

### Geography newspaper

The 2012 Olympics are going to be held in London over Paris because of promises of greener games and a huge improvement on the people and land of East London. But how will the globally known Olympic games have an impact on East London and why not hold them in any other area of London?

Although many events will be held across London (table of events and corresponding locations in London below) the main Olympic stadium will be holding all the athletic events and the opening and closing ceremony. This stadium will be built in Lower Lea Valley in East London. It is being built here because the government believes that it will rejuvenate this run-down and derelict area of London by bringing a worldwide known event to this area, which in turn will bring tourism and new public services.

<u>Event</u>	<u>location of event</u>
Road cycling	Reagent's Park
Triathlon	Hyde Park
Beach Volleyball	Horse guard's parade
Gymnastics	O2 Arena (Millwall)
Athletics	Olympic Stadium
Swimming/diving	Aquadome
Horse Events	Greenwich
Archery	Camden Town

Lower Lea Valley is the area around the river Lea which has been contaminated by old industry and a landfill site which have polluted the surrounding area and river with arsenic, lead, petrol, oil, tar and litter. The jobs available in this section of London would have been limited to the nearby chemical plant, soap factory; petrol factory, varnish factory and textiles factory. These factories would have been around between the time that Britain was developing from primary sector jobs to tertiary sector jobs and have now been knocked down or are unused but their contamination still remains. Quite a lot of the land in this area is overgrown wasteland because it is unusable due to contamination.

The olympics games are going to cost Britain 5.3 billion pounds by the time everything has been built. It is hoped that with all of the tourism and money that will be brought here by people that we will overcome this cost and make a profit on the Olympic Games and still have the facilities used in the Olympics for public use, this is why the main stadium has 80,000 seats of which 25,000 are permanent and the rest will be taken away after the games so the stadium will be for public use.

The Olympic park will also include the Olympic village which provides over 17,000 beds for the athletes to sleep in. After the Olympics these will be converted into 3,600 new flats for the public.

The Olympics will provide a lot of new jobs which will be taken up by people living in the run-down Lower Lea area. Some of these jobs will include: cleaning the stadium, security guard, media, ticket salesman, reception in each venue, help office, builders, tour guides, bus drivers, gardeners, and groundskeepers. Although these jobs are not very well paid and most of them are temporary they will still improve the standard of living to the people nearby the stadium. The Olympic games will improve the lives of the nearby residents by improving the area, providing new services and jobs.

Regent's Park - Road Cycling

Camden Town - Archery



Olympic Stadium - Athletics

Aquadome - Swimming / Diving

O2 Arena - Gymnastics

Greenwich - Horse Events

Hyde Park - Triathlon

Horse Guards Parade - Beach Volleyball

### Before the Olympic Games



These pictures show what the Olympic sites looked like before the cleanup operation started on this area. We can see that there is a lot of illegal dumping on the overgrown unused land. The top left picture shows where the aquatic centre has been built, it would have taken quite a while to clear the area of contamination before work can be started there. Even though the area still looks unattractive now that work has started it is not because the area is run-down but because it is covered with building materials.



going to stop cars will also prevent traffic emissions. To encourage people to walk and cycle to the Olympic Games, this will also prevent traffic emissions. There will also be a lot of public transport available. A new Eurostar train station is being built very near the games, this will encourage Europeans to take the greener and cheaper option of catching the Eurostar from France instead of flying.

Emissions will be cut by 50% by generating energy on the site and renewable energy using solar panels. 90% of demolition materials will be re-used / recycled and 20% of materials used in permanent venues will be recycled, half of these materials will be transported to the Olympic park by boat and trains.

The Olympic advertisements are going to promote public transport as the best way to get to the Olympic Games

