



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


Newsletter 2 - February 2010



7th to 13th September 2011

Greetings from the Isle of Man, hosts of 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games

Hoi, Kys T'ou? This is Manx Gaelic for "Hello, how are you doing?"

You may hear this language spoken during your visit to the Island as it has been making a revival since the 1960's and is now taught as an optional school subject.

Although this is a recent picture of a lovely wintry scene, this is not typical weather for the Isle of Man.

The Island features a mild, temperate climate offering warm summers and generally moderately mild winters. Between June and September, the temperature averages 18°C / 64°F with July and August temperatures often exceeding 20°C / 68°F. Late autumn/early winter sees the Island's wettest weather, although skies clear quickly. The average annual daytime temperatures on the Isle of Man are around 13°C / 55°F.



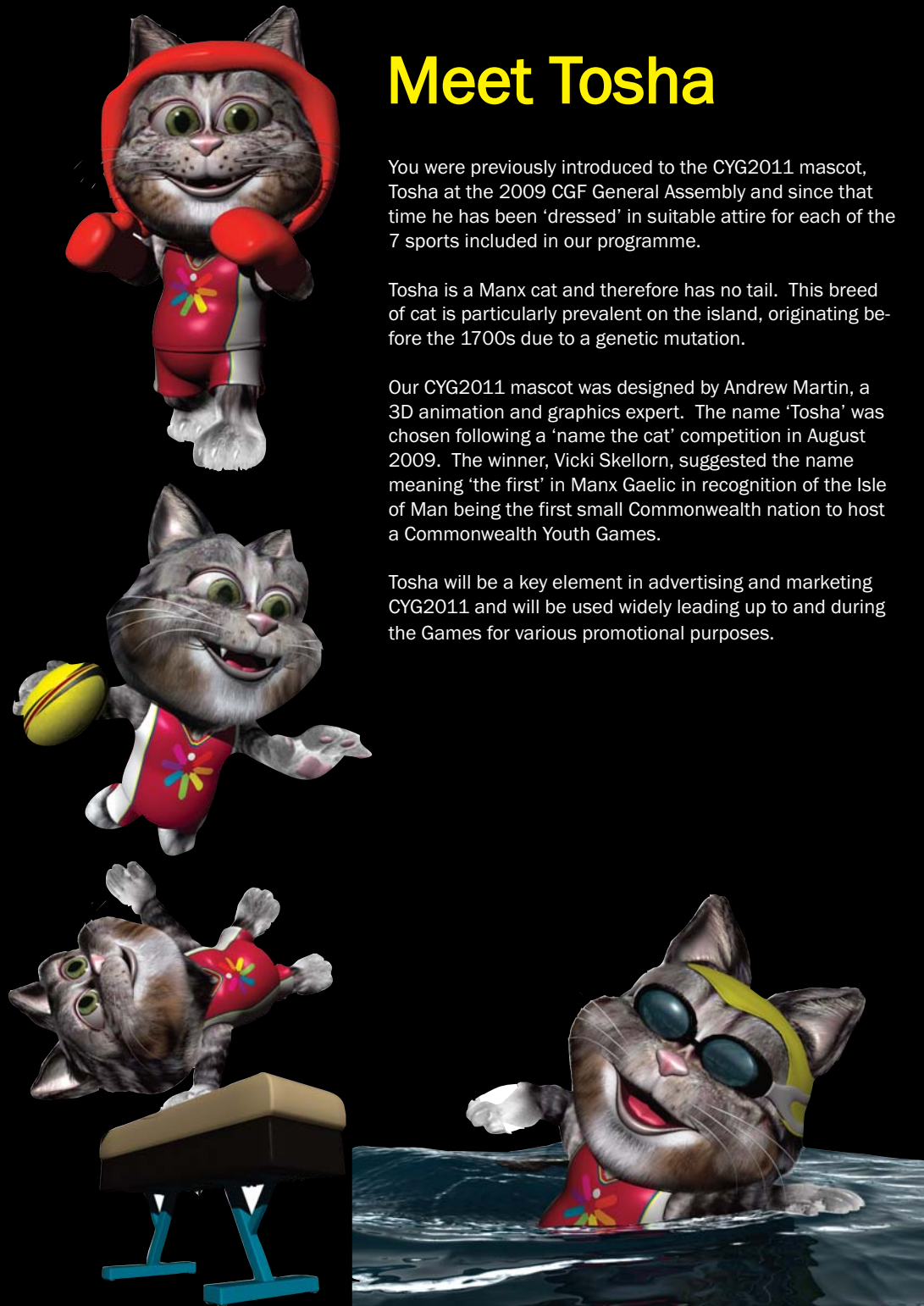
Meet Tosha

You were previously introduced to the CYG2011 mascot, Tosha at the 2009 CGF General Assembly and since that time he has been 'dressed' in suitable attire for each of the 7 sports included in our programme.

Tosha is a Manx cat and therefore has no tail. This breed of cat is particularly prevalent on the island, originating before the 1700s due to a genetic mutation.

Our CYG2011 mascot was designed by Andrew Martin, a 3D animation and graphics expert. The name 'Tosha' was chosen following a 'name the cat' competition in August 2009. The winner, Vicki Skellorn, suggested the name meaning 'the first' in Manx Gaelic in recognition of the Isle of Man being the first small Commonwealth nation to host a Commonwealth Youth Games.

Tosha will be a key element in advertising and marketing CYG2011 and will be used widely leading up to and during the Games for various promotional purposes.



Focus On...

ATHLETICS

The venue for the Athletics events will be the National Sports Centre, based approximately 1.5 miles (2.4km) from Douglas Promenade. This £20 million facility is truly the sporting centre of the Island.

The original athletics track was opened in September 1991 by Steve Ovett, the former British and Olympic Champion. The Isle of Man Government is currently investing £500k in a new track and drainage system plus improvements to the long/triple jump, pole vault, shot and throwing facility to comply with IAAF standards. The track will reopen in early June this year.

A 500 seat grandstand, which has also been recently refurbished, overviews the track. Temporary grandstands will also be erected for the Games to increase the spectator capacity to at least 1000. The IAAF has appointed UK Athletics to assist with our preparations: Alan Bell the Chair of UKA Officials Technical Committee and Chris Cohen, the Chair of UKA Officials Education Group are now part of our team.



The events programme, maximum athletes per CGA and age categories can be found on the website: www.cyg2011.com/index.php/events



Further information relating to heights and weights of equipment:

Boys Events:

110m Hurdles	(0.914m)
400m Hurdles	(0.840m)
Shot Put	(5kg)
Discus Throw	(1.5kg)
Hammer Throw	(5kg)
Javelin Throw	(700g)

Girls Events

100m Hurdles	(0.762m)
400m Hurdles	(0.762m)
Shot Put	(4kg)
Discus Throw	(1kg)
Hammer Throw	(4kg)
Javelin Throw	(600g)

Past, Present and Future Commonwealth Stars

It may be well over a year until the opening of the Games in September 2011 but those months will pass quickly and with a growing sense of excitement, particularly amongst the young athletes who are waiting their chance to excel in the Manx sunshine.

A great example of a fantastic young sports person is Heather Watson, who went from winning the gold medal for tennis at the 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games in Pune to winning the 2009 US Open Junior Title.

19 year old Heather, from Guernsey is a 5ft 7in, right-handed, two-handed backhand player, currently based at the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy. She is ranked as the British Junior No 1 with a World Junior Ranking of No 3. She was also recently nominated for BBC 2009 Young Sports Personality of the Year Award.

When she is not on the court, Heather's favourite



Pin-Up is Chris Brown, her heroes are tennis stars Serena Williams, Jo Wilfried Tsonga and Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt. She has a top ambition, to win a tennis Grand Slam and become World No.1

One of the Island's strongest sporting influences and inspirations is cyclist, Mark Cavendish. Born in Douglas on 21st May 1985, Mark started cycling at a young age and by the time he was 12 had started racing informally as a mountain-bike rider. Since that early start, sheer hard work and determination has seen the rider win many events over the years. Still only 24, Mark is a double Madison World Champion and Commonwealth Games gold medallist.

In the 2008 Tour de France he won four stages only to improve by two stages in 2009 by winning an incredible six. Mark was also nominated for the 2009 BBC Sports Personality of the Year, coming in 4th place.

Through his sporting achievements Mark Cavendish has not only helped put the Isle of Man on the world map but is also an inspiration to all our young sports people.



One of our own young athletes, swimmer Grant Halsall, follows a tough training regime to get him in good shape for the 2011 Games. Grant, who participated at Pune 2008 has learned from that competitive experience and will take forward all the knowledge he gained from the event. Studying A Levels at Plymouth College, Grant is coached by John Rudd and swims for Plymouth Leander. He receives assistance from Servicetech and Isle of Man Sports Aid and is very appreciative of their input. Grant is very much looking forward to swimming in front of a home crowd and is looking forward to welcoming friends he has made from around the Commonwealth to the Isle of Man in 2011.

Grant won a bronze medal in the 200m backstroke at the European Youth Olympics in Tampere, Finland at the end of July 2009.

At the beginning of the same month he won the 50m backstroke at the NatWest Island Games in Aland (also Finland) in what was a GB junior record and Island Games record time. He ended that event by also recording a 100m Games record for backstroke when leading off the Manx team in the men's 4x100m relay.



I'm in training for the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games!

Our Island

Castle Rushen, Castletown

It's not just the Island's young sports people that we are looking forward to showing off to the world. September 2011 will be the chance for the Island to showcase its valleys, glens and gentle green countryside as it offers a warm Manx welcome to all its visitors.

The Isle of Man combines many of the different characters of the British Isles but all within an Island thirty miles from top to bottom and ten miles across. That sound quite small but it is extraordinary how much is packed into those 220 square miles!

Two hundred years ago, as the Island developed from a rural and fishing community, its historic buildings were retained, improved and put on show to the public. So there is the chance to see a Viking castle in Peel and a middle ages strong hold in Castletown as well as stone age forts and settlements. All this set in beautiful countryside and moorland and edged by rocky inlets, long sandy beaches and a blue sea.

One of these ancient castles, is in Castletown - the base for Cultural Day on Monday 12th September 2011. This is the great fortress that guarded the southern capital of Castletown, the home of the Kings and Lords of Mann.

A formidable fortress, with a dry moat and towering walls complete with dungeons and, by repute, a ghost or two! From its battlements there is a fabulous view over the surrounding southern countryside across to the hills that run up the spine of the island.

English rule culminated in the passing of control of the Island to Sir John Stanley in 1405 by Henry IV but it came at an unusual price!

Two peregrine falcons, which are hunting birds, had to be handed over annually to all succeeding English monarchs on their coronation. Between 1405 and 1521 five Stanleys became "Kings of Mann and the Isles" after which time the title was "Lord of Mann." To this day in Mann the reigning monarch of Britain is known by this title. So Queen Elizabeth II, the Head of the Commonwealth, is known locally as The Lord of Mann.

Foremost of the 17th century Lords of Mann

was James Stanley, 7th Earl of Derby, known in the Manx language as Yn Stanlagh Mooar - The Great Stanley. With his Countess, Charlotte de la Tremouille, the Earl held the Isle of Man as one of the last Royalist strongholds during the English Civil War in the middle of the sixteen hundreds..

At Castle Rushen, he established a secondary Royalist court before leaving to fight the Royalist cause in England where he was captured and then later executed at Bolton in October, 1651.

His Countess held the Castle until the end of October 1651, when, as a result of the Manx Rebellion led by Manx hero, Illiam Dhone and her betrayal by her own garrison, she was forced into a surrender to Parliamentary forces.

Want to find out more?. You can catch a glimpse of the Isle of Man on a number of webcams at www.gov.im/tourism or discover more about the Island on www.visitisleofman.com

CGF visit the Isle of Man

The Organising Committee of the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games were delighted to welcome members of the Commonwealth Games Federation to the island at the end of October 2009. Mr Mike Fennell (President) accompanied by his wife Mrs Peggy Fennell, Mr Mike Hooper (Chief Executive) and Mr John Eades (Operations Director) visited the island primarily to meet with members of the Organising Committee for an update report on preparations for the 2011 Games and also to present a workshop to the committee and Sport Co-ordinators on the newly drafted Commonwealth Youth Games Manual.

During their visit the CGF members were keen to meet and engage with children from local primary schools who are involved in the CYG2011 'Adopt-a-Nation' education programme. Children from School Vallajeelt, who 'adopted' Nigeria and won the Adopt-a-Nation Primary School DVD Competition, children from Cronk-y-Berry, who 'adopted' New Zealand to meet Mike Hooper who hails from the country and children from Manor Park, who 'adopted' Jamaica, to meet Jamaican born Mike Fennell. Although it was half-term for



the island's school children, a large number turned out with their parents to listen to Mike Fennell talk about the importance of the Commonwealth Youth Games. Thanks was extended to Head Teacher Adrian Shorthouse for opening School Vallajeelt especially for the event and to Minister of Education Hon Ann Craine MHK and Minister of Tourism and Leisure Hon Martyn Quayle MHK for attending.

Invitation Letter



You will have received by now a letter sent by email inviting you to attend the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games. Contained in the letter are athlete allocations pertaining to your country, information regarding travel grant and on-ground costs, our sports programme and age groups, Visa and travel information, confirmation of entry dates and contact details. The 'confirmation of participation' slip accompanying the letter should be returned to: enquiries@cyg2011.com as soon as possible but no later than Sunday 1st August 2010.

Slane Ihiat (Goodbye)

Proud partners of Commonwealth Youth Games 2011



Thank you also to Mylchreest's Group for sponsoring hire cars



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