

Brockwell Park BMX Track – Facility improvement

40 years of Brixton BMX Club delivering for the community

1981 - 2021

Support our Crowdfunder:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/brixton-bmx-track>



Funding plan

Lambeth Social Value fund 30,000

Match funding 15,000

CrowdFunder 30,000

Marathon charitable trust 20,000

FB William Lawrence trust 1300

SPORTED 3455

Club members raised and donated 6350

CLIPS 7500

110k

100k

90k

80k

70k

60k

50k

40k

30k

20k

10k

Working with funders

Funding secured

Introduction

- **Brockwell Park BMX track** is owned by **Lambeth Council** and is situated at the heart of Brockwell Park.
- It is used and managed by **Brixton BMX Club** with the support of **Lambeth Parks, British Cycling** and various community organisations and partner charities including **Access Sport, Cycling UK** and **Brockwell Park Community Partners**.

BMX facility upgrade – progressing with phase 2

- **(completed in 2017)** In 2017, Access Sport worked with Lambeth Council and secured £70K in funding to upgrade the BMX track and start gate.
- **Another phase of development is now in planning and funding.** It includes resurfacing and drainage improvements, expanded storage facilities, improvements/regrading of the start hill, addition of utilities (water and electric), fencing and new club equipment.

Project Plan

(Phase 2)

Drainage – booked for 30 July 2021

Resurfacing - booked for November 2021

Main capital works: container, start hill, fencing, water, electricity, additional bikes & equipment - end 2021/early 2022.

The club is working together with the council and architects to obtain quotes from contractors and assign contractors. Based on current quotes the project will come to £100k - £120K.

Lambeth will be delivering this project, to the brief with support and direction of Brixton BMX Club and their architects Methodic Practice.

Fundraising and investing in the community

Brixton BMX Club is raising funds and planning to upgrade the BMX facility in Brockwell park so that it can continue to expand the work that it does in building community and helping young people to realise their potential.

The grass roots and volunteer led BMX club brings people together from all walks of life and is a successful platform for community integration.

The club has achieved great sporting outcomes by engaging and nurturing local children from across the community.

Brixton BMX has been the gateway to the sport for so many of the sport's most prominent members including Charlie Reynolds and CK Flash in the 1980s and Kye Whyte, Britain's Olympic silver medallist.

Today the club is working to protect the BMX facility in Brockwell park and develop it for the next generation of young riders.



Kye Whyte in Brockwell park age 3 and in 2021 at the Tokyo Olympics

Aims

Brixton BMX Club is raising funds and planning to upgrade the BMX facility in Brockwell park so that it can continue to expand the work that it does in building community and helping young people to realise their potential.

The grass roots and volunteer led BMX club has been bringing people and families together since 1981 and is a successful platform for community integration.

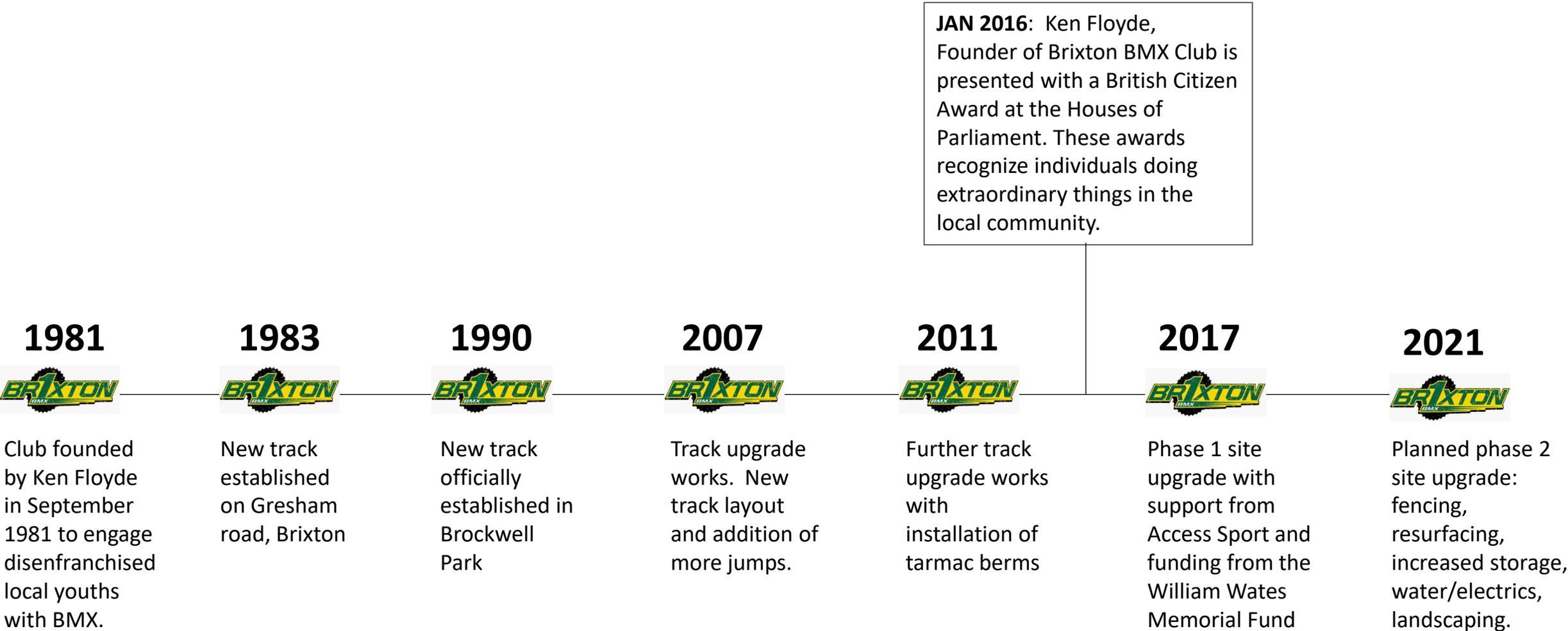
The club has achieved sporting outcomes by engaging and nurturing disadvantaged local children and helping them on their journeys to international stardom.

The club is working to protect the BMX facility in Brockwell park and develop it for the next generation of young riders.



Club timeline 1981 – 2021

Delivering for the community for 40 years



History of Brixton BMX Club

Brixton BMX club training, Brockwell Park 2005.

Pictured, Nigel Whyte, club founder Ken Floyde, Michael Pussey MBE (aka CK Flash) and Kye & Tre Whyte (current members of team GB and the Olympic squad).



Club History

Words by Shannon Denny for Living South magazine - Jun 2005

In Brixton, 1981 is mainly associated with the devastating riots that ripped through the streets and grabbed the attention of the world. But for south London resident Ken Floyd, that's not the only significant event to take place.

During the summer of 1981, Ken and a friend travelled to Earl's Court to check out the Earl's Court motorcycle show, where he witnessed indoor BMX racing for the first time. Inspired by what he saw, Ken returned to Brixton with the idea of organising youngsters to compete in BMX races.

BMX, or "bicycle motocross" started in the late 1960s in California, where people too young to race motorcycles, improvised with push bikes and self built tracks. The sport had spread to Europe by 1978, and the international BMX Federation was founded in 1981.

Having first become hooked on cycling while watching the Tour de France, Ken explains: "I never had a bicycle of my own as a child. My parents couldn't afford one for all five of us. But as a youth worker for the Inner London Education Authority,

Ken "understood the difference sport could make in underprivileged urban areas and wanted to start a club for Brixton kids."



Club History - continued

Words by Shannon Denny for Living South magazine - Jun 2005

When the riots happened I knew there was vacant land all over Brixton," he recalls, "and I wanted to build a BMX track in one of those vacant spots". So as well as taking riders to weekend races around the South East, he began campaigning to raise funds so they could have a track of their own.

After years of riding at the Stockwell Skatepark, the riders' dream finally came true in 1983 when the Brixton BMX Club opened its first track in an old car park behind the police station. By 1986 however, schemes to regenerate Brixton were underway, and the track was demolished to make way for new residential properties.

Ken began campaigning again, hoping to build a bigger and better track for the club. The endeavour was graced with a stroke of luck when Lambeth Council agreed to donate a disused football pitch in Brockwell Park to the cause. Then the Inner City Partnership Fund Urban Programme, which provided extensive funding for Brixton regeneration after the riots, pitched in with the money.

The track, which has been open since 1988, remains one of the unique amenities of Brockwell Park, attracting cyclists of all ages throughout the week.



BMX IN THE UK

One of the highlights for younger visitors to Bike '81 is the special 200 metre indoor BMX track which will provide non-stop action during the Show and feature national and international racing.

The track starts with a superfast ramp and has earth bankings known as Berns, a variety of bumps, or "whoops", and "killer whoops". Visitors can try their hand at BMX racing and a special timing device will sort out the fastest riders who will be eligible to win a Super Mongoose BMX bicycle.

The track will also be the centre for the Mongoose National Meeting (23rd August) and two Mongoose International Meetings (29th and 30th August). Top riders from the United States and Europe will be taking part and taking on Britain's best.

All of Britain's new BMX stars will be fighting for maximum points in the three meetings as the United Kingdom Bicycle Motocross Association season long competition nears its close.

The Mongoose Indoor BMX track teaches bike handling skills which are as useful on the road as off. BMX is a tough and exciting sports for girls and boys and calls for split second reactions, good control and steady nerves. Visitors to the exhibition will have a chance to try out the latest Mongoose bikes and see some top stunt riding by 15 year old London school boy, Andy Ruffell, and other members of the Mongoose Factory Team. Some of the tricks have to be seen to be believed, including 360 degree and even 720 degree mid-air turns.



15 year old Andy Ruffell. Ammasco/Mongoose.

EARLS COURT BMX

As its name suggests bicycle motocross (BMX) is a pedal powered version of the popular motorcycle sport of motocross.



Mongoose 2 with chrome wire wheels.

Supergoose 2



*Image from Lambeth Archives- c 1985
<https://boroughphotos.org/lambeth/stockwell-skateboard-park-brixton/>

for the kids to try their skill at this exciting new sport. The competitive events will be held on Sunday, August 23rd, and Saturday, 29th and Sunday, 30th.

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Brixton BMX Club in the 1980s - Charlie Reynolds

In 1981, Ken encouraged young people across the area to join Brixton BMX club.

Perhaps the club's most famous alumnus is **Charlie Reynolds**, a legend in the sport. He won multiple British and European championships and was 'Champion of Champions' an incredible six times.

He was a global star and one of the few riders in the world to have had a signature bike named after him.

Charlie grew up in children's homes in the 70s and 80s. Ken spotted him at the skate park and asked if he'd like to give BMX a go. Charlie says

“I was the first black BMX star in this country and it's because of Ken. He set up the track, he would hire mini-buses to take us to national competitions. Ken took people to places where they've never been before. You've got to take your hat off to him because no-one else would have done it for us. If it wasn't for Ken and Brixton BMX my life would have taken a different avenue.”



Brixton BMX Club partners

Brixton BMX Club works in close partnership and with the support of its landlord Lambeth Council including **Lambeth Parks and Youth Sport** teams.

Access Sport focusses on tackling the barriers that certain groups face from taking part regularly in sport, including disabled young people and their families, young people from lower socio-economic groups, young people from minority ethnic communities, young people at risk of educational exclusion and crime and girls and young women.

Cycling UK is working with the Brixton BMX Club on targeted outreach programs in Lambeth, bringing hard to reach young people and families into the club.

British Cycling (BC) is the national governing body for cycling and cycle sport in the UK. Brixton BMX Club is a Go Ride Club and has been working closely with British Cycling to improve governance at the club in recent times.



Brixton BMX Club coaching team

Brixton BMX Club works with a team of coaches, trainee coaches and club volunteers. The coaches are British Cycling qualified and lead open and inclusive coaching sessions at the track in Brockwell Park on weekends.

Nathaniel Martin is a Brixton local who has been riding at Brixton BMX Club from a young age. Nathaniel is a youth worker and British Cycling qualified BMX coach and also runs his own BMX coaching business.



Alan Hay is a long time club member who grew up around the track and is now developing his coaching skills, supporting the other coaches and nurturing the next generation of BMX superstars. Alan is also aiming to complete his coaching certifications with British cycling.



Dean Reeves started riding at Brixton as a youngster in 2010 and is one of the top elite riders competing in the country today. Dean says, "The riders are pitched against each other in body armour and crash helmets, but they are also like family."



Pino Weltzien is a club volunteer and rider. Pino supports the club's Wingz program which helps riders with special educational needs or disability (SEND). The Wingz program helps SEND children gain the confidence and skills they need to eventually join the regular sessions at the club.



Silvi Vargas is a top national elite rider and number 1 for the south. Silvi runs the women's BMX sessions at the track and is a big inspiration to the female riders. Silvi has been coaching BMX for a number of years working with Access Sport and the BMXercise program.



Farran Afflick Straker grew up around the Brixton track. A former BMX racer who has competed in national and European races. Farran participated in the British Cycling Talent Team alongside Tre Whyte and Kyle Evans, the current Team GB 1 & 2.



Brixton BMX Club management committee

Brixton BMX Club has an active management committee of volunteers who meet on a regular basis to manage and develop the club for the benefit of the local community.

There are currently 8 roles on the committee which are voted annually at AGM and include:

1. Chair – Ken Floyde (Founder)
2. Vice-Chair - Greg Wong
3. Secretary - Stephan Koehler
4. Treasurer - Nicola de Cogan
5. Safeguarding Officer - Nikiaisha Thompson
6. Welfare Officer - Kellie Monaghan
7. Maintenance Officer - Greg Wong
8. Press and Comms Officer - Mike Woof



BMX Club Services

Coaching

Saturdays & Sundays:

Coaching sessions with British Cycling qualified coaches

- Expert: 9 – 10:30 am
- Intermediate: 10:30 – 12 pm
- Novice: 12 – 1 pm

Saturdays:

BMX Wings

Inclusive sessions for children and young people with additional needs.

Saturday 12 – 1

Sundays:

Woman & Girls only sessions

Sunday 1 - 2:30 pm

Membership: 126 members (2019)

Equipment: 30 bikes, helmets, pads, gloves, training equipment

Other Services

Community outreach, schools sessions, youth groups, birthday parties.



Purpose

The club is built around social and sporting objects

- Develop community in the park through sport.
- Support disadvantaged youth and people at risk.
- Create a space in the park which is safe and controlled.
- Support young people from disadvantaged backgrounds through sport.
- Support social cohesion and integration of different communities.
- Promote sport for girls and women.
- Promote BMX inclusively and make it accessible to all regardless of background or ability.
- Achieve sporting outcomes and help participants to realise their potential.

Local Area

Brixton BMX Club is based at the BMX track in Brockwell Park in Lambeth. Members and participants in club activities sometimes come from further away, however the vast majority are from the areas up to 1.5 miles around the park.



Local Are Context - Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) measures the level of deprivation in each 'lower super output area' (LSOA) in England and ranks each LSOA (about 1,500 people) according to how deprived it is compared to the others.

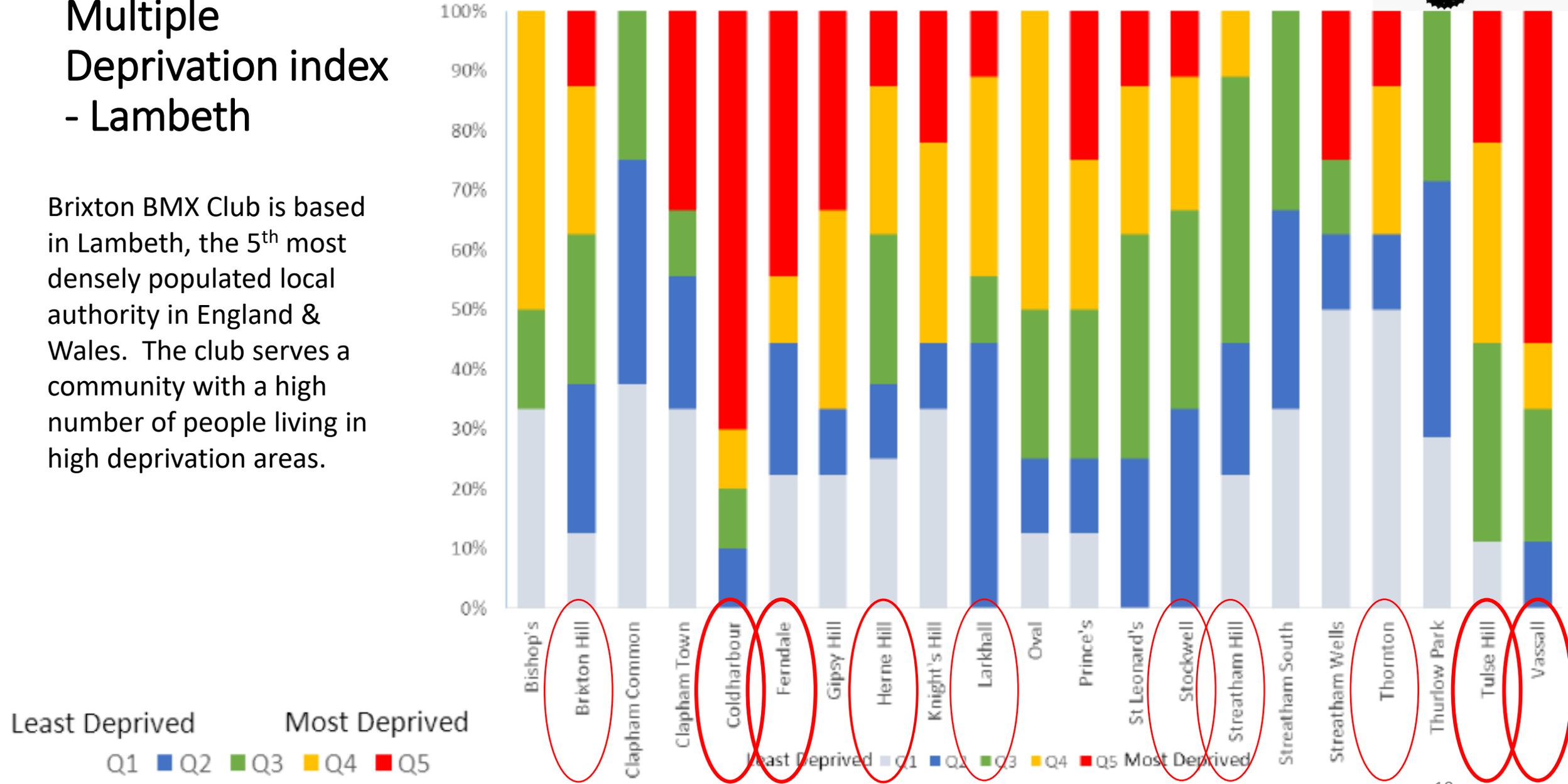
Lambeth is the **29st** most deprived local authority in England (out of 326) and the **9th** most deprived borough in London (out of 33).

36.7% of Lambeth live in the most deprived LSOAs in England.

Relative deprivation within Lambeth wards can be measured using local quintiles, where LSOAs are ranked by deprivation and divided into five equal groups.

Multiple Deprivation index - Lambeth

Brixton BMX Club is based in Lambeth, the 5th most densely populated local authority in England & Wales. The club serves a community with a high number of people living in high deprivation areas.



Population Structures - Age



Brixton BMX Club serves a young and densely populated population with significantly above average levels of people aged 0-19 years old.

Significantly higher
 Significantly lower
 Similar
 compared to Southwark average

Town Centre	Ward	0-19	20-39	40-64	65+	Total
Brixton Town Centre	Coldharbour	24%	41%	29%	6%	100%
	Ferndale	14%	57%	23%	6%	100%
	Herne Hill	22%	43%	28%	7%	100%
	Tulse Hill	23%	42%	28%	7%	100%
	Brixton Hill	17%	51%	25%	7%	100%
Clapham and Stockwell	Larkhall	21%	51%	22%	6%	100%
	Stockwell	22%	44%	28%	7%	100%
	Clapham Common	17%	52%	23%	7%	100%
	Clapham Town	17%	52%	24%	7%	100%
North Lambeth Town Centre	Thornton	25%	41%	26%	8%	100%
	Bishop's	17%	47%	28%	9%	100%
	Oval	17%	49%	26%	8%	100%
	Prince's	20%	41%	30%	9%	100%
Norwood Town Centre	Vassall	20%	44%	29%	8%	100%
	Gipsy Hill	28%	33%	31%	8%	100%
	Knights Hill	27%	32%	31%	10%	100%
	Thurlow Park	24%	37%	30%	9%	100%
Streatham Town Centre	St. Leonard's	20%	47%	26%	8%	100%
	Streatham Hill	21%	43%	28%	8%	100%
	Streatham South	24%	36%	29%	12%	100%
	Streatham Wells	24%	42%	26%	8%	100%
Lambeth		21%	44%	27%	8%	100%

*Source - Lambeth Demographic Factsheet 2015 <https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ssh-lambeth-demography-2015.pdf>



Case studies

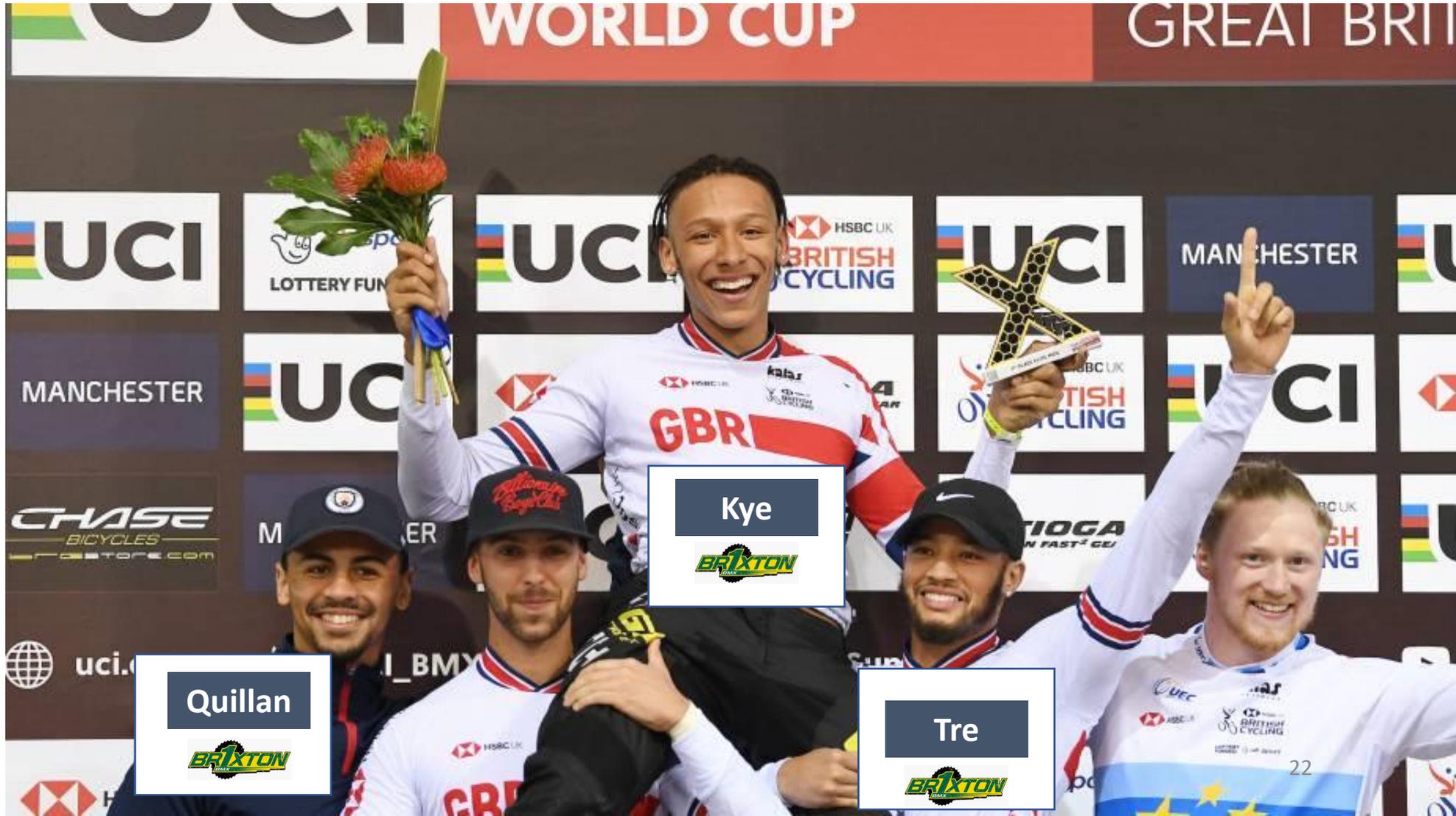
Brixton BMX Club role models

The case studies demonstrate how past investment and support for Brixton BMX Club have driven incredible results.

From Brockwell Park to the top of the world

Image: Quillan Isidore, Kye Whyte and Tre Whyte celebrating Kye's World Cup win with their Team GB team mates in Manchester, 2019.

Quillan, Kye and Tre are local south London boys who started their journeys into the sport with Ken Floyd and **Brixton BMX Club** at the Brockwell Park track.



Quillan

Kye

Tre

Case Study: Quillan Isidore - Brixton BMX rider and world champion

Brixton BMX Club real life role model

- **Quillan Isidore** from Streatham
- Team GB professional BMX racer
- World Champion
- Brixton BMX Club alumni
- **“BMX saved me completely and stopped me going down the wrong path”.**



Quillan Isidore

Words: Quillan Isidore, May 2020

- My journey in BMX started in Brockwell park at Brixton BMX Club when I was 9 years old. That was back in 2005. I'm now 23, almost 24. I'm on the British Cycling Olympic team and I'm training for the Tokyo Olympic games which have been postponed to next year.
- I started at Brixton BMX Club where Ken (Floyde) was organising BMX training. At first, I did training every week on my mountain bike with a 20 pound helmet from Halfords, and I just loved it.

Quillan Isidore - Brixton BMX rider and world champion

Brixton BMX Club real life role model



- It started as a little weekend sport then suddenly I started getting results on the racing scene and I won my first national title.
- If it wasn't for Brixton BMX and Ken, there would be no CK (Michael Pusey MBE, Founder of Peckham BMX Club), there would be no Peckham BMX club, there would be no Whyte brothers and myself and my little brother.
- I've been world champion, my little brother has been British and National Champion and European #3.
- Kye Whyte won a world Cup (and subsequently also an Olympic silver medal). Tre Whyte has been world #3 and we are all from south London and we all started at the track in Brockwell park.

Quillan Isidore, World Champion at 16



Quillan Isidore - Brixton BMX rider and world champion

Brixton BMX Club real life role model

Role models for future generations

- We've turned out so many top level athletes from Brixton and we are now role models for the younger kids.
- It goes way beyond the results we achieved on the track. Now it's about the impact we have on the kids and our ability to put a different perspective in their minds and get them off the streets. **Fortunately, BMX saved me completely and stopped me going down the wrong path.**
- I'll be the first to admit that as a kid, I used to do things I shouldn't. But when I got into British Cycling when I was 13 or 14 years old, with the help and the discipline that I got through BMX and my learnings I got from Brixton and my coaches, I thought I can't do that anymore, I can't let my coaches find out, I've got to change. BMX has changed me into a man from a very young age I started travelling the world and seeing everything and right now I'm on my bike training and I've got the discipline to get this hard work done, not just in BMX but in life and setting up businesses.
- It's essential that Brixton has the support from the community. It's not just the BMX club it's a family sport and it helps everyone achieve something great. It's not just all about going on to become the best BMX racer in the world but about bringing about positive change in themselves and giving themselves a better life opportunity.

Case Study

- **Kye Whyte**
- Team GB professional BMX racer
- Olympic silver Tokyo 2020
- Joined Brixton BMX Club age 5.
- “Sport can get you out of trouble”



Olympic medallist Kye Whyte
Inspiring the next generation..



**KYE WHYTE has a message for any kids caught up in inner-city gangs:
Sport can get you out of trouble.**

National champion Tre Whyte at Brixton BMX Club's open day in September 2019, inspiring the next generation of riders.



Tre Whyte

Case Study: Nat Martin, BMX Coach

- BMX Coach and Youth Worker
- “The BMX club is my second family”

Words, Nathaniel Martin, May 2020

My primary school was in my estate (Moorlands estate, Brixton) with poor Ofsted ratings. I know people that grew up on my estate and sadly died due to knife crime. Prospects of a healthy, fulfilling and safe life for young black boys were not high when I was growing up. And now as an adult I know of many friends who are in, or have spent time in prison due to crime which they felt pressured to committing, mainly due to poverty and poor education. BMX has heavily influenced my life.

Till this day, my peers know me as "BMX Nat".

Thankfully, my older brothers introduced me to cycling and BMX through buying me my first bike and taking me to Brockwell Park BMX Track. They collaborated with the club's founder Ken Floyd to restart the club in the early 2000s with me as the first member!



Case study: Nat Martin, BMX Coach

BMX and the club introduced me to discipline, responsibility for self and others and how to make friendships with a number of different types of people from all walks of life.

It has taken me all over the UK to races and events. I've made friends for life both locally and across the country.

The BMX club is my second family. It is a place that I have looked forward to every weekend since I was 11. It was a place that I found myself to belong to and a place to support and welcome everyone.

The club is located in a brilliant location bordering three areas - Brixton, Herne Hill and Tulse Hill.

This allows different groups of people to come together to use the same facilities and enjoy each other's company.



Nat Martin, Kye Whyte, Tien Isidore at Brockwell Park BMX track

Project outcomes

- Protect the facility for future generations and support the club in delivering and expanding its services for young people in Lambeth.
- Meet the demand in the local area and meet the demand of schools programs.
- Give the club the ability to deliver outreach programs to reach those from disadvantaged backgrounds and bring them into sport.
- Develop the platform and expand the friendly BMX community in the park.

Promoting social inclusion, healthy living, diversity and community integration through sport.

