3 - COACH

Sidings Community Centre is so grateful to Martin, his motives are completely selfless. When he noticed that the basketball nets at the centre were falling apart, he came in with a ladder and some nets and gave the hoops a fresh new look. He has a passion for grassroots basketball and works tirelessly to promote it and create opportunities for those less fortunate.



Lorraine Gayle - Sheffield Hatters

### LORRAINE GAYLE

#### SHEFFIELD HATTERS BASKETBALL CLUB - TRUSTEE/TREASURER

Over the last year Loraine has been on the ball when it comes to COVID rules, whilst staying agile with plans to ensure the club could play basketball whenever it was possible. She arranged multiple session in the summer of 2020 across four different areas in the Sheffield City region that also meant new girls were able to join the club!



# PATRICIA FAIRCLOUGH

#### LONDON REGIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - CHAIR

Patricia has contributed to the Haringey Police young-offenders community integration pilot through basketball. She has provided officiating and coaching trainings online and has built and maintained young player-parent communities, supporting them with positive messages, news and advice throughout the lockdown.



James Borg - Greenhouse Pioneers

### JAMES BORG greenhouse pioneers basketball club

James was incredibly focused during lockdown and still found time to motivate others whilst working extremely long hours for the NHS essential services and caring for his dad. James helped raise funds for NHS workers and volunteers to support during the pandemic. A true inspiration and a caring player who dedicated his services to help others.

# STEPHEN ONIRETI

#### YOUNGBLOODS BASKETBALL CLUB

Stephen has been a constant figure through Zoom and via group chats, sending workouts to people across the club for indoors activities and then when training could head outdoors once again. Coach Stephen is very patient whilst also motivating players to reach their goals and strive to accomplish whatever they set their mind to.



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Patricia Fairclough - London Region
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