



NEW EDITORIAL GROUP

The new editorial group met for the first time on Sept 28th and met again on October 26th. The group comprises: Hywel Griffiths, Jack Wilkinson, John Birch, John Thorpe, John Stride, Mike Fulford (by email), Dave Fisher and Gerry Carver. The group will meet monthly to help steer the Project to completion.

NEW EDITORIAL CONTACT DETAILS

Please note the new editorial contact address is:

sportslegacy@btinternet.com

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Harlow to K2 and beyond

A voluntary, national project to record the story of the UK community sports and leisure centre

www.sportsleisurelegacy.co.uk

Sponsored by S+P

international sports and leisure architects

SPACE PLACE
ARCHITECTURE FOR HUMAN BEINGS

July 17 reflected Project support

The consultation forum for 'Harlow to K2 & Beyond' proved to be far more successful than could have been imagined, with nearly 30 professionals representing 6 decades of sports centre heritage. Heightened by the opportunity it presented to reunite former colleagues and friends, it was one of the biggest reunions of managers and directors who have been involved with centres. The forum reviewed the proposed website contents, with plenary and group discussions to help develop the story. Keith Ashton, CEO of S+P Architects, the Project sponsors, gave an interesting and challenging presentation on the past, present and future of centres. The event was appropriately held at K2 in Crawley, courtesy of Crawley Borough Council and Freedom Leisure.



Keith Ashton presents at K2



Editorial Group Meets at Field Place Worthing

Forum attendees

- Geoff Gearing
- John Birch
- Jack Wilkinson
- John Turner
- Mike Fulford
- John Wright
- Peter Barson
- Barry Neville
- Rob Hardy
- David Gill
- John Thraves
- Hywel Griffiths
- John Thorpe
- Nigel Sheehan
- Jeff Hart
- Ian Cooper
- Hugh Graham
- Paul Bedford
- Ivan Horsfall-Turner
- Ian Morey
- Beverley Thompson
- Darren Gale
- John Hill
- Keith Ashton
- David Fisher
- Gerry Carver
- Jill du Toit

New contacts made

The Project continues to hear from more pioneers. As reported in the May Newsletter, we had caught up with Geoff Bott, Griff Jones and John Williams. The latest contacts came from Derek Casey, Mike Halpin, David Carpenter and John Davies, all hopefully able to provide valuable information. Recipients of this Newsletter are invited to pass it on to other past or present managers or directors who may be interested and can contribute information or contacts.

Consensus on Project timing

There is wide agreement that it is very timely to record the role of sports centres and their pioneers, before information is lost forever. As Hywel Griffiths put it "There is a risk that the real legacy of leisure planners and managers who oversaw the phenomenal growth and access to facilities which in turn prompted the participation explosion of the 70's and 80's will be overlooked or forgotten."

Project welcomed by national organisations -

Harlow to K2 PROJECT REPORT

The Sports Leisure Legacy Project seeks to record the places, people and processes that have characterised community sports and leisure centres over the last 6 decades. The Project has revealed considerable 'hidden' information about the important, early role played by the CCPR and the new Sports Council in the 1960's and '70s (particular thanks to John Birch). The discovery of the early Harlow archive has been valuable (thanks to John Wright). An October editorial visit to see the fully refurbished Billingham Forum and meet Gordon Bates and Mike Fulford has added to the project 'library'. Billingham Forum was opened by the Queen in 1967.

We still need you! Deadline December 11th

Over the past year many managers and directors from the last 6 decades of sports centres have contributed information or expressed interest. We still need more information to complete a balanced story. Can you help?

1. We are short of information on past and current centres in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and also south west England.
2. We are keen to have more information about public centres that opened between 1965 and 1972 and between 1990 and 2000 and Centres that since 2000 have completely replaced an older one.
3. We are seeking nominations for the Game-Changers feature – do get full information and a nomination form from the editor sportslegacy@btinternet.com
4. Do you have photographs old or new of centres and/or activities or other memorabilia? We can copy and return if required.
5. Were you involved in a centre that could be considered a 'Beacon Centre' in its first decade of operation? If so let us know. A 'Beacon Centre' is one which was or is particularly significant in some way – in its design, use, management operation or other originality.

If you can help in any of these or other ways do let us know over the next 6 weeks.

Harlow to K2 & Beyond: format

PART ONE ('58-'72)

- Chapter 1 Harlow and early foundations
- Chapter 2 First 'flush' of centres
- Chapter 3 Founding pioneers & associations

PART TWO ('73-'91)

- Chapter 4 The wave of new centres
- Chapter 5 Changes in Philosophy & Management
- Chapter 6 The role of architects & designers

PART THREE ('92- 2016)

- Chapter 7 Responding to change
- Chapter 8 Alternative management models
- Chapter 9 The facility and design response

PART 4 – PRESENT DAY

- Chapter 10 New Age Scenario & Thinking
- Chapter 11 Reflections and Past lessons
- Chapter 12 A look to the future

Liam volunteers

To assist with project research and recording, Liam Goodley has volunteered to provide some help. Liam works for Inspire Leisure and was, for 3 years, a research and administrative assistant with L&R International.



Coast Creative's Sports Legacy Website Praised

The Project website has been praised for its design and ease of use. It was developed by Andy Wright & Justin Hayward of Coast Creative. The site is also fully prepared to take the 'Harlow to K2 and Beyond' story in 2016. Coast Creative carries out a wide range of design and website development work. From 2007-10, working with L&R, they re-designed the heritage exhibition at the Look & Sea Centre, Littlehampton.

Ian Douglas

Sadly we heard of the death of Ian Douglas in August. Ian was Chairman of ARM in 1974-75, a former Director of Recreational Services for Inverclyde DC and previously Manager of Bellahouston Sports Centre.

Supported by



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