

Kick off for Girls Football

Partners from across Coventry have joined forces with the Birmingham County FA to inspire girls at schools in Coventry and Warwickshire to play football as a result of Coventry being one of six UK-wide cities to host the London 2012 Olympic Football competition.

The formation of the new Legacy League scheme for year nine and ten students has earned the London 2012 Inspire mark, an accreditation which recognises innovative and exceptional projects that have been directly influenced by the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The scheme was launched in March 2011 with support from Coventry City Football

Club and attended by 176 girls from 15 schools

Warwickshire schools can also take part and are actively encouraged to participate in this opportunity.

A Legacy Cup tournament will also run alongside the league as part of the countdown to 12 Olympic women's and men's Football matches being staged at the City of Coventry Stadium – starting on July 25, 2012.

Any school interested in entering the Legacy League should contact Jenny Shortt on jenny.shortt@ricoharena.com or telephone 0844 873 6323.

Competition

Win a limited edition pin badge marking 300 days to go until London 2012 by answering the following question correctly.

Q: What is the name of the commissioned piece of music by James MacMillan for Coventry Cathedral?

- A) Rejoice
- B) Almighty
- C) Gloria

Please send your answers followed by your name, address and contact number by e-mail to: communications@coventry.gov.uk

Entries by **Monday 19 December 2011** please. Winner will be announced on 21 December 2011 at: www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012



Next issue:

Olympic Football test event



Preview of the London 2012 Football test event that will act as the final qualifier for the Olympic Games which will be hosted at the City of Coventry Stadium in April.

London 2012 Hopeful



Rachel Smith
Rhythmic Gymnastics

Rachel, from Wyken in Coventry, moved to Bath in July 2011 to begin training on a full-time basis with her team mates as they look to become the first ever rhythmic group to represent Great Britain at the Olympic Games. Rachel is the captain of the team of seven which average age is just 17 years old. The team has a rigorous qualification process for the Games which culminates at the test event at the North Greenwich Arena in London in January 2012.

Coventry City Council, Council House, Earl Street, Coventry, CV1 5RR
e-mail: 2012gamesenquiries@coventry.gov.uk

www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012



Our Journey

London 2012 is coming to Coventry...

www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012

Issue 20



Ambassador applications exceed expectations

A total of 575 applications to be a Coventry Ambassador have been received from people from all backgrounds and communities from across the city and West Midlands.

The recruitment phase of the project, which closed on 25 November 2011, was to enroll over 300 volunteers to be deployed during Games time who are responsible for welcoming the world to the city of Coventry when thousands of visitors arrive in July and August 2012.

The process now starts to review the applications to select most suitable people to represent Coventry as ambassadors.

Those who are successful through a selection and interview process will attend at two training sessions in spring 2012 to ensure they are fully prepared for the Games.

The Coventry Ambassadors scheme has been one of the most successful campaigns the city has seen with over 7,000 people visiting the Coventry Ambassador website.

Councillor John Mutton, Leader of Coventry City Council said: "I am delighted with the response we have had to the programme as it demonstrates that we have a lot of passionate people who want to represent our city."

"Coventry Ambassadors will play a crucial role in ensuring that the city

"We have a lot of passionate people who want to represent our city"



Coventry Ambassador partners announcing the final number of applications received

provides a first class experience for visitors and Coventrians during the Games, without whom we would not fulfil this ambition."

Funded by Coventry City Council, the Coventry Ambassadors scheme is a partnership programme

delivered by Coventry University and supported by Voluntary Action Coventry and CSW Sport.

For more information about Coventry Ambassadors please visit: www.coventry.gov.uk/coventryambassadors

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THE LEGACY LEAGUE

INSPIRING GIRLS FOOTBALL IN COVENTRY & WARWICKSHIRE



Olympic Legend

Bill Adcocks
Athletics
1968 Olympic Games

Coventry athlete Bill Adcocks came 5th in the Marathon in the Mexico City 1968 Olympic Games. Bill, who had never run at high altitude, went on to set his personal best winning the Fukuoka marathon in 2:10:48 later that year. Bill has been involved with the Coventry Godiva Harriers Athletics club for 56 years, 22 as secretary, and still officiates at track and field events.

Search for Coventry-2012 Games:



Welcome

Cllr John Mutton - Leader of Coventry City Council

I'm sure many of you have been watching the new Broadgate take shape over the last few months and along with some other key improvement works such as Gosford Street, begin to get a picture of how the city centre will be transformed in readiness for next summer.



One of the exciting parts of London 2012 coming to the region will be the range of innovative and creative cultural events taking place. I'm sure many of you will already have heard about the Godiva Awakes project which will certainly get national coverage for the city as she makes her way to London. January 2012 will see more exciting news released about the project so I'll be as interested as you to read more about it and begin to see the project really take off.

Two of the other major cultural events taking place during 2012, the 50th anniversary celebrations of Coventry Cathedral and the World Shakespeare Festival, will also be spectacular highlights of the Cultural Olympiad in our region.

David Moorcroft - Lead Coventry 2012 Games Ambassador

I think the Olympic Flame is the most powerful symbol of everything the Games represents and have known for a while that Coventry has the honour of hosting an overnight visit of the Torch on 1 July 2012.



However the final route, in and out of Coventry, was only announced recently and it was great news for our Warwickshire neighbours in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwick, Leamington Spa, Kenilworth, Rugby, Dunchurch and many villages and communities in between.

The Olympic Torch will spend seven days in the West Midlands, spotlighting many communities in our region and across the UK and it will be carried by 8000 people, from all backgrounds, who have been nominated because of their contribution to their communities. It will be a fantastic celebration and a wonderful way to connect us all to the 2012 Games.

Kirsty Coventry

Coventry returns to Coventry



Kirsty Coventry giving advice during a training session with the City of Coventry Swimming Club

A seven-time Olympic medal-winning swimmer has returned to visit the city which shares her name following her first visit last year.

Kirsty Coventry, from Zimbabwe, headed to the city to visit some of the region's main attractions and check out the city's sporting facilities as she continues her preparations for London 2012.

After arriving on Friday, November 18 she paid a visit to members of Coventry Swimming Club to lead a training session and share her experiences which include winning a total of two gold medals, four silvers and a bronze at the last two Olympic Games.

"We are delighted to welcome Kirsty back to our city and to show her some of the fantastic ways in which Coventry is involved in London 2012".

During her visit Kirsty also trained at the 50m pool at Coventry Sports Centre on Fairfax Street.

On Saturday, November 19 Kirsty attended Coventry City's fixture against West Ham United to see the City of Coventry Stadium, which will host a total of 12 men's and women's matches during the Olympic Football Tournament in 2012.

The following day, Kirsty attended the Christmas

lights celebrations in the city centre before heading to the Coventry Blaze v Cardiff Devils ice hockey fixture at the Skydome Arena.

Talking about her visit Kirsty said: "The city has been very welcoming and the people have been very warm."

"It is great to see how many projects and programmes are going on in this region to reach out to the community and give them a feel of the Games."

"There have been a lot of Olympics in the past where not everyone has been able to feel the positives of hosting the Games - but Coventry has done very well promoting the Olympic movement and helping the community get involved."

Kirsty visited the Exhall headquarters of Olympic and Paralympic Torch manufacturers the Premier Group on Monday, November 21 to meet staff before

heading to the Coventry Sports Foundation-managed Alan Higgs Centre on Allard Way.

There she talked to pupils at the latest instalment of the Coventry City Council 2012 Games Team's Festival of Sport - which aims to give school children across the region a taste of the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"I hope I have shared something which can inspire them as sport has played such a huge role in my life and I hope it can do the same for children growing up today," she said.

Kirsty also gave a special

talk at Coventry University to the universities Sport Scholars giving an insight into the life as a professional athlete.

Cllr. John Mutton, Leader of Coventry City Council, said: "We are delighted to welcome Kirsty back to our city and to show her some of the fantastic ways in which Coventry is involved in London 2012."

"It has been exciting to hear Kirsty share her experiences with pupils and students studying in the city and I hope she can help to inspire them as much as London 2012 seems to have."



Kirsty with a prototype of the Olympic Torch at Premier Group's headquarters in Exhall



Kirsty at the Festival of Sport with children from Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

Football tickets back on sale

Next summer will see the world's largest sporting event coming to Coventry! London 2012 promises to be a spectacular festival of sport and culture and with the Football tournament taking place at venues up and down the UK, including Coventry, there is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of a fantastic family day out at the Olympic Games and say 'I was there'.

Tickets for the Football tournament go back on sale on 29 November 2011 and Coventry hosts preliminary group matches in both the men and women's tournament, as well as quarter-final and bronze medal matches in the women's tournament.

Tickets will go on sale from 11am on 29 November 2011 from www.tickets.london2012.com or by

telephone on 0844 847 2012

In recognition of Visa's longstanding support of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, only Visa (debit, credit and prepaid) can be used to purchase tickets.

There are more than 1.5 million Football tickets still available across all sessions, with limited availability at matches taking place at Wembley.

Tickets start at £20 for adults and there are special prices available at the majority of sessions, including 'pay your age' tickets for under-16s and £16 tickets for those aged 60 and over.

Team GB and all competing teams will find out their opponents when the official draw for the Olympic Football Tournament takes place on 24 April 2012 at Wembley Stadium.



Lloyds TSB Proud Partner

The Olympic Football Tournament
Coming to the City of Coventry Stadium. Once in a lifetime. Be there.
Tickets on sale now at www.tickets.london2012.com

Culture Olympiad plans for Coventry

The London 2012 Cultural Olympiad is the largest cultural celebration in the history of the modern Olympic and Paralympic Movements.

Spread over four years, it is designed to give everyone in the UK a chance to be part of London 2012 and inspire creativity across all forms of culture, especially among young people.

The culmination of the Cultural Olympiad, the London 2012 Festival will open on 21 June 2012 – Midsummer's Day. It will run until 9 September 2012 – the last day of the London 2012 Paralympic Games. At the heart of the Festival will be a programme of commissions by some of the finest artists in the world.

Godiva image left Artists impression of Godiva



Godiva Awakes

When: 28 July 2012

Website: www.godivaawakes.co.uk

Tickets: Free public event

Lead: Imagineer Productions

In July 2012 a 21st Century Godiva will awake to a spectacular performance involving dancers, actors, aerialists, musicians, pyrotechnicians, carnivalists and 220 young people in a procession marking the unveiling of this Godiva for the modern age.

Powered by 100 cyclists, the 10m tall Godiva will then journey to London to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Godiva Awakes is a world class piece of public art, made by mechanics, artists, theatre makers, puppeteers and engineers from Coventry,

the region, nationally and internationally to the highest standards of contemporary craftsmanship.

Godiva's spectacular coat is being designed by Julia O'Connell, who won a first class honours degree in textiles at Coventry University. A team of local artists are working with Julia to create different elements of what can only be described as 'haute couture' – there will be no other like it in the world.

World renowned fashion designer Zandra Rhodes is also designing the undergarment for Godiva which highlights the quality of talent involved in Godiva Awakes.



Example designs of Lady Godiva's coat

Ten groups of young people from across the West Midlands are working on the creation of the Book of Intent containing the contributors hopes and aspirations around the core Olympic themes of equality, justice and fairness. They will ask Godiva to carry to London on the night of July 28th 2012 during the Reawakening performance in Coventry.

Members of the public can also contribute to this

beautifully crafted book online the Godiva Awakes website www.godivaawakes.co.uk which launched in September. Following Godiva's journey the Book of Intent will be on permanent display in Coventry.

Godiva Awakes is part of Artists taking the lead, a series of 12 public art commissions across the UK to celebrate the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad, funded by Arts Council England.

Coventry Cathedral

When: 23 June 2012

Website: www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/50

Tickets: 02476 521 210 or online as above

(from 1 January 2012)

Lead: Coventry Cathedral

Coventry Cathedral celebrates its Golden Jubilee in 2012 and the past 50 years have witnessed the creation of a vibrant choral and classical music tradition.

Always at the forefront of encouraging new music, a special concert on 23 June 2012 features the premiere

of the Golden Jubilee commission – Gloria - from James MacMillan.

This exciting project, supported by London 2012 and Arts Council England, has become a major part of the London 2012 Festival in the West Midlands as part of the finale to the Cultural

Olympiad.

Performed by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Ian Bostridge (tenor), St Michael's Singers and a large choir of local schoolchildren, the premiere will be conducted by the composer, James MacMillan.

In the same programme Paul Leddington Wright will conduct Benjamin Britten's St Nicholas, which provides a further opportunity for the children's choir to sing with a professional symphony orchestra in magnificent surroundings.

Completing the programme

is another Coventry Cathedral commission (from 1980), 'War in Heaven', by Neil Cox, an exciting work for choir, organ and the brass instruments of the orchestra.

As part of the wider celebrations of the Cathedral's 50th Anniversary, a host of other events and activities have been programmed highlighting its unique international mission of peace and reconciliation and as a culture centre for the performing arts.

World

Shakespeare Festival

When: 23 April – 9 September 2012

Website: www.worldshakespearefestival.org.uk

Tickets: 0844 800 1110 or online as above

Lead: Royal Shakespeare Company

The World Shakespeare Festival (WSF) is a celebration of Shakespeare as the world's playwright in an unprecedented collaboration with leading UK and international arts organisations, and with Globe to Globe, a major international programme produced by Shakespeare's Globe.

It runs from 23 April to November 2012 and forms part of London 2012 Festival, which is the culmination of the Cultural Olympiad, bringing leading artists from all over the world together in a UK-wide festival in the summer of 2012.

Thousands of people from over 50 arts organisations have come together to take part in the Festival, a collaboration of extraordinary scale and ambition. The Festival will feature close to 70 productions, plus events and exhibitions across the UK, including London, Stratford-upon-Avon, Newcastle/Gateshead, Birmingham,

Brighton, Wales and Scotland as well as online.

Productions taking place in Stratford-upon-Avon include Meera Syal as Beatrice in a production of Much Ado about Nothing set in India and The Comedy of Errors, The Tempest and Twelfth Night, directed by David Farr and Palestinian director, Amir Nizar Zuabi.

There will also be a Nations at War season comprised of Richard III, King John and A Soldier in Every Son: An Aztec Trilogy, consisting of three plays about the intrigue of a century of Aztec civilisation by Luis Mario Moncada, one of Mexico's leading playwrights. RSC Chief Associate Director Gregory Doran will direct Julius Caesar, finding dark contemporary echoes set in sub-Saharan Africa.

The World Shakespeare Festival is supported by BP, as Founding Presenting Partner, and by the National Lottery through the Olympic Lottery Distributor and Arts Council England.

London 2012 is coming to Coventry...

April

London 2012 Olympic Football test event at the City of Coventry Stadium

April 23

World Shakespeare Festival begins

June 25

Music Commission performed at Coventry Cathedral

July 1

Olympic Torch Relay evening celebration event in Coventry

July 25

First Olympic Football match to be played at the City of Coventry Stadium

July 27 - August 12

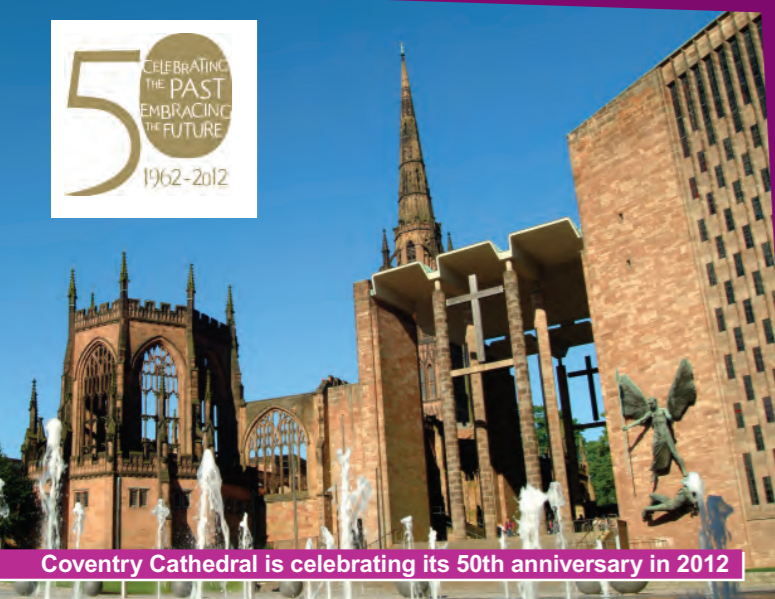
London 2012 Olympic Games

July 28 -

Godiva Awakening Performance

August 29 - September 9

London 2012 Paralympic Games



Coventry Cathedral is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2012

Schools Torch Relay

Schools plan Torch Relay celebrations



Paralympic mascot Mandeville with children from Edgewick primary school

What is the Coventry Schools Torch Relay?

This is a project to enable each school in Coventry to develop and create their own Games inspired Torch that can be showcased at a special ceremony in the summer of 2012 for each school to hold their own Torch Relay event.

What support is available to schools?

Communications will be sent out with ideas and updates about how to plan and deliver your Torch Relay. Coventry City Council will also provide posters for your school to customise and to promote your event in the summer of 2012.

The London 2012 education programme 'Get Set' has also released an Olympic Torch relay resource pack which includes information about the history of the Olympic Torch and the design of the London 2012 Olympic Torch. This information can be accessed at: <http://getset.london2012.com>

When should your Torch Relay event take place?

In the week before, 25-29 June 2012, we would like as many schools as possible to stage their own torch relay during this week in the build up to the Olympic Torch arriving that weekend in Coventry on 1 July 2012.

The 25-29 June 2012 is also Lloyds TSB National School Sports Week so you may wish to include your Torch Relay event to enhance any sporting activity planned to take place. Register at: www.schoolsportweek.org



Torch celebrations as part of the Festival of Sport project during Lloyds TSB National School Sports Week in 2011

How does your school get started?

1. Set a date for your Torch Relay during 25-29 June 2012
2. Allocate a lead staff contact within your school for the project
3. Discuss how you want to make your torch. Is it a whole school competition? Does each class or year group make their own?
4. Decide how the event will work. Is it part of the sports day? How will you co-ordinate children and staff carrying the torch? Will you invite parents and family to watch the event?
5. Plan backwards key milestones which need to be achieved to put on the Torch Relay
6. Carry out your plan and review progress as you go along

Where can our school get more information?

Full details about the project can be found at: www.coventry.gov.uk/london2012

Five facts about the London 2012 Olympic Torch

1. It has 8,000 small cut-out circles, one for each of the 8,000 inspirational people who will carry it on its journey around the UK
2. You can see through the holes to the burner system inside that keeps the Flame alight
3. The Torch is 800mm high
4. It weighs 800g
5. It is made from a lightweight aluminium alloy and is a golden colour

Will this project help with our Get Set network application?

Your school's involvement in this project is a great way to demonstrate how your school is linking with London 2012 and the Olympic and Paralympic Values. By developing a torch and relay event, you can use this as evidence as part of your application to the Get Set network.

Get involved

Local Leaders



Local Leaders

Local Leaders is a programme being launched by London 2012 to invite the nation's organisers, planners and doers to get ready for the Games.

Across the whole of the UK, millions of people will be part of the celebrations and at the heart of every celebration will be the one

person who makes it happen. The person who makes a difference and just gets stuff done. If this sounds like you, why don't you sign up to be a London 2012 Local Leader?

Being a Local Leader is simple: all you need is an idea of how you will celebrate the Games and then get organising. Local Leaders can create their

own events or get involved with the some of the ideas communities across the UK have suggested to London 2012.

Some ideas to get you started:

Garden for the Games

Spring 2012: Dig out your trowel and get planting! Use your window pot, garden or community allotment to celebrate through all things floral.

Sports Quiz

May: Know your Phelps? Hold a Big Sports Quiz at home or down the pub to find your local 'brains of the Games'.

School's Out

Summer 2012: Mums, dads, teachers... every week over the school holidays we will provide you with stuff to do to get the kids ready for the Games.

Super Saturday

4 August: A medal-winning weekend. Invite neighbours you've never chatted to round for a BBQ to watch record breaking athletes.

When you sign up you will get hints and tips to help you plan your celebrations, plus access to exclusive toolkits as we get closer to the Games. Join thousands of others around the UK to organise events to make the Games local. Sign up at: www.london2012.com/localleaders

Get Set profile: Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

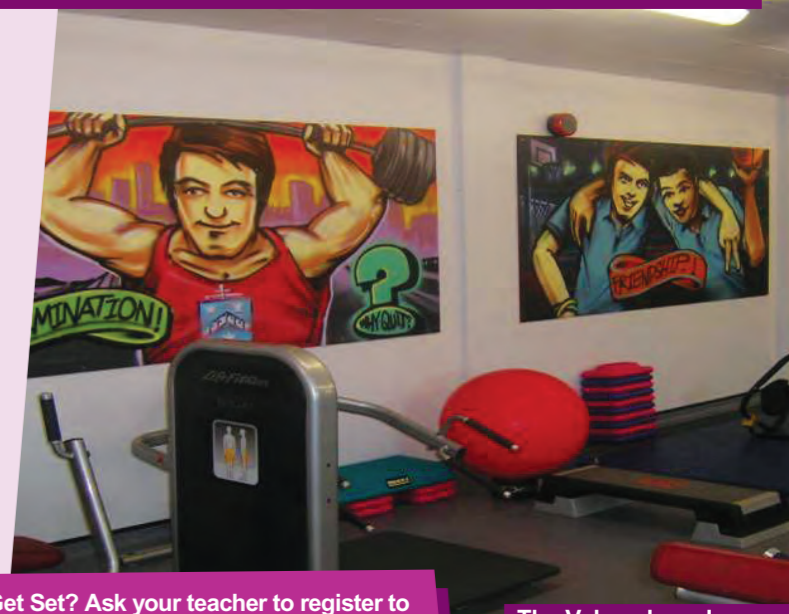
As the first secondary school in Coventry to be part of the Get Set network, Cardinal Wiseman have developed a range of schemes to involve their pupils in London 2012.

The school has linked their wider student ambassador programme to London 2012 by making the ambassadors responsible for updating notice boards for each academic department with information about the Olympic and Paralympic Games relating to specific subjects.

The school also has a reward scheme for pupils who demonstrate the Olympic and Paralympic Values by giving students wristbands with the Value written on the side

of the band. As a specialist language college, the wristbands have the Values written in four languages with some of the Values substituted for gospel values to draw symmetry with the school's Catholic background.

The school's fitness suite also displays some artwork designed by a local graffiti artist with pupils which graphically depict the Olympic and Paralympic Values with the intention to inspire and motivate students when exercising.



Is your school registered on Get Set? Ask your teacher to register to get access to London 2012 resources, competitions and exclusive rewards. Register for Get Set at: <http://getset.london2012.com>

The Values boards on display in the school's fitness suite