



BRINGING SPORT TO COMMUNITIES



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PROGRAM UPDATES

EXECUTIVE OFFICER >

EMMA MILANESE

Massive fortnight! Particularly on radio, Richard and I have interviewed some fantastic individuals. Read more about that on page 2.

This past fortnight also saw our final session for the Supporting Success program for 2022. Kat has provided a beautiful story with some fantastic pictures on the next column. It has been a huge year with so many success stories, a lot of fun and laughter. Whilst our sessions have stopped for this year, we will be back out at school in the weeks to come to hand out awards! We are very excited to provide all the Adelaide West students with their 2022 certificates! 2023 is already looking like a big year for Supporting Success, planning is already underway!

Sporting Memories continues to flourish, with many participants benefitting from the informal conversations, coming together, creating new friends and feeling comfortable to chat about all things sport!

As always, thank you so much for your ongoing support. We appreciate you!



KAT MATTOCK >

SUPPORTING SUCCESS

Well, I have a lot to fill you all in on! It was Sports Day and our last day on site with the Adelaide West Special Education centre students, and it was a great day! The placement students helped prepare the gym and created decorations in all the classic school sports day colours. On the day there were so many wonderful moments. Some highlights that come to mind include one student excitedly introducing me to his mum and having her involved in our last SportsUnited huddle for the year!

The placement students spent the day helping run activities with the kids, which meant they got to see all the children they had an impact on throughout 2022. At the end of the day all the parents, teachers, students and SportsUnited crew met in the gym for a disco, where we all danced to such classics like: Baby Shark.

Seeing all the people who care for, and work together to achieve goals with the kids we engage with every week, dancing and laughing in the gym was truly heart-warming. This past year has been so rewarding. We were blessed with incredible placement students who were dedicated to building relationships with the students, and together, they grew. A big thank you to our 2022 placement students, and to Adelaide West Special Education Centre for another incredible year.

We are already looking forward to planning 2023!



PROGRAM & PLACEMENT

ROBERT LAIDLAW >

SPORTING MEMORIES

A fun part of Sporting Memories sessions is the sport quiz, and the reminiscences it stirs within the groups. One question that evoked enough responses to last over an hour was "What sports have been played at Adelaide Oval?" Most people could recall a special cricket game or Australian Rules Football match, with those two sports creating a flood of memories.

One man, Frank, could remember the SANFL 1952 grand final between his North Adelaide and Norwood at the ground, and especially the famous mark taken by Ian McKay late in the match. Keith told the story about how a game at Adelaide Oval changed him from a child collecting bottles to a football supporter, at an interstate game in 1973, when Victoria beat South Australia by four points, with Alex Jesaulenko booting 10 goals.

Then there were the soccer games, with two in particular raising interest, and both in the past decade. Adelaide United's thrilling 3-1 victory over Western Sydney Wanderers in the 2016 A-League grand final, and Liverpool's visit and the crowd atmosphere with the singing of "You Will Never Walk Alone", with over 50,000 in attendance for both matches.

Some remembered the Adelaide Rams Rugby League team in the 1990s, all forms of cricket; with many interesting memories, including South Australia hanging on for a draw in 1996 to win the Sheffield Shield, Claxton Shield baseball, and the running of the Bay Sheffield Sprint at the Oval from 2001-03.

There are so many interesting stories Sporting Memory Groups talk about, with many of the quiz questions sparking healthy conversations. How great is that!



ISABELLA BOUYESSI >

PLACEMENT EXPERIENCE

My placement with SportsUnited has been a really enjoyable and memorable experience. During each session students have so much fun and most importantly, given the opportunity to continue to work on and achieve individual goals. I have enjoyed working closely in finding unique ways to engage students, learning about their needs in a way that continues to encourage and develop their skills and learning. Students have thrived with routine and familiarity whilst engaging in activities that are not only recreational but joyful and vibrant. I had the joy of working closely with a student called Ava during term three. During active sessions with Ava, I have watched her beam when she comes into contact with colours and textures from the equipment used during actives. She particularly enjoyed balloon volleyball or zig zag ball games where she can feel the bumpy texture of the ball, rubbery surface of the balloon or the sponginess of a beanbag. The colours of the rainbow parachute also really engaged Ava as well as all the other activities in which she always confirmed with a big smile. It has been heart-warming to witness all the amazing students' progress, smiles and laughter throughout the school year.



RICHARD MCGRATH >

RADIO PROGRAM

Over the past two weeks our Sporting Memories Australia radio program on BBBfm 89.1 on Saturday mornings from 9-11am has focused on the Melbourne Cup and links between Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Sherlock Holmes & Cricket. Did you know Sir Arthur Conan Doyle only took one First Class wicket in his career and that wicket was the legendary W.G Grace?!

Emma & Richard interviewed Brett Lydeamore (Nuriootpa Cricket Club Vice President) about the WBBL match held on Sunday the 13th of November at the Centennial Park. The match was between the Adelaide Strikers & Sydney Thunder (unfortunately there was no result due to the bad weather). Richard also interviewed Gail Saunders, Gawler Relay for Life Chairperson, about the Cancer Council event to be held from the 18th-19th of March 2023.

This week's program will focus on Sport Anthems. If you'd like to share some of your sporting stories on a Saturday morning, then give Richard & Emma a call on 8563 3788 anytime between 9-11am.

You can also listen to the program each Saturday morning by visiting the [BBBfm website](http://BBBfm.com.au).



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

SportsUnited is currently seeking volunteers for our Supporting Success program at Adelaide West Special Education Centre and Sporting Memories clubs across various Adelaide metropolitan locations.

We are looking for people who can:

- Actively participate in weekly sessions
- Engage and communicate sensitively with our members (some of whom may have difficulties communicating), with their partners or carers, with fellow volunteers, and with SportsUnited staff.
- Enjoy working as part of a team and taking responsibility for guiding fellow volunteers during sessions.
- Understand the value of companionship, have a great sense of humour, and are able to connect with people of all ages and from all backgrounds

SportsUnited volunteers have the opportunity to:

- Experience a range of new opportunities and a sense of fulfillment.
- Use their skills, knowledge, life experiences, and an interest in sport to help tackle social isolation within the local community.
- Have insight into and experience working with an innovative and experienced not-for-profit charity.
- Experience in working as part of and leading a team of volunteers. As well as being part of the wider SportsUnited team.

SportsUnited volunteers are provided with full induction and training, ongoing support, and access to training resources. If you are interested in becoming a

SportsUnited volunteer or have any questions, email:
Supporting Success: Katerina Mattock (Project Officer)

katmattock.sportsunited@gmail.com

Sporting Memories: Robert Laidlaw (Project Officer)

robertlaidlaw.sports.united@gmail.com

or via the SportsUnited website Contact Us page

<https://sportsunited.org.au/contact>

SPORTING PINK PACKS

In response to the Covid-19 global pandemic, SportsUnited has developed a digital publication called Sporting Pink Australia Packs available for anyone (free) to use at home.

Each weekly pack contains a sporting reminiscence story (these can be about sporting players or events), a sporting quiz, and Name the Player as well as a Word Search.

The packs are a great way to get the conversation flowing, to remember those sporting moments, and to talk about sport!

If you, or anybody you know, would like to receive a free copy of the Sporting Pink Australia pack, please complete our registration form on the SportsUnited website: <https://sports-united-web-c262e9.netlify.app/forms/sporting-memories-online-register/>

STAY IN TOUCH

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If you like quick and short news or want to join in

a 'live' conversation with us, then follow us

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