



# ISLE OF MAN 2011

IV COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES



7 - 13 SEPTEMBER, DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN

August Newsletter



*Geoff Karran, MBE*

INTRODUCTION FROM GEOFF KARRAN, MBE  
**Chairman of the Isle of Man CYG2011 organising committee**

## THE GAMES ARE COMING

In just over a month, the Isle of Man looks forward to welcoming the Nations of the Commonwealth to Isle of Man for the 4th Commonwealth Youth Games.

69 of the 71 Countries eligible to compete have indicated that they will be competing and in addition to over 1000 competitors and 250 officials allocated by the Federation, the nations have indicated that they will be bringing a further 250 officials. We are also expecting many family and friends to support the athletes. High ticket sales have been reported and the Isle of Man Government's Homestay programme is proving to be popular ([www.visitisleofman.com/homestay/](http://www.visitisleofman.com/homestay/)).

The Bowl, which will be used for the Opening Ceremony on the 8th September and will also host the Rugby 7s competition, was completed on the 20th May and work is going well on the extension to the Ellan Vannin Gymnasium which will be completed in August. All the other facilities are completed, ready to welcome the best young athletes from all over the Commonwealth.

Your team liaison officers should have already been in touch with you to discuss your trip to the Isle of Man.

The 10 Partners of the Games have very generously donated items for the gift bags to be handed to competitors and officials on arrival in the Island. These will contain amongst other things a bath towel, a water bottle, a rain cover, a booklet containing important facts about the Island and many other small items.

Everyone on the Isle of Man is very excited about this prestigious event and is gearing itself up to provide the people of the Commonwealth with a really warm Manx welcome.



*The Manx Youth Games*



*The National Sports Centre*

## NATIONAL STADIUM GETS AN UPGRADE

The Isle of Man now has a new National Stadium with the completion of 'The Bowl' on the 20th May this year.

The old bowl has been totally upgraded by the Isle of Man Government. This has included the removal of the concrete terracing and the old seats and the digging up of the uneven grass pitch. We now have a 3000 all seater, partially covered arena and a 3rd generation all weather Rugby and Football pitch.

The annual Manx Youth Games was held the day after hand over and saw over 1000 youngsters aged between 8 and 14 march into the Bowl as a rehearsal for the Commonwealth Youth Games Opening Ceremony on the 8th September with some of the young artistes who will be involved in this opening ceremony also giving the Island a taster of what can be expected in September.

Various other test events will be held in the Bowl before the Games to help bed it in properly. After the Games the new National Stadium will be used primarily for football with the Junior Academy moving its operating there to enable training and matches to be played throughout the day, every day of the week.

This wonderful project will be the greatest legacy of the 4th Commonwealth Youth Games for the Isle of Man.



## THE STAMP OF APPROVAL

The Isle of Man Post Office has given their stamp of approval to the Commonwealth Youth Games 2011 by creating a special set of commemorative stamps.

The 'miniature' sheet of eight stamps show the Games mascot 'Tosha' and the official CYG2011 logo together with 'Tosha' participating in each of the seven sports that will feature in the Games. The stamps are also available as a first day cover and in a commemorative presentation pack and are available from [www.isleofmanstamps.com](http://www.isleofmanstamps.com) from 1st September 2011.

The Isle of Man Treasury has also had minted a special two pound coin that will go into general circulation on the Isle of Man during the Games. The coin also features 'Tosha' as well as the CYG2011 logo on one side with the Lord of Man, Queen Elizabeth II, on the reverse.

Dot Tilbury of the Isle of Man's Philatelic Bureau, commented: "We wanted to create lasting souvenirs and mementoes of the Commonwealth Youth Games 2011 on the Isle of Man and to commemorate the fact that this prestigious event is taking place on the Isle of Man."

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

Manx residents have been volunteering in their hundreds to fill the large number of volunteer roles required for the successful running of the CYG2011. The CYG2011 Volunteer Committee has already started to allocate volunteer posts, but they are still on the look out for more keen applicants.

Volunteers will get involved in a diverse number of roles including Customer Service positions based in hotels and games venues providing information and support to visitors, retail jobs selling souvenirs and merchandise, sports events assistants helping at the venues and providing assistance to competitors, marshals and drivers as well as the team liaison officers.

Volunteer Co-ordinator Victoria Karran is really pleased with the response to date: "We've had lots of people come forward to support the event and we are running training programmes to make sure that all of our volunteers have a good understanding of the Games and the roles that they will be required to do. We want all of our visitors have a great Games experience and enjoy their trip to the Isle of Man and our volunteers can really help to achieve this."

## ISLAND'S PRIMARY SCHOOLS ADOPT A NATION

3 years ago the Isle of Man's 35 Primary Schools were each given one of the Nations of the Commonwealth to adopt. In the first year the schools were asked to produce a DVD to send to their adopted Nation telling them all about the Isle of Man, their school and their community. In the second year they were set the task of producing a DVD all about their adopted country. Prizes were awarded each year to the winning school.

Now we have asked the schools to produce a display, within their own school building, to link their Island to their Adopted Nation. The entries have to be completed by the end of the July term and the winning entry will receive free tickets to the first morning of Athletics Competition on the 9th September.

In addition, all the adopted nations of the Commonwealth will be contacted by Julie McGroggan of Games Partner Britannia International, which is involved in the Education project, to arrange a visit by members of the team and officials to their adopted school during their stay on the Island to enable the children from the two countries to talk and learn more about each other.



*Tosha adorns the new stamps*



*The First Day Cover*



*The Volunteer Committee*



*Schools "Adopt a Nation"*

## HOW TO FOLLOW THE GAMES



*Quality Television Coverage*

The Isle of Man has a world class group of journalists, broadcasters, photographers and cameramen who report and follow the many world class sporting events that the Isle of Man hosts and participates in, including Rally's, Trials, Walks, Athletics, cycling and the TT Races and Manx Grand Prix Festival bikes races.

We are going to capitalize on this group by making their services available to Games organisations, broadcasters and media outlets worldwide to help you to report on your athlete's progress and success. Please can you advise us of any photographers who may wish to accredit for the games via your association. We can happily accommodate them to photograph all of the sports except Gymnastics and Swimming, which have limited space, but they must be registered via their local Games organisation in order to access the events.

The Manx National Radio Station - Manx Radio - will be providing live commentary from 8.30am to 9pm, reporting from all of the events on Friday 9th, Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th September, with dedicated reporters at each event and an anchor commentary team who will be based at the National Sports Centre.

This service can be picked up on 1368am while on the Isle of Man but is also available worldwide via the listen live service at [www.manxradio.com](http://www.manxradio.com) and via the free to download i-phone app which is also available on-line. The experienced Manx Radio team have reported from Commonwealth Games, Island Games as well as providing live commentary every year for the TT Races.

We have also arranged for 16 photographers to record all of the action and the photographers will make their images available free of charge via the Games website. This will include all of the key action shots as well as medal presentations and opening and closing ceremonies. Please pass on the press office contact details to any local media contacts or any media liaison officers that you have as they will be happy to arrange any footage or requests for interviews, information, results or pictures.

The events will be filmed by respected Isle of Man and UK based production company GreenlightTV who will be providing footage to broadcasters worldwide. Many countries and broadcasters have already confirmed that they will be taking the footage via the ftp site or satellite uplink.

Greenlight TV will be hosting an informal lunch at their offices on the Isle of Man on Thursday 8th September for media representatives and broadcast media organisations.

Anyone wishing to attend, or who has any questions regarding broadcasting of the CYG 2011, should contact Laurent Roberts at Greenlight on email at [lol@greenlight.tv](mailto:lol@greenlight.tv) or via mobile +44 7783 551 821



*Manx Radio's worldwide service*



*Live commentary will be available*

## HOMESTAY PROGRAMME

The Isle of Man Tourism's Homestay programme is now in full swing with Manx residents looking forward to throwing open their doors to welcome guests for the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games on a bed and breakfast or self catering basis. Over 500 homes have been vetted and all the homes that have registered for the scheme have met the required quality standard from Isle of Man Tourism.

Geoff Corkish MBE, MHK, Political Member for Isle of Man Tourism, added, "In addition to existing visitor accommodation, it gives us the opportunity to extend a genuine warm Manx welcome and it will enable competitors and visitors to the Games to learn about our great heritage and culture as well as sharing our way of life."

For more information on Homestay or to book accommodation go to [www.visitislofman.com/homestay](http://www.visitislofman.com/homestay)



## MEDIA ACCREDITATION

**INTERNATIONAL MEDIA** wishing to attend the Isle of Man CYG2011 should request accreditation through their local CGA. Following approval, all requests will be processed by CYG2011's administration office. Further information can be obtained from CYG2011 Administration Office on +44 (0) 1624 662011 or email [enquiries@cyg2011.com](mailto:enquiries@cyg2011.com)

**LOCAL MEDIA** wishing to attend the CYG should contact Simon Crellin on +44 1624 830 860 (mobile +44 7624 246 222), [simon@redpointpr.co.uk](mailto:simon@redpointpr.co.uk) or John Moss on [johnmoss@manxradio.com](mailto:johnmoss@manxradio.com) +447624 456690. The CYG2011 OC reserves the right to refuse any request for media accreditation.

For both international and local media an accreditation application form will be issued and should be completed with all requested information. Accreditation passes should be collected on arrival to the Isle of Man from the Games Operation Centre (GOC) based at the Villa Marina Arcade. At this time broadcast media persons will be issued with a tabard, which they will be required to wear whilst carrying out Games related duties.

Media accreditation allows access to media areas at the Athletics, Badminton, Boxing and Rugby 7's venues. There is a limited capacity media area at the swimming venue and access will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. There will be no access for media in either of the gymnastics venues. Games information for both these venues will be provided to all media via the Main Press Centre (MPC). The Cycling events are all road-based and there will be no access restrictions for media.

From the Soft Opening period of 4th to 6th September all accredited media will have access to the scheduled Isle of Man Public Transport service, which runs every 20 minutes between the Games Village and the MPC. Media will need to show their press pass for the free of charge transport service which will be supplemented from 7th to 13th September by dedicated Games Transport which will also run every 20 minutes, alternating with the scheduled service and thus providing a 10 minute service between the Games Village and MPC.

All media attending the CYG2011 are required to make their own travel arrangements to the Isle of Man and source their own accommodation and catering requirements but please contact the press officers named above for any advice.

## FESTIVAL OF YOUTH

Douglas, the Isle of Man's capital, will hold a 'Festival of Youth' on Saturday 10th September, during the Commonwealth Youth Games, to celebrate the Island's wealth of young talent. Organised by Douglas Development Partnership and supported by Britannia International the festival will take place at the southern end of Douglas promenade in the area around the sunken gardens.

Development manager Chris Pycroft said: 'The idea is for everyone in Douglas and across the Island to feel part of what is the largest sporting event the Island will have ever hosted with this two-day event aimed at creating a vibrant atmosphere by showcasing young people's cultural, musical and sporting talent'.

The festival will be aimed principally, but not exclusively, at under-21s, and the organisers have appealed to solo performers and groups – such as singers, bands, musicians, circus skills exponents, poets, jugglers, dancers, magicians, gymnasts, skateboarders or free runners, for example, to get in touch and demonstrate their skills in the activities they enjoy.

The intention is to give Douglas a real buzz during the Games so, in support of the daytime activities, there will be what the organisers are billing as an "urban variety show" in the evening of Saturday 10th at the Gaiety Theatre, showcasing a cross section of some of the festival's most inspirational and creative young performers.



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*The Beautiful Gaiety Theatre*





*The Great Laxey Wheel*

## VIP TOURS

The Isle of Man is a world renowned tourist destination with spectacular locations, history, castles, museums, flora and fauna and we have put together two days of VIP tours to give you an introduction to, and a flavour of, the Isle of Man during the Commonwealth Youth Games event.

You'll experience some of our unique transport systems and much of the cultural heritage that still plays a part in the modern day island-life. We'll travel North, South, East and West and experience the highest point of the island, Snaefell, follow in the bike tracks of the TT Racers, sample local delicacies and meet some of the historical characters that have made the island what it is today.

Below are the itineraries for the two days. If any of the VIP guests associated with the organisations wish to go on either or both trips they should contact the Games Office to register:

UK TEL: +44 1 624 662011

UK Fax: +44 1 624 688566

Email: [enquiries@cyg2011.com](mailto:enquiries@cyg2011.com)

THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2011

10.00am to 4.00pm

### LAXEY AND THE NORTH OF THE ISLAND

Travel from Douglas by Manx Electric Railway's (MER) Tram to Laxey along the east coast of the Island. The MER is the longest narrow gauge vintage railway in the British Isles. All the operational trams are originals with the newest dating back to 1906.

Arriving at Laxey station there is an opportunity to visit craft shops or have refreshments at your own expense. This is followed by a visit to the Laxey Wheel which is the largest operating water wheel in the world. It was built in 1854 and is named the Lady Isabella after the former Lieutenant Governor's wife. For those who wish, a 70 foot climb to the top of the wheel gives a panoramic view of the surrounding area.

After a drive along Laxey Promenade the tour follows the coast line to Ramsey in the north of the Island. Lunch is provided in Ramsey at the Harbour Bistro with its views of Ramsey Harbour. Following lunch you may wish to stroll around the harbour or the Mooragh Park or visit the Grove Museum.

Leaving Ramsey the tour briefly visits Milntown, the home of the Christian family. Fletcher Christian was one of the mutineers on the Bounty ship. The tour then follows part of the Tourist Trophy motorcycle road racing course (TT) passing the Albert Tower which was built in 1847 to commemorate the visit of Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Albert. Stops will be made at the famous TT point, The Bungalow, to view the Island's only mountain, Snaefell and at The Grandstand, the start and finish point of the TT.

On arrival back on Douglas Promenade there will be an opportunity to ride along the promenade on a horse-drawn tram. The Douglas horse-drawn trams are the world's oldest surviving horse tram service, dating back to 1876.

VIP Tours continued overleaf..



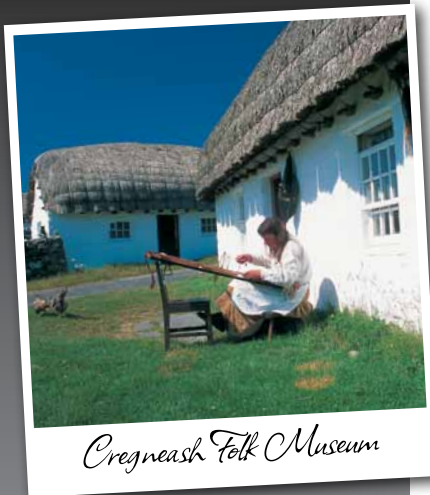
*Manx Electric Railway*



*Milntown House & Gardens*



*Douglas horse-drawn tram*



*Cregneash Folk Museum*

## VIP TOURS

FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2011

10.00am to 4.30 pm

### THE SOUTH OF THE ISLAND AND PEEL

Travel by minibus/cars for visit to the outdoor National Folk Museum at Cregneash Village. Cregneash village has been preserved as a living museum to show how the Island's crofters lived at the turn of the 1900s. It was one of the last places to hear a native Manx speaker and is home to the rare breed of four horn loaghtan sheep.

After a guided tour of Cregneash village, where refreshments are available at your own expense, the tour departs for the Sound Visitor Centre, where information displays explain the history and ecology of the local land and seascape. Opposite the Sound is the Calf of Man, a 616 square acre nature reserve on an islet, home to a large bird population. The sea between The Sound and the Calf offers opportunities for seeing seals and dolphins.

A buffet lunch is provided at the Sound café with its panoramic views over the Calf of Man. After lunch the tour travels northwards on the west coast towards Peel.

For the afternoon a guided tour of either Peel Castle or Peel's House of Manannan Museum is offered. Alternatively you may prefer free time to explore Moore's kipper yard, the lifeboat station, the promenade and the harbour independently. Peel Castle is situated on an islet near Peel harbour. It is believed to be the first place that Christianity was brought to the Island by St Patrick.

The House of Manannan Museum tells the history of the Island and includes a full sized replica Norse longship made in and sailed from Norway in 1979 to celebrate the Millennium of Tynwald (Manx Parliament).

The tour returns to Douglas via the site of the Island's original Parliament at Tynwald Hill St Johns where there will be an opportunity to take photos.



*The Sound Café*



*Peel Castle*



*The House of Manannan*



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 **ISLE OF MAN 2011**  
IV COMMONWEALTH YOUTH GAMES



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