

SPARTA Newsletter



SPARTA CLUBS PLAN FOR 2021

Welcome to the April edition of the SPARTA newsletter.

Well the long lockdown has finally been eased and the SPARTA clubs have been planning lots of activities to take place this year.

Already the Golf Society and Superstars Cricket club have published details of their planned fixtures for this year.

Both clubs have put together a good number of events that you can enjoy now that some restrictions have been eased.

I heard that some golf clubs were so keen to get play under way again that they arranged midnight golf

sessions to take place on 29th March. The SPARTA Golf Society was not so ambitious, but their first fixture is planned to take place on 22nd April at Pine Ridge GC.

As for Superstars Cricket Club, their first fixture is just before the Golf Society on 18th April, a Sunday match in Forest Hill against Mandarins Cricket Clubs.

If you are interested in joining either of these club fixtures, then contact details can be found on our website

www.spartarecreation.co.uk

Have you any feedback? Then why not contact us at SPARTA@dft.gov.uk



HISTORY SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

Here are some of the upcoming History Society events

Tuesday 20 April - The Cultural Revolution (1966-76): Professor Yang-Wen Zheng,

Tuesday 11 May - The Black Death: Dr Eleanor Janega

Tuesday 15 June - The Rise and Fall of the Sikh Kingdom: Dr Priya Atwal

Wednesday 14 July - Under Fire: Black Britain 1939-1945: Stephen Bourne will talk about the black experience in Britain during WW2.

Wednesday 15 September - Why the English Revolution matters: Professor Ann Hughes

Check out the SPARTA website for upcoming events



2021 EVENTS

Events planned for 2021 by SPARTA YOUR Recreation Association and the SPARTA Clubs

As was mentioned on the first page events are already being planned for 2021 now that the lockdown restrictions have been eased.

The Superstars Cricket Club have already planned an ambitious 31 cricket fixtures for this summer although a number of their fixtures have yet to be confirmed. You can check out their fixture list by [clicking here](#).

Superstars play cricket at a fun social level with all players (Male and Female) being welcome from beginners to seasoned players.

The Golf Society have 7 fixtures planned for this year, including their Centenary Event, which is taking place on 25th June at Chobham Golf Club.

The Golf Society fixture list can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

Obviously, these are not the only SPARTA clubs that are planning events for 2021. The Fitness class, which takes place every Friday lunchtime and has been held online for the last year, is beginning to make plans to return to GMH. More details will be shared as they become available.

If you are interested in joining the online Fitness Class, please get in touch with SPARTA@dft.gov.uk

The History Society is continuing to operate online at the moment and has a host of lunchtime lectures planned for every month this year.

The History Society talks are always popular and cover an enormous range of topics. Recently they have had talks on origin of the Victorian freak show, the mysteries of the Bayeux Tapestry and the life and legend of the extraordinary Sultan Saladin. That is just mentioning a few of the events that the History Society managed to attract eminent Historians to talk about in the last few months.

A list of some of their upcoming events can be found on front page.

The Civil Service Choir is also beginning to make plans for this year and is hoping that the Covid restrictions will have eased enough for them to hold a concert this autumn. Keep watching this space for details as they become available.

Some clubs such as the Tenpin Bowling Club and Table Tennis club, as their activities take place indoors, are still waiting for restrictions to be totally lifted before they can start operating in any way near to normal. We will keep you updated on progress.

CHECK OUT THE
SPARTA WEBSITE

www.spartarecreation.co.uk

UPCOMING SPARTA CLUB FIXTURES/EVENTS

April

18th - Superstars Cricket Club v
Mandarins – Forest Hill

20th – History Society Talk -
The Cultural Revolution (1966-
76): Professor Yang-Wen
Zheng

22nd – Golf Society Spring
Meeting - Pine Ridge GC,
Camberley

25th – Superstars Cricket Club v
St Anne's Allstars – Mill Hill

May

2nd – Superstars Cricket Club
Testimonial match – Shoreham

5th – Superstars Cricket Club v
Epsom Taxes – Wandgas

11th – History Society Talk - The
Black Death: Dr Eleanor Janega

12th – Superstars Cricket Club v
LSE – Berrylands

If you are interested in
attending any of these events,
please get in touch with the
relevant club. Details can be
found on the SPARTA website



SPARTA WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

The last few months have been very busy for SPARTA. Here is a quick update on some of the things that have been going on and about to happen.

First some disappointing news. As some of you will know, each year SPARTA is allocated a number of tickets by the Civil Service Lawn Tennis Association for the All England Lawn Tennis Club Championships at Wimbledon. These are then put in an open draw to all SPARTA members and the lucky winners get to go to Wimbledon.

Unfortunately, this year due to the Covid restrictions the AELTC will not be allocating any tickets to the CS LTA so we won't be having a draw. I know that this will be bad news for some of you, but we hope that there may be better news going forward.



SPARTA is Departmental Association (DA) and we represent two Government Departments, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Department for Transport. There are around 30 DA's spread across the country. All the DA's are affiliated to the Civil Service Sports Council (CSSC).

For a number of years, the relationship between the DA's and the CSSC has

not had a proper forum. Thanks to the work of SPARTA and a few of the other London based DA's we have now agreed with the CSSC to have twice yearly DA meetings with the CSSC, along with opening a number of other communication channels.

This will help to forge a better working relationship with the CSSC and ensure that your views are taken into account by CSSC before they make decisions that may affect you.

The first of the twice yearly meetings took place on 25th March and was well attended and was very constructive. The future looks good.



SPARTA also holds its own meetings. The next meeting is the General Management Committee (GMC) which is taking place on 8th April. The GMC meeting is used to agree all the decisions coming from the smaller SPARTA committees.

The main decisions for the upcoming GMC meeting include the SPARTA Club Fund Bids. All the SPARTA clubs have been asked to bid for funds this year based on a full programme of their events taking place during the year. The bids have already been assessed at an earlier committee stage.

Following agreement at the meeting the clubs will be issued their funds and will be able to pay to put on all the exciting activities that they have planned for our members this year.

Both of our Departments have recently announced that they will be opening new offices around the country. This is very exciting for SPARTA as it gives us the chance to start new Regional Associations (RA) so that these offices are given the same opportunities as the other offices.

If you are going to be working in one of the new offices and would like to set up a RA, then please get in touch.

We have mentioned many times that this year the Golf Society is 100 years old, but this is the first time that we are announcing that we are in the early stages of developing a North West region of the Golf Society. If you are based in the NW region and are interested, then please get in touch.



SPARTA will be appearing on MHCLG live very soon. Keep your eyes out for that. And get your questions ready.

SPARTA will also be sending out a survey later this year. Your views on the future path SPARTA should follow will be most welcome.

SPARTA@dft.gov.uk



THE SPARTA CLUBS

SPARTA supports a number of clubs and associations across the UK and is always looking to start new clubs. Here is just a taster of the current clubs

CD CLUB 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/cd-club

SPARTA GOLF SOCIETY 
www.spartagolf.co.uk/

YOGA CLASSES 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/yoga

SUPERSTARS CRICKET CLUB 
www.superstarscricket.org.uk

SOFTBALL CLUB 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/softball

RAILWAY SOCIETY 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/railway-society

CIVIL SERVICE CHOIR 
www.civilservicechoir.org.uk

HISTORY SOCIETY 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/history-society

FITNESS CLASSES 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/fitness-class

TENNIS CLUB 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/tennis

TENPIN BOWLING 
www.spartarecreation.co.uk/tenpin-bowling



Want to start a new SPARTA club or volunteer to help SPARTA?
Get in touch with us at SPARTA@dft.gov.uk

Check out all the SPARTA clubs on our website

SPARTA
SPARTA@dft.gov.uk

Phone 07884 390878
www.spartarecreation.co.uk

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