



■ Panos Thomas

Doctor proud to be of help

An orthopaedic surgeon from the Whittington Hospital has been selected as one of six specialists to be involved in the London 2012.

Dr Panos Thomas was invited by the Medical Organising Committee for the Olympics to be a specialist. He will be volunteering at the Games and will be on-call during that time.

He will assess patients at the Olympic Village polyclinic and other venues. Patients who require surgery will be transferred to the Whittington Hospital, Magdala Avenue, Highgate, for treatment.

Mr Thomas said: "The anticipation and excitement for the Games is building up and I am looking forward to my involvement and the role I can play in this great event."

"I feel honoured to be invited to contribute and even more so to carry the 'Whittington flag' to the Games!"

Dr Justin Yeoh, a trainee in sport and exercise medicine at the hospital, will also be working as a venue doctor based at the Aquatic Centre.

Flavour of the Caribbean

A centre for the homeless in Camden Town will host a series of cultural events from the Caribbean during the Olympics.

Arlington will open the doors of its conference centre to the public, between August 4 and 11, to showcase Grenadian art and dance exhibitions and build support for the small island team.

Ruth Elizabeth Rouse, the high commissioner for Grenada, said: "The Grenadian Diaspora is grateful for the support and commitment of Arlington and Camden Council."

"We look forward to bringing the flavours of spice and rhythms of Grenada to Camden and we also would hope to further develop these links forged between Grenada and Camden in the future."

■ Grenada's Olympic House in Arlington Road will open to the public between 4pm and 10pm.

Band is going for gold in bid to top charts

Tune vies with official song

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A Camden-based band put together especially for the Olympics is going for gold in the pop charts this summer, with high hopes of beating the Official London 2012 song – *Survival* – by English rock band Muse.

Their song, appropriately titled *Win!* was written and produced by Colin Russell of Frognal in Hampstead.

The 44-year-old, who grew up in a home for disadvantaged children after his mother disappeared with a Hell's Angels biker gang,

said: "This was my chance to show that you can come from nowhere but that can change. I am making music and I am making art and it is truly getting noticed."

Positive

Colin has so far been interviewed by eight radio stations and he says the response to his music has been positive.

"It's much better than the official songs, because it's got an eclectic mix of musicians who are really from London – and this is the London Olympics," he said.

"The song was truly in-



■ Colin Russell (right), with musicians from The Supporters (from left) Robert Ellis Hawke, Ian McKean and Ant Hatcher
Picture: Polly Hancock

spired by a Eureka moment – it's about trying to win or at least trying bloody hard! You can't have an "official" song for that."

The song is performed by band The Supporters, led by soul singer Lynieve Austin, who has supported R&B legend Curtis Mayfield, The

Fatback Band and M People.

■ *Win!* will be released tomorrow to coincide with the Olympic opening ceremony.



■ Pupils of St Michael's Primary School with Alan Mak, Olympic Torchbearer and president of charity Magic Breakfast

Day etched in memories

More than 400 Highgate pupils were lucky enough to get an early preview of the Olympic Torch last Thursday.

Children at St Michael's Primary School, North Road, saw it close-up at an end-of-year assembly, displayed by proud Olympic Torchbearer Alan Mak.

The 28-year-old was invited to the school to talk about Olympic values after a parent recommended him as an "inspirational" person.

Alan is president of award-winning charity Magic Breakfast, which provides healthy free breakfasts to 6,000 schoolchildren.

The charity runs eight clubs in Camden and five in Haringey.

Amanda Szewczyk-Radley, headteacher at St Michael's Primary, said: "The children will remember seeing the Olympic Torch for the rest of their lives. Alan was truly inspirational."

Volunteer zookeeper and conservationist to carry Torch

Nominated for her hard work as a volunteer zookeeper and the time she spent in Borneo helping with the conservation of orangutans, Rachel Rahman, of Rosecroft Avenue, Hampstead, will be carrying the Olympic Torch today.

The 28-year-old who fits

her job as a product analyst around her love of animals, has been volunteering at London Zoo since 2010 and she's not afraid to muck in sometimes – adding an additional eight hours of work to her already busy week.

Luckily, the animals keep her laughing. "We have little

squirrel monkeys, which move around freely and visitors can walk under the trees," said Rachel.

"As soon as they see a pram the monkeys jump on it and start rifling through it for food because there's often food underneath."

However, her toughest job

was in Borneo when she was living and working in the rainforest looking after orangutans.

"The orangutans are very powerful," she said. "They could pull your arm off if they wanted to. But they're actually very gentle, they just want to be cuddled."



■ Rachel Rahman