

Performance From The Heart



CW2012 Update: Issue 5 - 2008 - The newsletter for the Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership, 2012 Games

C & W set the pace in training camp guide

The race to 2012 is on after venues in Coventry and Warwickshire were given an official Olympic and Paralympic seal of approval to host athletes ahead of the London 2012 Games. 11 venues have been selected for inclusion into the official Olympic Pre-Games Training Camp Guide and 4 venues have been selected for inclusion into the Paralympic Guide.

The Olympic and Paralympic training camp guides will feature 600 and 170 venues respectively from around the UK, that have met a range of criteria and specifications for each Olympic and Paralympic sport. Teams from around the world who want to base themselves in the UK will use the guide as part of their selection process to determine their location for training and acclimatisation.

The venues in Coventry and Warwickshire account for a third of the selected venues in the entire West Midlands, which boasts 33 Olympic and 14 Paralympic venues in total. Both Guides will be distributed to every country at the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Beijing this year.

The venues hand-picked by Games' organisers to become training camps are:

- The Alan Higgs Centre, Coventry*
- Coventry Sports and Leisure Centre*
- Coventry University*
- Draycote Water, nr Rugby
- Pingles Leisure Centre, Nuneaton
- Ricoh Arena, Coventry
- Royal Leamington Spa Polo Club, Southam
- Rugby School
- Stoneleigh Park
- University of Warwick*
- Warwickshire College - Moreton Morrell

*Selected for both Olympic and Paralympic guide

This marks the culmination of over a years hard work and further demonstrates the quality of our sub-regional venues. London 2012's recognition of the quality of our venues continues to enhance our reputation and promote Coventry and Warwickshire as a destination for high-performance sport."

Lord Seb Coe, chairman of LOCOG, said: "It's a great opportunity for towns throughout the whole of the UK to get involved in our plans. The process we have been through shows a great spread of high-quality facilities throughout the UK that can be used by elite level athletes.



Great news – Tom Clift (right) and Terry Monnington, Director of Physical Education and Sport at the University of Warwick, celebrate the double figure result

Calling all Olympians - your region needs you!



Former double Olympic Marathon runner - Dave Long

An appeal has been launched to find former Olympic and Paralympic legends living in Coventry and Warwickshire. In addition to developing a co-ordinated approach to supporting current and future elite and talented athletes, the partnership is looking to compile and add to its current list of former Olympic and Paralympic legends from the region.

The roll of honour already includes Coventry athlete David Moorcroft, who first competed in the Games in 1976 and is Chief Ambassador for the 2012 Partnership.

Other local former Olympians include marathon runner Dave Long, swimmer Adam Whitehead, equestrian legend Nick Skelton, sprinter Marlon Devonish and judo star Neil Adams.

Famous Paralympians include gold medal-winning, visually impaired marathon runner Bob Matthews from Leamington.

Coventry and Warwickshire has a proud Olympic and Paralympic heritage but there is no definitive record of all the local athletes who have competed at an Olympics over the years.

The 2012 Partnership is planning a number of events in the near future and as part of our plans we would like to recognise and celebrate our Olympic and Paralympic legends and their achievements in order to help inspire the next generation of Coventry and Warwickshire Olympians.

The partnership is currently intending to mark the launch of the Beijing 2008 Games with events in Coventry and Warwickshire and this would be a great way to demonstrate the rich Olympic pedigree of the area.

If you are a former Olympic or Paralympic athlete or know of anyone who is please contact CWLegends@cswp.org.uk stating the games you competed at, the event and discipline, your achievement and your contact details if you wish to be included in this search for past Olympians.

The Countdown to 2012

2008

• Handover Ceremonies in Beijing.
Start of Cultural Olympiad
'Big build' starts on the four main venues in the Olympic Park

2009

• Roll out of Olympic logo and brand

2010

• Volunteer programme launched

2011

• Tickets on sale

2012

• 27 July - 12 August Opening and Closing Ceremony Olympic Games
• 29 August - 9 September Opening and Closing Ceremony Paralympic Games

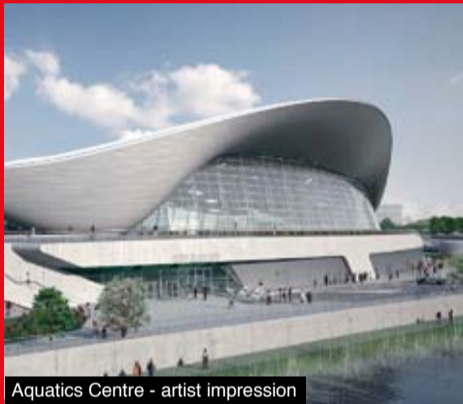
Heart Beat

Legacy Trust approves Regions Cultural Plans

Legacy Trust UK has approved outline plans for the region's Cultural Olympiad. The plans focus on two key areas: a major region-wide dance themed programme and the roll out of a community games based on the Much Wenlock Olympian Games model. For further information on the regional Cultural Olympiad plans please contact Paul Kaynes, WM Creative Programmer at p.kaynes@culturewm.org.uk

BT latest sponsor connect with 2012

BT has become the latest Tier One sponsor of the 2012 Games as the Official Communications Services Partner. BT will be responsible for providing all communications services which are required to stage the Games and also becomes London 2012's second Sustainability Partner, supporting London's commitment to support and drive the sustainability agenda.



Aquatics Centre - artist impression

UK Firms win major 2012 venue contracts

Contracts have been signed with British companies for the construction of three flagship 2012 venues - the Olympic Stadium, velodrome and the aquatics centre. Team Stadium' (Sir Robert McAlpine, HOK Sport and Buro Happold) has been confirmed as the contractor for the Olympic Stadium, ISG for the velodrome and Balfour Beatty has won the contract to build the aquatics centre. Work is due to start this summer on the "Big Build" which will see all major venues begin their construction programmes.

Olympic Stadium to start ahead of schedule

The construction of the Olympic stadium is due to start at the end of this month (May) - three months ahead of schedule. Progress on the stadium site has surged ahead as work completes to dig the stadium bowl and lower the ground levels. More than 800,000 tonnes of soil have had to be taken away from the stadium area and has been reused elsewhere on the site.

Who's Who for 2012

- LOCOG** London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games
- ODA** Olympic Delivery Authority
- BOA** British Olympic Association
- BPA** British Paralympic Association
- DCMS** Department for Culture Media and Sport
- GLA** Greater London Authority
- LDA** London Development Agency
- IOC** International Olympic Committee
- IPC** International Paralympic Committee
- UK Sport**
- Sport England**
- VB** Visit Britain

For regular updates on the Games please visit www.london2012.com

FOCUS ON... Culture



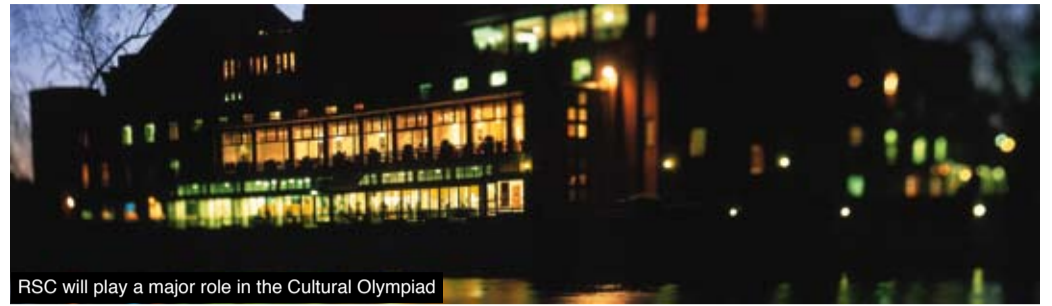
Stella Carr

Coventry and Warwickshire are now receiving national recognition for being ahead of the game in developing partnerships

to deliver cultural activity as part of the London 2012 Games - not surprising, considering the great wealth of dynamic cultural activity that the region is showcasing.

With less than three months to go until the conclusion of the Beijing Olympics, the cultural sector in Coventry and Warwickshire is eagerly gearing up to the start of the London Cultural Olympiad which will be officially launched on the 26-28 September.

The launch will signify the start of the four-year celebration of culture across the UK, showcasing large-scale creative projects



RSC will play a major role in the Cultural Olympiad

which will set a standard for the UK wide Cultural Olympiad, and raising public awareness of the games. Events across the region will encourage individuals, communities and organizations to try something new and get involved.

It will embrace themes of Open Up and Light Up - opening up opportunities for people across the UK to get involved in imaginative, thought-provoking creative activities and making people aware of the cultural spaces. That could be as simple as placing a candle

in a window, or as spectacular as illuminating major buildings in changing colours.

Locally a number of cultural organisations are developing plans around "landmark" projects to demonstrate the strength of our offer and to contribute and play a part in the Cultural Olympiad.

Regionally, through Culture WM, the region has secured Legacy Trust UK funding to implement two main projects focused around Dance and a Community Games toolkit.



Top man - Gordon Brown meets Nathan Woodward

Ambassador Nathan hurdles to No 10!

An Olympic Games hopeful from Warwickshire has met Prime Minister Gordon Brown after becoming a high-profile role model for junior athletes.

Talented 400m hurdler, Nathan Woodward, has been named an ambassador for the UK School Games - the annual multi-event competition for Britain's elite sporting hopefuls which was held in Coventry two years ago.

Nathan, of Coleshill, North Warwickshire, will be part of a team of 12 ambassadors who will promote the games and offer feedback about its success to Government.

The 18-year-old, who captured gold at the 2006 games, was invited to Westminster to launch the ambassadors' scheme and meet Mr Brown at Downing Street.

And the London 2012 prospect said being called up to No 10 was a surprise.

"I was a bit shocked when I had the call to ask me whether I would be an ambassador and to meet Gordon Brown was a great experience. He asked me about my sport, how much I train and we talked ambitions for the future."

Nathan is the UK's highest ranked hurdler for his age and is ranked sixth nationally. He is preparing for July's World Junior Championships in Poland when he aims to better his personal best of 51.5 seconds.

The UK School Games is an event that would not have happened if London had not won the 2012 Games. Last years event in Coventry generated over £2million for the local economy and Nathan's success will help promote this event further.

Tom's Update...



I hope you've enjoyed the fifth edition of Performance from the Heart, the CW 2012 Partnership newsletter, designed to inform and bring you up to date with developments locally, regionally, nationally and internationally in relation to the London 2012 Games.

As the countdown to Beijing begins now is an exciting time as the world begins to think about the Olympic and Paralympic Games once more. Locally we've launched a search for past Olympians and were delighted to secure a third of the regions venues (11 out of 33) into the Official PGTC Guide that will go to all NOC's in Beijing this August.

To celebrate the handover from Beijing to London and to launch our Coventry and Warwickshire 2012 Journey, we will be holding a launch event for the whole partnership on 24 August 2008 and marking the Paralympic handover on 17 September. Please look out for further details of these events in due course. Thank you for your support.

T. Clift

Tom Clift

CW Opportunities Co-ordinator, 2012 Games

Performance Profile:

Sara McCreavy - Athletics

Sara McCreavy is literally making great strides towards Olympic glory.

The 100m and 60m hurdler from Lillington became the UK's number-one ranked female hurdler last year.

She was also named Sportswoman of the Year at the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire Sports Awards held at the Ricoh Arena.

Sara will be 30 in 2012 and hopes to play a major part in the Games on home soil.

"Having 30,000 Brits cheering you on will be amazing and I'm sure the games will leave a great legacy for the whole country," she said.



Sara McCreavy