
Dress rehearsal organised to test operations for the Olympic Torch Relay



The London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) have confirmed that a full dress rehearsal to test the operations around the Olympic Torch Relay will take place on the Leicester to Peterborough stretch of the Relay route on Friday 20 April 2012.

Please note that the primary objective is to test the convoy, crew and communications procedures in advance of the 70-day Relay, rather than encourage people to line the streets as the convoy passes through communities

[Find out more about the London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay Dress Rehearsal](#)

Last Chance: Volunteer performers needed for London 2012 Paralympic Opening & Closing Ceremonies



The London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) have begun the search for enthusiastic and energetic adult volunteer performers to participate in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the London 2012 Paralympic Games. Successful applicants will perform in front of a packed stadium and a worldwide broadcast audience for this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of one of the largest events ever staged in the UK.

The closing date for applications is **Monday 27th February 2012**

[Find out more about volunteering for the London 2012 Paralympic Ceremonies](#)

London 2012 Olympic Torch Relay – Route Animation



The Olympic Flame will come to within just 10 miles of 95% of the population of the UK and will pass through Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland on **Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd July** on days 45 and 46 of the 70 day journey. Leicester has also been chosen as one of only 66 places in the country, to hold a special evening event – a two-hour long staged show, which culminates in the arrival of the torch.

Help us to animate the route

In order to officially welcome the Torch to the area, we are looking to work with a wide range of local community groups and non-commercial organisations to help to animate the route and celebrate this unique opportunity.

Visit www.inspireleics.org.uk/olympictorchrelay for further information

Follow the Light



Serendipity is inviting groups and individuals from all backgrounds (age 13+) to take part in an inspiring on-street procession to welcome the Olympic Flame to Leicester, working with the world renowned costume design company Mahogany.

Those involved will have the opportunity to help to develop the project and also to perform in the parade. No experience is necessary, just commitment, enthusiasm and energy!

[Find out how you can get involved with Follow the Light](#)

Lionheart Project announces UK tour dates



Shauna Richardson's 'Lionheart Project' has announced its UK tour, which will see three giant crocheted lions travelling the country in a 16 metre long illuminated glass case. The three giant lions will tour the East Midlands before arriving at the Natural History Museum in London in time for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

[Find out more about the Lionheart Project tour of the East Midlands](#)

My Games My Legacy Patchwork Pledge – Closing Date



The Patchwork Pledge project has been an overwhelming success. The project, inspired by the Lionheart Project, was designed to encourage people of all ages to get involved and get creative by knitting or crocheting squares to be joined together into one large blanket. We have received over 10,000 squares to date from a wide selection of people of all ages, from community groups and from schools. Due to the overwhelming response to the project, we have had to bring the closing date for the submission of squares and blankets to **Friday 30th March**.

[Find out more about the My Games My Legacy Patchwork Pledge Project](#)

International Handball makes a welcome return to Loughborough



With less than 200 days to go to the start of the London 2012 Games, there is an opportunity to watch one of the most exciting Olympic sports at Loughborough University on 22 March. The Great Britain women's handball team will be visiting the University to play Poland in a qualifier for the 2012 European Championships.

Tickets are free for school children. Adult tickets are priced at £5, while concessions are £3.50 and students are £2.50.

[Find out more about the event and book your tickets.](#)

London 2012 is seeking Local Leaders



Good at getting stuff done? Excited about the Games and want to celebrate? Then London 2012 wants you to be a London 2012 Local Leader. The 'Local Leaders' initiative is an invitation to people across the UK to take the 2012 Games into their community and create their own celebrations next year, for the Olympic Torch Relay and other key moments during the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Visit www.london2012.com/localleaders to sign up and receive further information

Express your interest in the Leicester & Leicestershire London 2012 Games Maker Grant Scheme



The Leicester & Leicestershire London 2012 Games Maker Grant Scheme is designed to assist local Games Makers with the cost of volunteering at the Games. If you are interested in applying to the scheme, please ensure that you express an interest now. The closing date for expressions of interest is **Monday 30th April**. Further information will then be sent out to all those who have expressed an interest in the scheme to outline the next steps in the application process.

Find out more about the [Leicester & Leicestershire London 2012 Games Maker Grant Scheme](#).

Please note that the Leicester and Leicestershire London 2012 Games Maker Grant Scheme is a local initiative exclusively available for people living in Leicester and Leicestershire, and is not endorsed by LOCOG.

Hinckley & Bosworth - Your Time – 2012 Be Inspired



Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council is offering young people (8 – 18) the opportunity to apply for a small amount of funding to help them engage in a creative or sporting activity. You can apply for equipment, materials, tickets and artistic, creative or sports tuition. This must be for new activity and not something you are already doing or going to see. The deadline for applications is Friday 16 March 2012.

For further information please visit www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/yourtime

Enter the Leicester-Shire and Rutland School Games Mascot Design Competition



The Leicester-Shire & Rutland School Games Local Organising Committee (LOC) is running an open competition for all schools across Leicestershire, Leicester City and Rutland to design a 'School Games Mascot' for the Leicester-Shire & Rutland School Games. The winning design will be manufactured into a full-size mascot and will become the official Leicester-Shire & Rutland School Games Mascot for the next 3 years.

Visit www.lrsport.org/schoolgames for more information

12 things for schools to do before the London 2012 Games



This handy little guide provides an overview of some of the 2012 related activities that your school could get involved with in the run up to the Games. The guide includes information about free resources, free athlete visits, a world record dance event and maybe even a visit from David Beckham!

[Download '12 things for schools to do before the London 2012 Games' now!](#)

Volunteers needed for the Loughborough Half Marathon



Volunteers are required to support the Loughborough Half Marathon, which takes place on Sunday 25th March after a 20 year absence. No previous experience is required, can you help?

[Find out more about volunteering for the Loughborough Half Marathon](#)

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