



**LEEDS
ARTS RESEARCH
CENTRE**

KEF

**LIZZIE COOMBES
UNSUNG SPORTS**

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE FRAMEWORK DATA COLLECTION

February 2023

The University's Research & Enterprise Service has requested information on knowledge exchange and engagement with the public and communities. Please complete the form below and return it to Professor Simon Morris (S.DC.Morris@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) and Dr Tina Conkar (t.conkar@leedsbeckett.ac.uk) by **21 February 2023**.

Many thanks for your support with information gathering for this submission.

Name:	Lizzie Coombes
Job Title:	Senior Lecturer (0.6)
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School:	Leeds School of Arts

Please use the template below to detail information on all projects you have undertaken since 1 January 2019 that involved public and community engagement. Please use one form per project.

Project Title:	Unsung Sports		
Project Date(s):	January to May 2022		
URL Link to Project:			
Brief Description of Project (250-1000 words max.)			
In the field below please give a brief outline of the project and what it entailed.			
Collaborative exhibition/event looking at local Leeds sports clubs with a writer, musicians, and filmmaker. Shown at The Irish Centre, Leeds UNsung SPORTS is an art project celebrating sports in Leeds - not the sports that talk the loudest, but the well-kept secrets. Lizzie Coombes worked with writer/songwriter Peter Spafford and a team of other artists, recording interviews, filming, taking photographs and writing music. This culminated in an event that gave a chance for everyone who had been part of the project from the worlds of Table Tennis, Roller Skating, and Gaelic Football to come together and celebrate. The photographs were displayed in a football goal mouth and projected during the performance of specially written songs and poems. The next phase of the project is about to start with performances planned for October at Leeds City Museum and the Irish Centre. The sports explored in this section of the project will be Women's Basketball with S.Leeds Valkyries. Petanque with Leeds Petanque Club. Aikido with Ichaban Dojo.			
Organisations Engaged with: Please list the names of any organisations engaged with, such as Schools or Community Groups.	Table Tennis: Lawnswood YMCA, Pudsey TT Club, Judean TT Club. Gaelic Football: Hugh O'Neills GAA Roller: Roller Girl Gang, Potternewton Rollers, Skate Scholarship, Park Roll.	Total participants: Please give an approximate figure for the number of people who engaged with your project.	Approx.500

<p>Knowledge Exchange Outcomes: If relevant, in brief, please describe any knowledge exchange outcomes such as new approaches to working with a community.</p>	<p>The portrait studios were an effective way to connect with the communities and organisations to provide visibility and places for conversation. Everyone who took part was sent digital copies of their photographs. The combination of the images with spoken words and songs was extremely powerful and shared in the community space of the Irish Centre made the work very accessible to all who had taken part.</p>
<p>Quotes In the field below please include any relevant quotes that you would like to share which evidence the knowledge exchange and engagement your project received.</p>	
<p>Congratulations on a fantastic event the other night. It was so good to see so many different people in the same space, all sharing their love of sport. Was great to see some familiar faces, too! (Catherine Robins, Leeds Museums and Galleries)</p> <p>IT WAS GREAT - we all enjoyed it so much. (Doug Sandle, Field of Vision)</p> <p>Terrific. Loved the jazz/lyrics especially. But the meld of images, song, film... Great evening. (Richard Wilcocks, Headingley Lit Fest)</p> <p>Truly wonderful night. (Clare Price, artist)</p> <p>Such a fantastic evening. You and Lizzie are legends, and the combination of her images and your songs was perfect. It was very moving, and I loved it all. (Em Whitfield Brooks, singer and life coach).</p> <p>Lizzie and I have created over 400 Poem Portraits together, each a combining of word and image in one art work. She was a natural choice for Unsung Sports and the 114 portraits of players in 3 sports, projected to an audience of 100 people, was a highlight of the project. (Peter Spafford, Lead Artist, Unsung Sports).</p>	
<p>Images In the field below please include any relevant images you would like to share.</p>	

UNSUNG SPORTS

Celebrating the wide range of amazing sports that happen in our city and telling the stories of the people who play them – people like you!



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CELEBRATION EVENT

Films - Portrait Exhibition - Concert

Thurs May 12th 7.30pm

O'Meara Suite - The Irish Centre York Rd, Leeds LS9 9NT

UNSUNG SPORTS

UNSUNG SPORTS is an arts project that celebrates sports in Leeds – not the sports that talk the loudest, but the well-kept secrets. For the past six months, writer/songwriter Peter Spafford and a team of other artists have been recording interviews, filming, taking photographs and writing music. This culminating event is a chance for everyone who has been part of the project from the worlds of Table Tennis, Roller Skating, and Gaelic Football to come together and check out the final results!

THURSDAY MAY 12th 7.30PM
O'MEARA SUITE - THE IRISH CENTRE
YORK ROAD, LEEDS LS9 9NT

A chance to see all the photo-portraits Lizzie Coombes has taken, all three films made by Emilie Flower, hear poetry written by sports players as well as seven new songs specially written by Peter Spafford, arranged by Dave Evans, and performed by The Chapel FM Jazz Collective with featured Irish musicians from The Irish Centre.

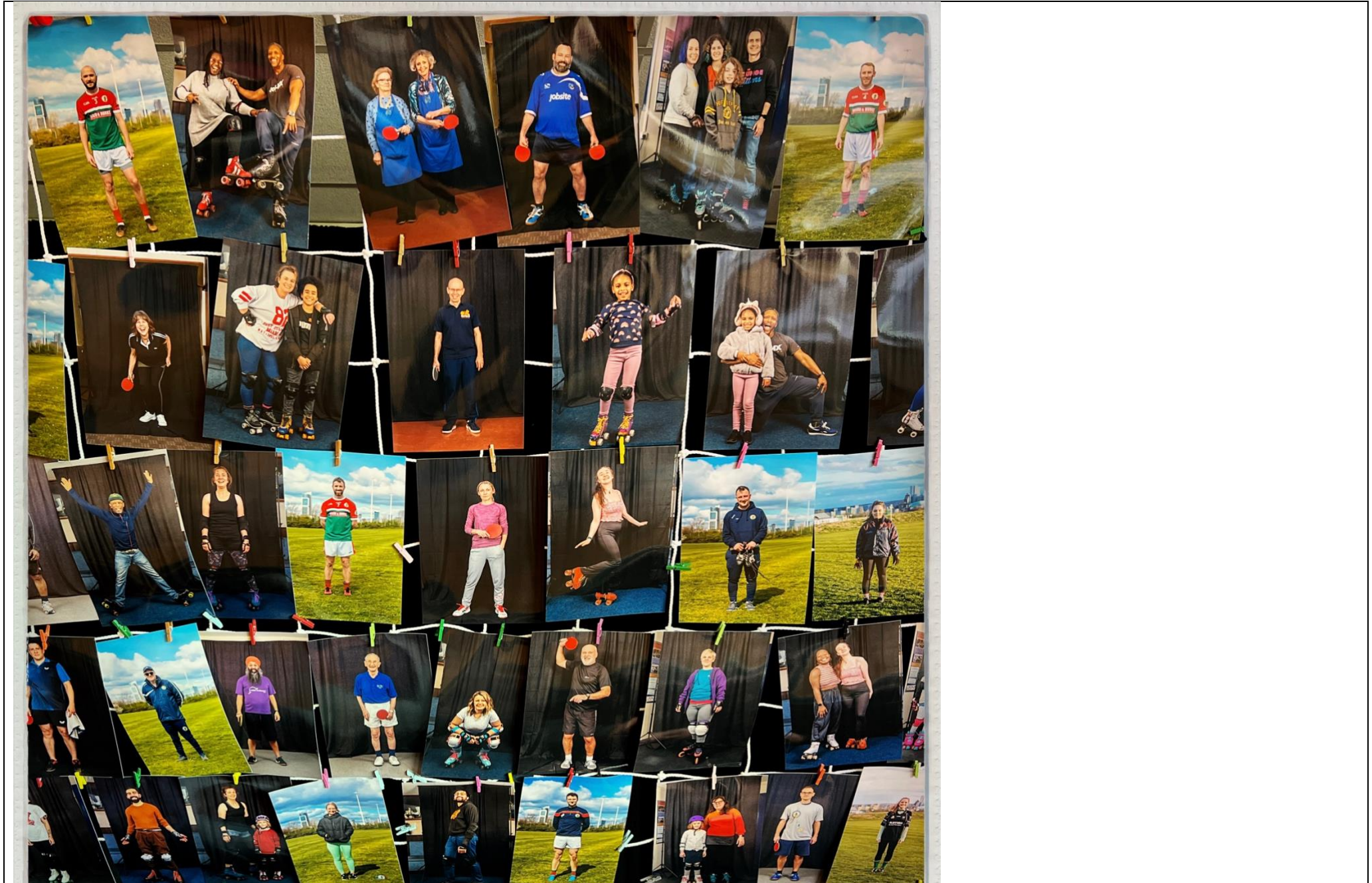
The event is FREE. To avoid disappointment, please pre-book places here: <https://bit.ly/3x7yDew>



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PROJECT: Peter Spafford and Lizzie Coombes have contributed to the project.

Shining a light on our city's 'hidden' sports

SPORT

Tom Coates

✉ tom.coates@nationalworld.co.uk
 @LeedsNews

LEEDS IRISH Centre is to host a celebration of 'hidden' sports in the city such as Gaelic football.

The project, *Unsung Sports*, will shine a light on sports which may not be the most regularly played in the city but remain at the heart of local communities.

It will take place today (May 12) at 7:30pm and focuses on Gaelic football, table tennis and roller skating.

The result of work by arts and social change charity Spacez, the project is being led by writer and musician Peter Spafford and will feature music, short films, radio features and photographs.

A short film has been produced about each of the three sports by filmmaker Emilie Flower, while Peter has written seven new songs. The photographs that will be

on display have been taken by photographer Lizzie Coombes and are said to capture the essence of the games.

Peter was amazed by the dedication shown by a women's Gaelic football team he saw train in the dark and the snow in Leeds and the project aims to celebrate the passion

"Unsung Sports is about celebrating the passion people bring to these sports."

demonstrated by teams such as the one he watched.

He said: "There they were, 20 or so women by the side of the Scott Hall Road, in almost pitch darkness doing their training. Their dedication was amazing.

"Unsung Sports is about celebrating the passion people bring to these sports and highlighting the fact that not only do these sports exist, but that anyone can get involved."

The event will also offer attendees the opportunity to meet players of all three sports to discuss involvement and the benefits of taking up sport have been outlined by Peter, who has worked with several table tennis clubs throughout the years.

He said: "For some people it's their life. I attended a number of sessions where volunteer coaches were working tirelessly with young people on honing their confidence and skills. It was so moving to see."

"By playing sport you are constantly setting yourself goals and it's fantastic for social interaction, so you feel better physically and mentally - a lot of people say it brings them joy. "I've enjoyed every minute.

I think the arts and sports are sometimes seen as very separate, but this project brings them together in a unique way." Admission is free but booking is advised.

ONLINE: You can follow us on Instagram via [@gleedsnews](https://www.instagram.com/gleedsnews)

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATHS

PARKER Dennis

Passed away peacefully at Leeds General Infirmary on 17th April 2022, aged 65 years.

Dearly loved husband of Ann and much-loved father, Grandad, Great Grandad, friend, and colleague.

Funeral service will take place at Lawnswood Crematorium, at 11:30 am on Wednesday 18th May.

Family flowers only. Donations in memory of Dennis to The Sepsis Trust for which a donation box will be available on the day.

For further details please contact JE Spence Funeral Directors 0113 268 2842.

SMITH Janet

Of Colville Terrace, Thorpe, Wakefield

Passed away at home on Sunday 17th April, aged 72 years.

The funeral service will be held at Mahony & Ward, The Manor Hall, Pudsey, Leeds LS28 7BN on Thursday 19th May at 10.30am.

All will be made welcome. Donations in lieu of flowers will be gratefully accepted for the benefit of Age UK.

All enquiries to Mahony & Ward Funeral Services, 0113 2565209.

THOMPSON Eileen V

On April 28th peacefully in hospital, aged 84 years.

Dearly loved sister, aunt, great aunt and great great aunt.

The service and cremation will take place at Rawdon Crematorium on Tuesday 24th May at 10.45am.

Friends please accept this intimation.

Enquiries to Joseph Tate Funeral Directors Tel 0113 2638971

IN MEMORIAM

MONTEITH Jennifer

In loving memory of Jennifer.

A quiet prayer:
A silent tear;
A constant wish that you were here,
You left a space that no-one can fill,
We miss you Jennifer and always will.

Love from Monty and Paula xxx

In loving memory of a dear twin sister.

No more tomorrows for me to share but yesterday's memories, Will always be there.

Love Jean xxx

Think loved and p the f

Being prepared for your own death is an essential part of life. Here are five simple steps to take

1. THINK ABOUT YOUR FUNERAL

"The first step to helping your family, and also ensuring your wishes for your funeral are followed, is to write them down," says Executive Director of Red Apple Law (www.redapplelaw.com), Alison Wilson.

"It may be easier to start thinking about what you want as this provides reassurance to your loved ones if they won't choose something you wouldn't have wanted."

"Then think about what you would like. Flowers or donations to charity perhaps? What kind of service? Talk through the individual parts of the ceremony with your loved ones. Don't forget the music you would like played."

2. START SAVING NOW

"Dying is actually a fairly expensive business," says Alison Wilson. "And even the most simple funerals can cost thousands of pounds."

"So what can you do about this? The short answer is much but you can be aware of it and start planning now. There are a few options, from putting money into a high interest savings account, to 'later years' type life insurance plan or a pre-paid funeral plan."

"Although any steps you may have taken along the lines will help, you must be aware of any shortfalls. As the sharp rises seen, year after year, how can you possibly know how much to save for how long?"

"If you have a pre-paid funeral plan you're fully covered though aren't you? Not necessarily. I urge you to check one thing - how many of your disbursements, as doctor's certificates, florists etc. are included?"

3. ENSURE YOU'RE INSURED

"We've all seen the advert and given fleeting thought around 'what if' and ma











