



# Oceania Paralympic Committee London 2012

## Cardiff Pre Games Training Camp

Issue 2 – 16.08.2012



## Oceania Paralympic Teams fly their colors at Cardiff Castle

Each of the Oceania Paralympic Teams donned their National uniforms to visit Cardiff Castle yesterday for a photo shoot in between their training schedules.

This was the first opportunity to dress in Team colors and the Teams were quite excited to walk the short distance from the Team Hotel to Cardiff Castle through the busy Cardiff Central City area.

The sight of the Teams in their National colors drew much attention from the Welsh public as they went about their daily business. Once inside the castle our athletes and officials were asked for autographs and posed for family photos by members of the visiting public.

This proved to be a great Oceania Team building exercise and already we have developed a bond between the six Oceania countries that will strengthen as we move into the Village on 24<sup>th</sup> August.



Cardiff locals pose for photos with our athletes above while the Samoan Team prepare for training below.





# Introducing our Oceania Teams



**SAMOA:** Milo Toleafoa, Harry Keil, Leitu Viliamu, Elfrida Keil (Julie Tuala arrives 24<sup>th</sup>)



**PNG:** Bill McKenny, Francis Kompaon, Timothy Harabe, Jeffrey Robby, Rosemary Mawe (Dr Kefu Ma arrives 24<sup>th</sup>)



**TONGA:** Aloalo Ki Eneio Liku, Tevita Vake, Viliami Tufui



**VANUATU:** Andrew Bynon, Marcel Houssimoli, Tony Naliupis



**SOLOMON ISLANDS:** Falai Floyd, Hellen Saohaga, Nohichu Topue Casper Pule



**FIJI:** Sainiana Tukana, Iliesa Delana, Fred Fatiaki, Sharlene Nand

# Welsh Government Welcome Reception to Paralympic Teams Training in Wales



The First Minister of Wales Rt Hon. Carwyn Jones AM hosted a Welcome Reception for the 12 Paralympic Teams from around the World who have chosen Wales as their Pre Games Training destination.

The Reception on Thursday evening was held at the magnificent Welsh Parliament building and each Paralympic Team was presented with a special gift from the First Minister as a souvenir of their Welsh experience.

Each Team was represented by their respective Chef de Missions or Team Manager and invitees included the High Commissioners from Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Tonga.

## Oceania Heads of Delegation receiving their special welcome gift from the First Minister of Wales Rt Hon. Carwyn Jones AM



**Elfrida Keil - Samoa**



**Casper Pule – Solomon Islands**



**Tony Naliupis - Vanuatu**



**Rosemary Mawe – Papua New Guinea**



**Viliami Tufui - Tonga**





Oceania Heads of Delegation come together to meet the Fiji High Commissioner – Mr Solo Mara at the Welcome Ceremony for Paralympic Teams conducting their Pre Games Training Camp in Wales

## High Commissioners Visit

Adding a home touch to the Welsh Government Welcome Ceremony on Thursday to Paralympic Delegations was the presence of three High Commissioners from the Oceania Region – Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Tonga. Their presence at the ceremony was appreciated by the Heads of Delegation, particularly their words of support and encouragement for the coming Games



Delegation Head of the PNG Paralympic Team Rosemary Mawe shares her gift with H.E. High Commissioner Winnie A Kiap from Papua New Guinea.



Fijian High Commissioner Mr Solo Mara joined the Fiji Chef de Mission Sianiana Tukana and delegation heads from Samoa and PNG during the Welsh Welcome Ceremony.

## **Training Update - National Indoor Athletics Centre(NIAC) Cardiff**

The Samoan and Solomon Islands delegations have discovered the benefits of the purpose built National Indoor Athletics Centre, particularly when the climate can effect a quality training session. They have been in awe of the range of facilities and options available in Cardiff, particularly the Indoor training facility, where the staff have been sensational in setting up the throwing areas for their practice sessions.

The choice of venue either indoors or outdoors has allowed the coaches to choose quickly and to ensure that the planned session is not interrupted or cancelled, maximizing the training opportunity. The general consensus from our teams is a **"Big Thumbs Up"** to Cardiff and a wish that some of these facilities could be replicated at home.



Solomon Islands and Samoan Team members arrive at the National Indoor Athletic Centre Indoor



Milo Toleafoa completing some distance work on the indoor track



Leitu Viliamu warming up in the shot put ring



Hellen Saohaga utilizing the throwing frame at NIAC