

November 7, 2011

Olympic Torch Relay is coming to the South Hams

The Olympic Flame – the glowing symbol of the greatest show on earth - will be coming to the South Hams next year en route to the London 2012 Olympic Games.

On July 27, 2012, the eyes of the world will be on London for the Opening Ceremony where the Olympic Flame will arrive at the Olympic Stadium for the lighting of the cauldron to signify the start of the London 2012 Olympic Games. In the build up to the start of the event, the Olympic Flame will make its journey from Greece and arrive in the UK on May 18, ready for the Olympic Torch Relay to begin the following day.

Representing peace, unity and friendship, the Flame will start its 70-day journey around the UK towards the Stadium. The Flame will be carried the distance by 8,000 inspirational Torchbearers, who will be announced later this year.

The Olympic Torch Relay will arrive in the South Hams on the morning of Sunday May 20.

Travelling through **Brixton, Yealmpton, Modbury, Kingsbridge, West Charleton, Chillington, Torcross, Stoke Fleming, Dartmouth** and **Totnes**, these locations will host the Olympic Flame on behalf of surrounding communities. Full details of the Relay will be announced closer to the time, inviting people from across the area to welcome the Olympic Flame.

Cllr John Tucker, Leader of South Hams District Council said: "This is a unique opportunity for the residents of the South Hams to be involved in an historic event of

this sort. The council is thrilled that the Torchbearers will be bringing the flame through ten of our communities and that so many of our residents will get the chance to turn out and welcome it to their area.

“The eyes of the nation will be on us on May 20 and I hope very much that our communities get involved in celebrating our area to mark the Olympic torch relay.”

South Hams District Council will be liaising with many different community organisations across the district and encouraging them to get involved with this once-in-a-life time event by holding events and dressing their villages and towns with bunting along the route show their support for members of the local communities who have been selected to carry the Olympic Flame.

The council is also working closely with Devon County Council, Devon Highways and the London 2012 Organising Committee on the final details of the day.

For more information, email the council at games2012@swdevon.gov.uk

Please direct media enquiries to South Hams District Council's Communications Team on 01803 861368 or 861369, mobile 07971 997767 or email public.relations@southhams.gov.uk

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