



# NEWS RELEASE

12/01/08

For immediate release

## Gwent's blind kids throw themselves into the Action

**Gwent Actionnaires**, a sports club for blind and partially sighted children and young people, is launching on Saturday 12 January at Cwmbran Stadium, Oakfield, with a session of athletics followed by judo. The club has been set up by national charity **Action for Blind People**. It is part of a network of 28 Actionnaires clubs across the UK, and the first club the charity has launched in Wales. Gareth Maule of the **Newport Gwent Dragons** will also be coming along to join in the fun.

\*\*\*\*\***PHOTO CALL**\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT:** The launch of the Gwent Actionnaires; a sports club for visually impaired youngsters aged eight to 16.

**WHO:** The Gwent Actionnaires, Gareth Maule from Newport Gwent Dragons.

**WHERE:** Cwmbran Stadium, Oakfield Road, Oakfield, Cwmbran, NP44 3YS

**WHEN:** Saturday 12 January, 1 – 3.30pm

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The Gwent Actionnaires club will meet weekly and is free to all blind and partially sighted children, along with their siblings and friends.

Jim McCreedy, Team Manager for Newport Gwent Dragons gave his support to the club saying: "All children should be able to enjoy sport, whatever their ability. This is a wonderful initiative, and one which the Newport Gwent Dragons are delighted to support".



**Action for blind people**

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Nicky Malson, Sports Development Officer for Action for Blind People, explains:  
“Gwent Actionnaires will offer a wide range of opportunities to local visually impaired children. From judo to football, athletics to volleyball, the club will strive to develop children’s physical skills and fitness, along with their confidence and social skills. Gwent Actionnaires has had incredible support from Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust, Awards for All and Gwent VI services to whom we are very grateful. I’m particularly excited as this is the first Actionnaires club to open in Wales, and we’re looking forward to exploring opportunities in other parts of the country. ”

**-Ends-**

For further media information please contact Petra Maxwell, press office on 020 7635 3027/ 07739 819954 or email: [petra.maxwell@actionforblindpeople.org.uk](mailto:petra.maxwell@actionforblindpeople.org.uk)

## Notes to editors:

- Action for Blind People currently runs 28 sports clubs for visually impaired children in: Ashford, Birmingham, Blackburn, Bradford, Carlisle, Coventry, Dorset, Essex, Gwent, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool (2), Manchester, Middlesbrough, Nottingham, Oxford, Peterborough, Portsmouth, Scarborough, Sheffield, South London, Southampton, Sunderland, Swindon and West London.
- Action for Blind People is an expert national organisation, ensuring blind and partially sighted people get practical support in all aspects of their lives. Contact Action for Blind People’s National Freephone Helpline on 0800 915 4666 or [www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk](http://www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk)
- Action for Blind People is breaking down barriers that prevent visually impaired people from achieving the same opportunities as sighted people.
- If abbreviating “Action for Blind People”, please use "Action" rather than AFBP

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Patron HRH Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, GCVO

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