

Beijing stars shine at city reception



L to R: Back Row: Gregor Tait (swimming) Michelle Rogers (Judo) Libby Clegg (Athletics) Kirsty Balfour (Swimming) Chris Hoy MBE (cycling) Mark Robertson (CP football) Euan Burton (Judo) Front Row: Jim Anderson MBE (Swimming) Sean Fraser (Swimming) Kevin Simpson (Wheelchair Tennis) Stephen Dick (Hockey) Sam Ingram (Judo) Sarah Clark (Judo)

On Monday 6 October, the City hosted a reception in honour of Edinburgh's Olympic and Paralympic athletes at the Lothian Chambers on George IV Bridge.

Thirteen of the twenty athletes with

Edinburgh connections were present on the evening. The athletes were invited by the Lord Provost to attend the reception to honour the outstanding achievements of Team GB in Beijing.

The Lord Provost and Councillor Deidre Brock, convenor for Culture and Leisure, presented each athlete with a small trophy to thank them for their efforts leading up to and during the Olympic Games.

Councillor Brock touched on the fact that the athletes are an inspiration to all and that without knowing, they will have inspired people to make changes to their life for the better!

Olympic triple gold medallist Chris Hoy MBE spoke to the invited guests and presented a new cycling trophy for the most promising young cyclist in the East of Scotland. The Chris Hoy trophy was presented to 16 year old Callum Skinner who is already beating times that Chris set at the same age.



Activity reporters meet olympic stars

Four students from Craigmount High School and Edinburgh Academy, won our Activity reporters competition and were given the opportunity to interview the Olympic and Paralympic athletes on 6 October.

Robert, Felicity, Liam and Amy grilled the athletes in a private interview before the reception. All four of them were delighted with the opportunity to meet and question the athletes. Look out for more Activity competitions coming soon!!



Get in training for the Bupa Great Winter Run

Your New Years Resolution!

What: Bupa Great Winter Run
Where: Holyrood Park
When: Saturday 10 January 2009
How far: 5KM

The Bupa Great Winter Run returns to Edinburgh's Holyrood Park on Saturday 10th January and is open to people of all abilities aged 14 and over.

The 5km course starts on Queens Drive and will take runners up Arthur's Seat providing stunning views across Edinburgh. Following the run the Bupa Great Edinburgh International Cross Country will be staged giving you the opportunity to see world class athletes compete in a series of races all televised live on BBC ONE.

For entries see the Great Run Website www.greatrun.org

2014 Commonwealth Games Update

Edinburgh is looking forward to Glasgow 2014 and setting up a Games Legacy group, to look at how we as a city can benefit from the games being hosted in Glasgow. The group will meet on 11 November to begin taking forward our legacy from 2014. You can check out all the latest information from www.glasgow2014.com including exciting new venues that will be built and information on the athletes village.

Glasgow is building up to make these games the best ever and with Edinburgh hosting the diving competition at the Royal Commonwealth Pool after its upcoming refurbishment, we are set to be heavily involved and see sport in Scotland grow even further!

Edinburgh Christmas Walk 2008

On Sunday 7 December, Edinburgh will see the revival of the Christmas Charity Walk. The 7 or 15 mile walks will begin in Melville Street and finish on Castle Terrace. Anyone can enter the walk and as it is most definitely a family day out as the organisers have also organised entertainment and music en route as well as at the finish.

This is a great way to stay active over the festive period and raise money for charity. Entry fees are £8



for adults and £5 for children/OAP if walking for an affiliated charity.

Visit www.edinburghchristmas-walk.com for further details.



Get your skates on and join the capitals at murrayfield!

The Edinburgh Capitals will be holding The Great Capital Skate on Tuesday 30th December at Murrayfield Ice Rink. This event will encourage people to get active through skating and then have the opportunity to attend an Edinburgh Capitals ice hockey match against Basingstoke Bison. Professional players will be on the ice to help the participants during the skating sessions. There will also be an interactive demonstration area where participants can experience the game of ice hockey. The participants round off their day of fun by cheering on the Capitals in their bmibaby Elite League match against Basingstoke Bison. This match is being recorded by Sky Sports for showing on their weekly Elite Ice Hockey League program.

The full schedule for the day is as follows:

Skating from 10am – 2pm

Edinburgh Capitals v Basingstoke Bison ice hockey game, 6pm face off.

Tickets for this event are £12 adults and £7 children and include match ticket, skating session and skate hire.



Come down to basketball saturday and hoop it up!

City of Edinburgh Basketball Club have several big basketball days coming up where you can watch the top players in Scotland compete in the national league. Every Saturday in November is basketball Saturday, where there are several games on for spectators to come and enjoy the hoops action.

The women's team, who feature no less than five internationalists, have recruited a top Spanish point guard and Australian forward, who are helping in their quest to win the league and are the only unbeaten team at this stage.

The senior men are also in the league title race and have several big games over the next few weeks. With a young team, head coach Danny Costello hopes that they can grow as the season progresses and be in the race down the stretch.

The youth teams are also flying high, with the U16 women the only remaining unbeaten team in their league. Portobello is THE place to be to watch quality basketball, and you can watch these games for free! There is a great atmosphere and opportunities to find out about the clubs many coaching sessions and camps. Check out the club website for more details!

www.cityofedinburghbasketball.net



Sports Team, City of Edinburgh Council



Left to right: Colin MacKay, Stephanie-Anne Harris, John Travers, Craig Cunningham, Donna Finnie, Kathy Reynolds, Graham Croucher.



Win Season Tickets at Edinburgh Rugby



Visit Murrayfield and cheer on Edinburgh rugby stars

Edinburgh Rugby Club continue their Heineken Cup campaign on Friday 5 December, when they take on Current English Champions London

Wasps at Murrayfield stadium (kick off 7.30pm).

Edinburgh continue to run a "Kids 4 Free" promotion – which

means that for every adult ticket you book in advance – you can also bring along up to 4 children (Under 19) free of charge.

Visit www.edinburghrugby.org to purchase tickets.

London Wasps are the English champions and their side includes rising star Danny Cipriani, World Cup winners Joe Worsley, Josh Lewsey and Simon Shaw plus former France captain Raphael Ibanez.

Edinburgh recently achieved a milestone result by recording their first ever Heineken Cup win in France against Castres, who are captained by France skipper Lionel Nallet.

Now Edinburgh will be aiming to continue that impressive form against England's top team at the home of Scottish Rugby in Europe's premier tournament.

Note – if you have not previously registered on the Ticket purchase website – you will need to register prior to completing the process – but if you enter via the link below – you will retain the ability to use the £5 off.

Activity Events For November – March

Maggies Life Walk Edinburgh
Saturday 1 November

Edinburgh Christmas Walk
Sunday 7 December

BUPA Great Winter Run and
International Cross Country
10 January

Scotland v New Zealand
Saturday 08 November

Scottish Mixed Double Curling
19-21 December

Cardinal Sports Youth Cup
22 February

Scotland v South Africa
Saturday 15 November

The Great Capital Skate
30 December

East of Scotland Badminton
28/29 March

Annual Christmas Gymnastics
Saturday 6 December

For further information on the Activity programme please contact Donna Finnie on donna.finnie@edinburgh.gov.uk or 0131 529 7993.