

DEVON CRICKET

# SRI LANKA U15 GIRLS TOUR 2026



trowers & hamlin's

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**SPORTS**  
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# Lions Sports Travel



## Bringing School Sports Tours to Life Across Devon



We're now looking to partner with schools across **Devonshire**, offering the same high standard of tours to young **cricket, rugby, hockey, and netball players**, travelling to destinations such as **South Africa, the UAE, India, and Sri Lanka, among others** - helping them make the most of every opportunity that comes their way.

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## ITINERARY

|             |                         |   |
|-------------|-------------------------|---|
| 8 February  | Travel Day              | Depart Devon   Arrive Heathrow Airport<br>Depart to Colombo (via Doha), Sri Lanka - Qatar Airways |
| 9 February  | Rest day                | Arrive in Colombo   Check in Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel   Leisure afternoon                          |
| 10 February | Match Day               | MCA Girls Academy Team<br>Bloomfield Cricket & Athletic Club                                      |
| 11 February | Rest Day                | Leisure Morning<br>Colombo City Tour  |
| 12 February | Match Day<br>Travel Day | Anula College Team, SLDC Cricket Ground<br>Transfer to Kataragama                                 |
| 13 February | Rest day                | Leisure Morning<br>Afternoon 4x4 Safari at the Yala National Park                                 |
| 14 February | Culture and Travel Day  | Transfer to Citrus Waskaduwa Hotel<br>Galle Fort Visit   Turtle Hatchery Visit                    |
| 15 February | Match Day               | Sirimavo Bandaranayake College Team<br>Pujitha Uduwana Sport Academy Ground                       |
| 16 February | Match Day               | Sigi Cricket Academy Team<br>SLAOC Cricket Stadium - Dombagoda                                    |
| 17 February | Culture Day             | Visit to Kalutara Temple  |
| 18 February | Match Day               | Panadura Girls Cricket Club Team<br>Aarons Country Club Ground                                    |
| 19 February | Match Day               | Wadduwa Central College Girls Team<br>General Balagalle Cricket Stadium (GBCS)                    |
| 20 February | Travel Day              | Catch Flight   Return to London Heathrow<br>Return to Devon                                       |

8 - 20 FEBRUARY 2026

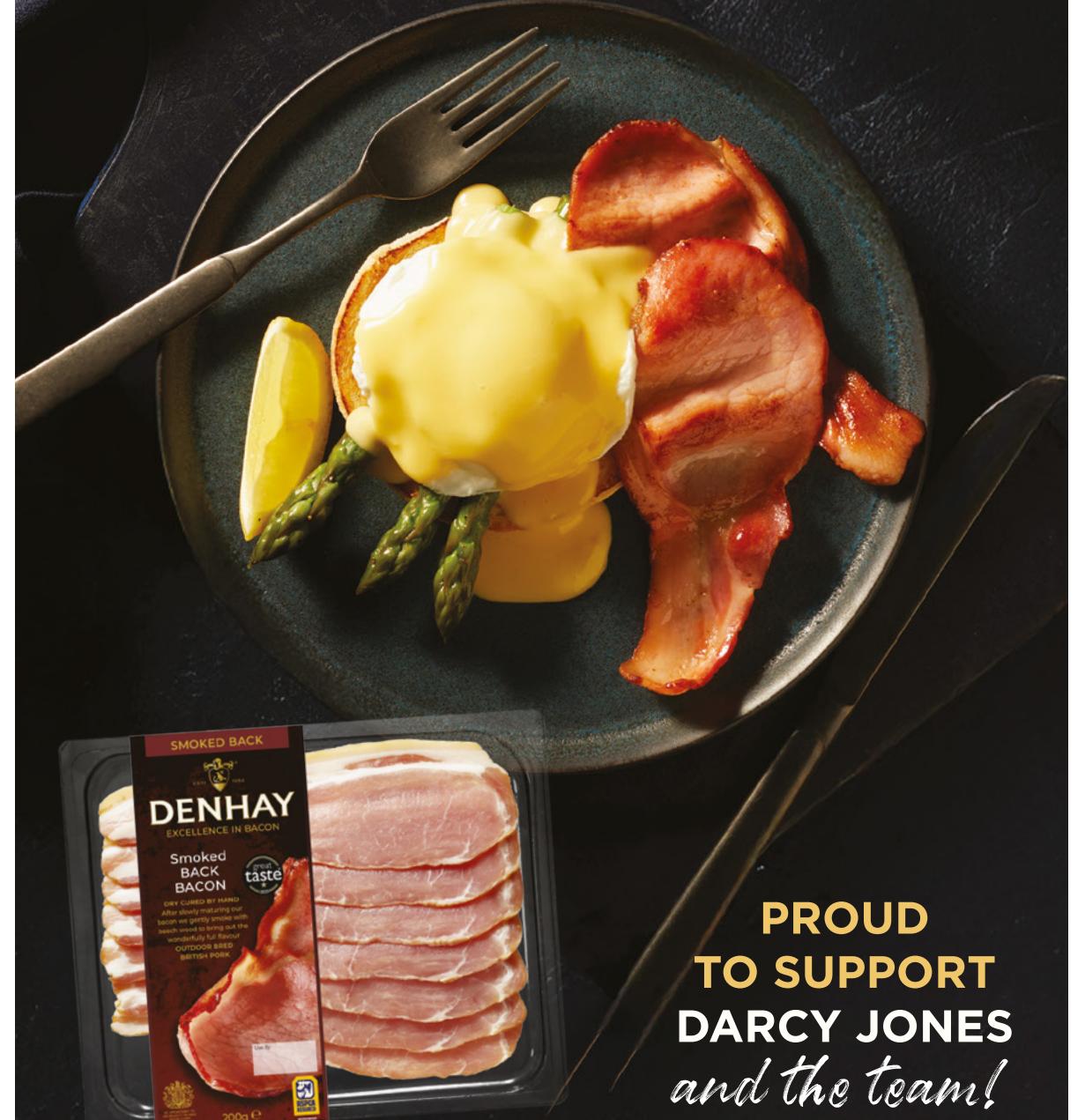


## TOUR ITINERARY



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DARCY JONES  
and the team!**

## CEMENTING THE PATHWAY FOR GIRLS IN DEVON

Ann-Marie Presswell

*Women & Girls' Development Officer  
Devon Cricket Foundation*

As we prepare for the third tour to Sri Lanka, it gives me a chance to reflect on how far the game has come for young women in Devon.

I am incredibly proud to have been involved in the growth of cricket for girls in the county. This season we can truly say that in the recreational game, girls have a complete pathway from All Stars and Dynamos, through to open age cricket. Thanks to dedicated clubs and volunteers, girls now have the choice to access cricket they would like to play.

The cementing of the Sri Lanka Tour into the Girls' Pathway Calendar is a further representation of increased opportunities for girls. This year, we are lucky to be joined by Steph Hutchins, who is our first ever appointee to the role of Head on Women and Girls' Pathway, and Paul Heard, who has years of touring, playing and coaching experience alongside Steph.

From our previous tours we know that for us as staff each day will provide us with challenges and opportunities to develop personally and within our game. In both previous tour, I have been impressed that the girls have followed suit.



Representing their county abroad, the girls have shown themselves fine ambassadors of the game. The tour not only provides the girls with high quality cricketing experiences, it also enriches their personal growth through cultural immersion and team bonding.

Whilst a cricket tour in name, we all come home having gained so much more from Sri Lanka. My abiding memories last year will be taken from the after game sessions and presentations. Watching the girls break down language barriers and build connections through cricket with huge smiles on their faces, is a privilege I bring home.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has made this tour possible for all our players – parents, supporters and sponsors. I am sure that the girls will share their experiences with you when they return.

**To the tour of 2026: embrace the challenges the tour will bring, learn both on and off the field. Take the opportunities and make them yours!**

## HONOURED TO REPRESENT DEVON

Maisie Barr

When it was first announced that the U15 Devon Girls would be touring Sri Lanka in 2026, I was determined to make the squad. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity I really wanted to be part of. So when I received the email to say I'd made it, I was delighted.

I feel it is a huge honour to represent my county team alongside the rest of my Devon teammates on an overseas tour. I'm excited to test myself against different playing styles and challenges the tour will offer. In the future, I'd love to play cricket overseas, so I think this will be a great experience to learn from.

The main challenge I think we will face will be the heat. After speaking to some of the girls who toured in 2025, they said the humidity is something they had never experienced before, and it's tough to get used to. It will also be interesting to see how the pitches play due to the drier conditions we will face in Sri Lanka, especially when facing spin bowling. I don't think any of us will have experienced anything like this before when playing cricket in the UK.

I already know most of the girls in the squad, having played with them through county age group teams, but



I'm also looking forward to welcoming and bonding with new players selected this year. I think playing lots of games together over a short time in challenging conditions will improve us individually, but also as a team. This will be great preparation for our games in the upcoming summer and beyond.

I'm looking forward to learning about different cultures in Sri Lanka and how they live differently from us in the UK. I'm not a fussy eater, so I'm excited about the different foods we will experience. The hotels and pools we are staying in look amazing, and I'm really looking forward to having fun with the girls during rest time between games. I'm also very excited to enjoy the variety of planned trips arranged for us. In particular, I'm most looking forward to the safari and seeing wildlife close up.

**I'd finally like to thank everyone at Devon Cricket, Parents, Sponsors, and Lions Sports Travel who have contributed and supported us to make this trip possible.**

**Let's go, girls!**

The top half of the advertisement for Culmstock Cricket Club. It features the club's logo with a horse head and the text 'CULMSTOCK CRICKET CLUB'. Below the logo is a photograph of a cricket pitch with several people on it. A small 'Find us on Facebook' icon is in the bottom right corner.

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CRICKET CLUB**

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**MAISIE  
BARR**

The bottom half of the advertisement. It features a large circular photo of Maisie Barr in action, with one photo showing her batting and another showing her running with a ball. The text 'WISHING MAISIE AND HER DEVON TEAMMATES SUCCESS IN SRI LANKA' is at the bottom. The right edge of the page has the text 'Images courtesy Mark Lockett Photography'.

# CRICKET, CULTURE, AND CONNECTION

**Following a second successful tour last year, Ann-Marie Presswell and the team reflect on their experiences.**

On 9 February 2025, 13 county players gathered at Exeter Services to start their journey to Sri Lanka on the second Under 15 Girls County Tour.

Joined by County Age Group and Devon Women Lead Coach David Joseph, and Performance Pathway Coach and Devon Women player Katie Donovan, everyone was very excited.

"I had the absolute pleasure of being a part of the coaching staff for the Devon Under 15 Girls Tour to Sri Lanka," says Katie.

"Having been part of the Devon set up since I was 10, including going on the Women's development tour to South Africa when I was 14, I now had been given the opportunity to transfer my knowledge onto the new generation which was really exciting."

Of the 13 days on tour, the girls had six days of cricket, playing different opposition in grounds around the Colombo area. The girls were very much encouraged to say "Hello!" to the opposition and introduce themselves, and even learnt some phrases on the way to the grounds.



The heat was something that the girls had to get used to, and after a few days, they found the resilience to cope with that during the games, knowing when to take a break and work as a team to support themselves, which they did more and more as the tour progressed.

The girls came away with three wins and three losses, of which they should be very proud.

Off the cricket field, the girls were given the opportunity to experience the culture of the country. They visited a temple, went on safari, found out about the conservation of turtles at a turtle hatchery, and visited a school with the Wiltshire Under 15 Boys team, who were presenting children with cricket equipment that had been sent over.

"It was a real eye-opener to see the basic conditions of the classrooms and made us realise how lucky we are with the facilities we have in our schools at home and our cricket clubs," says Grace.

"After visiting the school and giving the children some shirts and cricket kit, we all played some cricket in the school grounds, which was brilliant fun! It was a really good opportunity for us all to come together, play the sport we love and just have fun."

Arriving home in the wind and rain, the players and staff felt that Sri Lanka was a world away, but the success of the tour meant that the girls take home stories that will last a lifetime. All the girls worked hard to get the opportunity to represent their county in Sri Lanka. They should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved, both on and off the pitch. They made the tour the enjoyable and successful trip that it was. They go back to their clubs now as role models to inspire the next generation.

"Overall, the tour was an unforgettable experience, filled with cricket, culture, and new friendships," reflects Charlotte.

"We returned home with wonderful memories and a sense of accomplishment, grateful for the opportunity to represent Devon Under 15 girls on this incredible journey."



## Rebecca Savory concludes:

"Sri Lanka provided an incredible opportunity for me to immerse myself in diverse cultures, gain independence, and enjoy playing cricket in a stunning environment."



**"The Sri Lankan girls were incredibly welcoming and supportive, and we happily exchanged caps and shirts as mementos of the matches. We formed friendships and even exchanged contact information to keep in touch once we were back in Devon"**

Lottie Wood, Player of the 2025 Tour.



**"As a team, we developed tremendously and quickly bonded, giving us a fantastic head start for what promises to be a busy season ahead."**

# THE PERFECT MATCH

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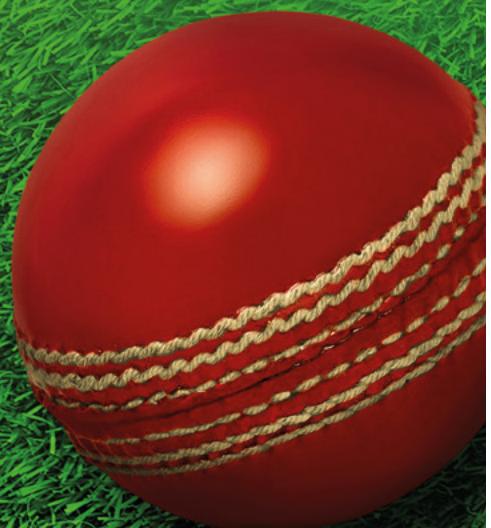


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# BUILDING SKILLS, BONDS, AND LIFELONG MEMORIES

Steph Hutchins

Head of Womens & Girls' Pathway

After the success of the previous tours to Sri Lanka and the restructuring of the girls' pathway, we are excited that the tour is now running annually.

The tour offers players the chance to compete in conditions very different from those in the UK, while also allowing them to continue building on the skills they've developed during winter training. Previous tours have shown that players grow not only tactically and technically, but also as a team, strengthening their unity ahead of the season back home.

However, touring is not just about playing. Sri Lanka is a wonderful country, and both players and staff receive a warm welcome at every ground and hotel they visit. The tour itinerary will allow the players to experience city life, the beautiful inland countryside, wildlife on safari, and time at the beach. These experiences will stay with them for the rest of their lives.



Opportunities to tour are rare, and playing overseas brings challenges different from those in Devon. On tour, players will learn to overcome them with support from Paul and myself. Paul brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, and we are excited to welcome him onto the Sri Lanka Tour in 2026.

Touring offers a memorable experience for not only the players from our side but also the teams we play against, as it's not often they get the chance to face a touring side.

**Putting a tour like this together takes a great deal of planning, and we would like to say thank you to Dipan, Wendy, and the rest of the team at Lions Sports Travel for helping to organise these tours and for making them such a great experience for both players and staff.**

"This will be my first visit to Sri Lanka, and I'm excited to share the same discovery as the girls. I've heard much about its landscapes, people, and food, and the anticipation grows daily.

With over 10 years of coaching experience, including five overseas tours and one as a player, I know how transformative these opportunities can be.

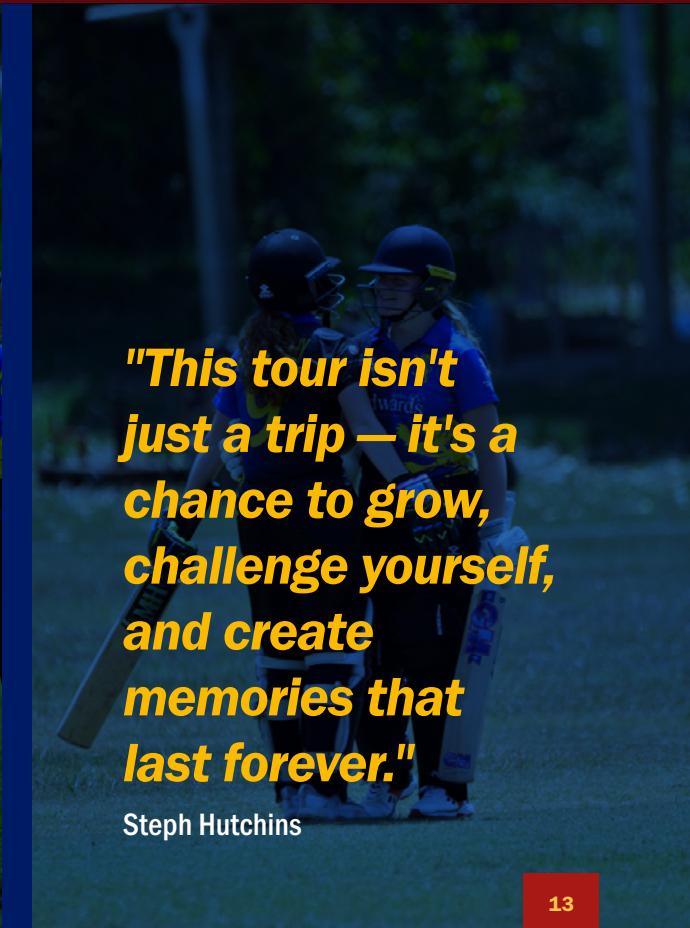
I feel privileged to support the girls on this journey, helping create memories and lessons, that last beyond the tour.

Paul Heard

Assistant Pathway Coach



**"Tours like this broaden our horizons as cricketers and people."**



**"This tour isn't just a trip – it's a chance to grow, challenge yourself, and create memories that last forever."**

Steph Hutchins

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Wishing Devon every success  
on their Sri Lanka Tour



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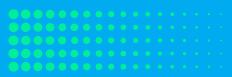
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### ECB Level 3 Coach

*Lead Coach, Head of Women & Girls Pathway*

Steph leads the Women and Girls' Pathway, working across all County Age Groups. She has coached Devon for eight years in Youth Development, County Age Groups, and schools. A former

Western Storm player, she currently captains Devon Women and has also played in Australia and South Africa, where she coached clubs and worked with Cricket Victoria on their Youth Premier League pathway. Steph has guided the CAG U18 Girls for four years, reaching two National Finals, supported the U15s on their 2023 Sri Lanka tour, and looks forward to leading a group she first coached at U13s.



### ECB LEVEL 3 Coach

*Assistant Pathway Coach - oversees the Youth Development programme U11-U14 Boys & U13-U15 Girls.*

Paul works full-time with the Devon Cricket Foundation in the Performance Pathway, leading Youth Development and delivering across girls'

and boys' CAG and EPP programmes. He gained his ECB Level 3 in 2020 and is working toward obtaining his Level 4 – Specialist Coach. Having toured South Africa with the U15 boys as both a player and a coach, he looks forward to sharing his overseas experience in a new country.

# TOUR SQUAD

DEVON U15 - 2026





| CLUB                      | OTHER INTERESTS  |
|---------------------------|--|
| CULMSTOCK CC              | BADMINTON, GOLF & THE GYM                                      |
| SCHOOL                    | FAVOURITE PLAYER   |
| UFFCULME SECONDARY SCHOOL | LAUREN BELL & JIMMY ANDERSON                                   |
| BATTING                   | FAVOURITE SONG   |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER   | NAIVE - THE KOOKS  |
| BOWLING / KEEPER          | LOOKING FORWARD TO   |
| RIGHT ARM FAST            | Playing in a different country and learning about the culture. |

| CLUB                 | OTHER INTERESTS   |
|----------------------|---|
| SANDFORD CC          | RUGBY   |
| SCHOOL               | FAVOURITE PLAYER  |
| QUEEN ELIZABETH'S    | HEATHER KNIGHT  |
| BATTING              | FAVOURITE SONG  |
| RIGHT HAND TOP ORDER | OVERDRIVE - BECKY HILL                                      |
| BOWLING / KEEPER     | LOOKING FORWARD TO  |
| RIGHT ARM FAST       | Experiencing the culture, and spending time with teammates. |



| CLUB                    | OTHER INTERESTS              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| EXETER CC               | HOCKEY & NETBALL             |
| SCHOOL                  | FAVOURITE PLAYER             |
| EXETER SCHOOL           | CHRIS WOAKES                 |
| BATTING                 | FAVOURITE SONG               |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER | MR. BRIGHTSIDE - THE KILLERS |
| BOWLING / KEEPER        | LOOKING FORWARD TO           |
| RIGHT ARM FAST          | Culture and winning!         |

| CLUB                    | OTHER INTERESTS   |
|-------------------------|---|
| PLYMOUTH CC             | HOCKEY & MUSIC  |
| SCHOOL                  | FAVOURITE PLAYER  |
| PLYMOUTH COLLEGE        | NAT SCIVER-BRUNT  |
| BATTING                 | FAVOURITE SONG  |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER | POMPEII - BASTILLE  |
| BOWLING / KEEPER        | LOOKING FORWARD TO  |
| RIGHT ARM FAST          | Cricket and fun with friends in a country I've never visited. |



| CLUB                         | OTHER INTERESTS                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| EXMOUTH CC<br>CLYST HYDON CC | HOCKEY & GYMNASTICS COACHING        |
| SCHOOL                       | FAVOURITE PLAYER                    |
| BLUNDELL'S SCHOOL            | TAMMY BEAUMONT                      |
| BATTING                      | FAVOURITE SONG                      |
| RIGHT HAND LOWER ORDER       | TEENAGE DIRTBAG - WHEATUS           |
| BOWLING / KEEPER             | LOOKING FORWARD TO                  |
| RIGHT ARM MEDIUM             | Experiencing the different culture. |

| CLUB                    | OTHER INTERESTS                         |
|-------------------------|---|
| PLYMOUTH CC             | HOCKEY & NETBALL                        |
| SCHOOL                  | FAVOURITE PLAYER                        |
| PLYMOUTH COLLEGE        | TAMMY BEAUMONT                          |
| BATTING                 | FAVOURITE SONG                          |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER | FIREBALL - PITBULL                      |
| BOWLING / KEEPER        | LOOKING FORWARD TO                      |
| WICKET KEEPER           | Experiencing a new place with everyone. |





|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| CLUB                    | OTHER INTERESTS   |
| HEATHCOAT CC            | HOCKEY  |
| SCHOOL                  | FAVOURITE PLAYER  |
| BLUNDELL'S SCHOOL       | LAUREN BELL   |
| BATTING                 | FAVOURITE SONG  |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER | SHE MOVES IN HER OWN WAY - THE KOOKS                        |
| BOWLING / KEEPER        | LOOKING FORWARD TO  |
| RIGHT ARM PACE          | Exploring cultures and improving my game in new conditions. |

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| CLUB                             | OTHER INTERESTS  |
| OTTERY ST MARY CC                | SWIMMING, ART, AND LISTENING TO MUSIC                        |
| SCHOOL                           | FAVOURITE PLAYER   |
| THE KINGS SCHOOL, OTTERY ST MARY | LAUREN BELL  |
| BATTING                          | FAVOURITE SONG   |
| RIGHT HAND LOWER ORDER           | BELIEVER - IMAGINE DRAGONS                                   |
| BOWLING / KEEPER                 | LOOKING FORWARD TO   |
| RIGHT ARM MEDIUM                 | Experiencing different cricket conditions and a new culture. |



|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| CLUB                       | OTHER INTERESTS              |
| PLYMOUTH CC                | PERFORMING ARTS              |
| SCHOOL                     | FAVOURITE PLAYER             |
| TORPOINT COMMUNITY COLLEGE | HEATHER KNIGHT               |
| BATTING                    | FAVOURITE SONG               |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER    | DON'T STOP MOVING - S CLUB 7 |
| BOWLING / KEEPER           | LOOKING FORWARD TO           |
| RIGHT ARM FAST             | The cricket, and the food.   |

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| CLUB                        | OTHER INTERESTS  |
| SANDFORD CC                 | HOCKEY & FOOTBALL  |
| SCHOOL                      | FAVOURITE PLAYER   |
| THE MAYNARD SCHOOL          | BEN STOKES OR FREDDIE FLINTOFF                                     |
| BATTING                     | FAVOURITE SONG   |
| RIGHT HAND TOP MIDDLE ORDER | LUSH LIFE - ZARA LARSSON   |
| BOWLING / KEEPER            | LOOKING FORWARD TO   |
| RIGHT ARM FAST              | Playing in a different country and experiencing Sri Lanka culture. |



|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| CLUB                         | OTHER INTERESTS   |
| HEATHCOAT CC<br>CULMSTOCK CC | NETBALL, HOCKEY, AND FRIENDS                                |
| SCHOOL                       | FAVOURITE PLAYER  |
| BLUNDELL'S SCHOOL            | SHANE WARNE   |
| BATTING                      | FAVOURITE SONG  |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE/TOP ORDER  | PARTY ROCK ANTHEM - LMFAO                                   |
| BOWLING / KEEPER             | LOOKING FORWARD TO  |
| LEG SPIN                     | Experiences playing against different teams and the safari. |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| CLUB                    | OTHER INTERESTS  |
| EXETER CC               | HOCKEY   |
| SCHOOL                  | FAVOURITE PLAYER   |
| EXETER SCHOOL           | GRACE HARRIS   |
| BATTING                 | FAVOURITE SONG   |
| RIGHT HAND MIDDLE ORDER | WHERE IS MY HUSBAND! - RAYE                                  |
| BOWLING / KEEPER        | LOOKING FORWARD TO   |
| RIGHT ARM FAST          | Being able to come together as a team and enjoy the culture. |



# #44



**Kiera  
SPINNEY**

CLUB

HATHERLEIGH CC

OTHER INTERESTS

MOUNTAINEERING, MY  
DOGS AND MUSIC

SCHOOL

OKEHAMPTON COLLEGE

FAVOURITE PLAYER

LAUREN BELL

BATTING

RIGHT HANDED  
MIDDLE ORDER

FAVOURITE SONG

IAN'T WORRIED  
- ONEREPUBLIC

BOWLING / KEEPER

RIGHT ARM MEDIUM

LOOKING FORWARD TO

Cricket in a different country,  
meeting new people and cultures.

# #45



**Charlotte  
SHUTT**

CLUB

CORNWOOD CC

OTHER INTERESTS

NETBALL & BAKING

SCHOOL

DEVONPORT HIGH  
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

FAVOURITE PLAYER

LAUREN BELL

BATTING

RIGHT HAND  
LOWER MIDDLE ORDER

FAVOURITE SONG

KISS ME - SIXPENCE  
NONE THE RICHER

BOWLING / KEEPER

RIGHT ARM FAST

LOOKING FORWARD TO

To enjoy a different culture,  
meeting new people and cultures.



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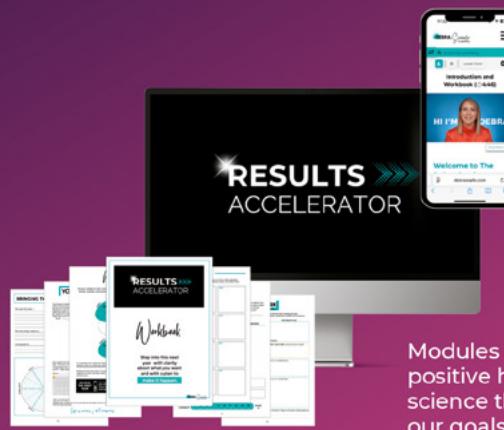
SIRI TUCKER-HART,  
MOLLY SEARLE  
&  
LUCY HULBERT

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SRI LANKA TOUR

2026

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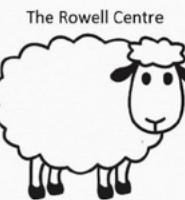
This transformational course is your guide to overcoming imposter syndrome, breaking through barriers, and thriving at work and in your home life.

Modules 1 - 3 on confidence and overcoming limiting beliefs may be helpful for teenage cricketers.



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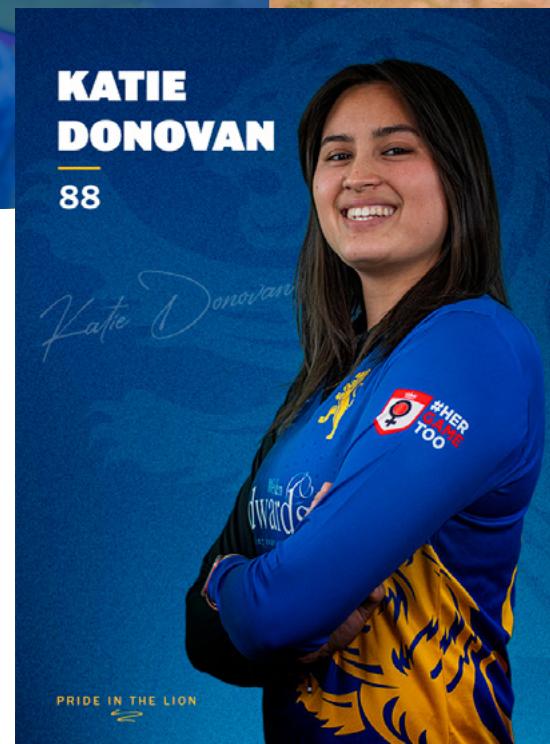
# BUILDING PATHWAYS, CONFIDENCE, AND FUTURE LEADERS

Katie Donovan

The cricket tour to Sri Lanka offers far more than international match experience — it provides a unique developmental pathway for young players aiming for higher-level cricket.

Sri Lankan conditions challenge players in new ways, with spin-friendly pitches, lower bounce while a hot, humid climate demands sharper footwork, improved decision-making, and strong physical resilience. Facing local opposition exposes players to diverse bowling styles and tactical approaches, helping them develop adaptability, strategic awareness, and the ability to analyse opponents quickly.

Moreover, the leadership opportunities such as the rotation of captaincy help players develop ownership and decision-making.



Touring also builds the mental strength essential for future representative cricket. Playing away from familiar surroundings encourages independence, while the pressures of travel, tight schedules and unfamiliar conditions teach players how to stay composed and bounce back from setbacks — which is great preparation for pathway cricket where demands increase.



**“Sri Lankan conditions demand sharper footwork, smarter decisions, and resilience — lessons that mirror the demands of pathway cricket.”**

Off the field, shared experiences strengthen team culture, communication, and leadership, with opportunities for players to take on responsibilities, contribute to group decisions and support one another.

Intensive coaching, frequent training sessions, and regular match play accelerate skill development and give players a deeper understanding of performance analysis, preparation routines, and recovery. Exposure to Sri Lanka's rich cricketing culture broadens their perspective, helping them grow as both athletes and individuals.

Overall, this tour mirrors many aspects of a high-performance environment — travel, discipline, analysis, commitment, and adaptability — providing the U15 girls with invaluable preparation for regional and national pathway programs.

Back in 2018, when I was a shy, quiet 14-year-old who didn't think much of cricket, I was invited on a development tour with Devon Women. Looking back, in hindsight, it definitely provided me the confidence boost and belief that I could progress to a higher level.

From then on, I took every opportunity to play the game, and I got to play in more experienced teams, eventually playing for the regional academy team in 2022.

**Fast forward to today, I am now playing International Cricket for the Philippine National Team having toured Singapore, Bali, Japan, Fiji and will shortly be leaving to play in Bangkok, Thailand.**



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## Ellie White

Good luck to Ellie  
and the Devon team  
in Sri Lanka



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Interactive Project Map



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed and supported the players in their preparation for the 2026 tour:

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