

London 2012

The Olympics are coming...

Olympics: 27th July – 12th August

Paralympics: 29th August – 9th September

Ok, so it may seem a long way off, but churches in the UK have already been planning for over two years!

The event is truly worldwide:

205 Nations

4.5 billion people watching on television

20,000 press reporters

34 live 'big screen' broadcasts

The media coverage will be so massive it will be impossible to ignore!

Sport will have a high media profile and people will be inspired to participate in sporting activity. But the London Olympics is more than sport, it also offers something called a **Cultural Olympiad** – a celebration of art and creativity, of community and culture – and faith is part of culture.

Churches are encouraged to get involved.

What can Jersey do?

- Local churches can host community and evangelistic events with a sporting theme.
- Plan church services and holiday clubs with a sports focus.
- Participate in across-island competitions.
- Make premises available to sporting groups – especially youth.
- Consider local ways in which they can engage with sport and community.
- Host sporting evenings and dinners.
- Run Quiz Nights.
- Organise an Island Churches Festival of Sport and Community:
 - Exhibition stands of charitable work
 - Showcase Displays from Sport and Creative Art groups
 - Finals of across-island competitions
- A send-off to competing athletes from Jersey.
- THE OLYMPIC TORCH will be run through the country for 70 days, the route will be announced next year.

Some of these things can be done by our individual churches while others will be better organised together. There are already lots of resources in the pipeline and it is vital that the Christian Churches of Jersey are alert to what is available and co-ordinated in their response.

We need now, some creative and energetic people to form a **PLANNING GROUP** to organise events and provide resources to churches for 2011 and 2012. If you have a heart for God's mission and community and feel you could be part of this group please contact Rev. Billy Slatter. (Tel 840793 or e-mail billys@jerseymail.co.uk)