



# BRINGING SPORT TO COMMUNITIES



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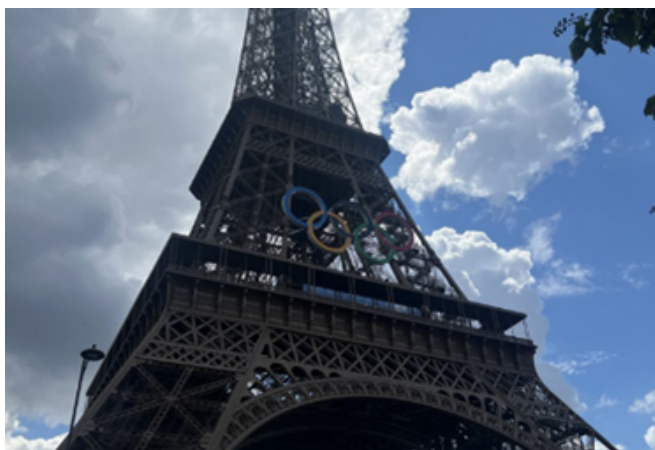
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# PROGRAM UPDATES

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER >

### EMMA MILANESE

Hi everyone!

I am still away on holiday and seem to be losing track of the day/time/date! But fortunately I still have the rest of the SportsUnited team to remind me so I can keep up to date with our fortnightly newsletter!

So far, I have seen the amazing sporting arena that is the Colosseum in Rome, I have hiked to see this spectacular view in Manarola, Cinque Terre and I have been extremely lucky as I just left Paris and was able to see the Olympic Rings on the Eiffel Tower! Paris is in full swing setting up for the Olympics and it was amazing to see.

I am currently in Scotland! Then I am off to London, New York where I will be watching a Yankees game at Yankee Stadium – for those of you that know Robert, our Sporting Memories project officer, will know that he is a massive fan of the LA dodges. I will be sure to apologise to him for not watching his team when I end my trip with my final stop in LA.

Whilst I am enjoying my travels and I'm seeing wonderful and amazing sites, I miss home. Particularly working with everyone in our organisation. I know I've said it before, but I am so grateful and appreciative of Richard, Robert and Adriana for 'holding down the fort!' They are all amazing and are doing such a wonderful job of facilitating programs. I am enjoying reading our fortnightly newsletter for all our updates, and I hope that you are enjoying it too. As always, thank you so much for your ongoing support. We appreciate you!



## ROBERT LAIDLAW >

### SPORTING MEMORIES

The latest guest speaker at a Sporting Memories program was former Sheffield Shield cricketer Rick Drewer, at Unley Men's Breakfast Club in early June.

Rick spoke about his career as a player, including many stories involving teammates in the successful Sheffield Shield winning side of 1975-76, and games where South Australia played the West Indies and England.

Among some of the memorabilia Rick brought for participants to hand around included a framed certificate with all the West Indies' players signatures, his Sheffield Shield winning medallion and several cricket caps, which he wore while representing the state.

After he finished playing, Rick took up umpiring, which instigated a lot of interest from the crowd, as many controversial cricket decisions were discussed, including the Bairstow run out incident at Lords in 2023, and the origins of Mancading – running out the non-striker.

Rick played 14 first class matches for South Australia, scoring 659 runs at 26.36. His record could have been better except for his four innings against Western Australia, where he was bowled for a duck three times and scored five runs – all four times falling to the bowling of Dennis Lillee, who he named as the fastest bowler he had ever faced.

The response from the audience indicated Rick was a popular speaker, as he elicited many varied and different questions.

Unley Men's Breakfast Club is one of the largest groups for Sporting Memories sessions, with around 30 people at each sessions.

**Brett Partington, Rick Drewer, Robert Laidlaw (L-R)**



**Some of Rick Drewer's memorabilia**



# PROGRAM & PLACEMENT EXPERIENCE

## OT STUDENTS

## PLACEMENT EXPERIENCE

For the past 7 weeks, we have been lucky enough to have final year UniSA Occupational Therapy students on board with us. Please meet (from left to right) Take, Bree and Peter.

Their project involves creating an induction training for our Supporting Success program. The aim is to help prepare future placement students and volunteers contributing to the Supporting Success program with the adequate knowledge about their role, duty on site and how to best work within the Supporting Success program. They have just completed their needs analysis where they were able to gain feedback from current placement students about what they feel would be best to know prior to starting placement at the Supporting Success program. Now they are moving onto their implementation where they will start to develop the induction training.

We are so grateful for Taku, Bree and Peter and can not wait to see the finished product!



## RICHARD MCGRATH >

## RADIO PROGRAM

Our Sporting Memories Australia radio program on BBBfm89.1 over the past two weeks has continued the A-Z of Sport, focusing on the Letters 'I' and 'J'.

The Letter 'I' initially posed some challenges thinking about sporting words/names/sports that begin with this letter. But Steve (still filling in for Emma) & Richard were able to cover quite a few.

The most interesting was the sport Icosathlon. This is essentially a double decathlon consisting of 20 events, including the 10 traditional decathlon events with 10 additional track and field events. The event is generally held over two days.

The A-Z Sport Quiz continues to be fun, with Steve being pitted against a local listener (Andrea) as a substitute for Emma. The past two weeks have resulted in draws. This leaves the current A-Z Sport Quiz with Emma winning four times, Steve once and five draws.

This Saturday Richard, and Steve, will be back to continue the A-Z of Sport focusing on the Letter 'K'.

What sporting words or names can you recall starting with the Letter 'K'?

Tune in from 9-11am by visiting the BBBfm website or download the Community Radio Plus app (available for both Apple and Android devices) and search for BBBfm 89.1.

## ADRIANA CONDE >

## SUPPORTING SUCCESS

The recent weeks at SportsUnited have been quite eventful. I introduced balloon tennis to all the students, aiming to enhance their skills. Initially, the outcomes didn't meet our expectations. However, with consistent practice, some students have transitioned from using just their hands to using racquets and have shown remarkable improvement. A few students have even expressed interest in using real tennis balls, showing progress during one-on-one sessions with a coach. Balloon tennis has proven to be an excellent addition, offering students the chance to enhance their hand-eye-foot coordination. The repetitive movements of hitting the balloon and moving around will undoubtedly strengthen their abilities. Furthermore, this sport has facilitated social interaction and patience among the students. They learn to observe their surroundings before hitting the balloon and are encouraged to take turns, fostering trust and respect among peers and coaches.





# 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](#).

## STAY IN TOUCH

Email: [sports.united18@gmail.com](mailto:sports.united18@gmail.com)

Phone: 8302 1186

Mobile: 0478 752 564

### FACEBOOK

Keep up to date with our latest news and stories.

Join our conversations about sport & health.

Like us now and join the conversation

@sportsunited1

### TWITTER

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

a 'live' conversation with us, then follow us

on Twitter. We'd love to hear from you. Follow

us on @sports\_united1

### INSTAGRAM

We love to share images and videos from our

programs as well as other interesting photos.

Like us now and check out what we are up to

@sportsunited\_

### LINKEDIN

Like us now and check out what we are up to.