

> Jobs  
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Working to deliver  
the Olympic Park



Park people

**Name:** Eugene Oppong-Kwarteng

**Location:** Olympic Stadium

**Role:** Apprentice pipe fitter

**Lives:** Newham



# London 2012 – jobs, skills, futures



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## 30,000

estimated number of workers who will have worked on the Olympic Park alone between 2005 and 2012

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Building the venues and infrastructure for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games will give people in London and the UK access to thousands of construction jobs, training and career opportunities.

As the 'big build: structures' comes to an end and the 'big build: completion' begins, the workforce will grow to a peak of 11,000 on the Olympic Park and Olympic Village. Approximately 30,000 workers in total will have been employed on the Olympic Park alone from 2005 to 2012, with many more through the supply chain up and down the UK.

The Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) is working with partners at the Skills Funding Agency (formerly the Learning and Skills Council), London Development Agency (LDA), five Host Boroughs of Greenwich, Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest, London borough of Barking and Dagenham, Jobcentre Plus and our contractors to deliver a set of challenging targets to maximise the opportunity for sustainable employment.

This collection of case studies and portraits tells the story of building the stage for the London 2012 Games through the eyes of some of the workforce.

The ODA targets are to:

- promote sustainable employment opportunities and boost skills levels locally and across the UK;
- bring opportunities to under-represented groups in the industry including women, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people (BAME) and disabled people;
- deliver a construction workforce of at least 10-15 per cent of residents of the five Host Boroughs;
- ensure at least seven per cent of the workforce is made up of people who were previously unemployed before working on London 2012;
- place at least 2,250 people into traineeships, apprenticeships and work placements (up to 2012); and
- encourage contractors to pay the London Living Wage.

**Name:** Danila Scelzo  
**Location:** Olympic Village  
**Role:** Architect/surveyor  
**Lives:** Newham



# Basketball Arena



**Name:** Curdy Nelson

**Lives:** Hackney

**Role:** Traffic Marshall

Before working on the Park, Curdy was a self-employed plasterer who worked wherever the job was.

Curdy heard about work on the Park when he was looking for permanent work through Hackney Onsite, a local labour scheme. Once he was registered, he got a call from one of the ODA Employment and Skills Managers on the Park who invited him for an interview with one of the contractors.

Curdy has now worked for two years on the Park. He says: 'It's a good venture and something for future reference and being a local person makes it easy to get to work.'

Curdy's job has required him to work all over the Park, checking that footpaths and roadways are

clean. He has also done some field traffic management and escorting of vehicles. Curdy is now based at the Basketball Arena where he checks that the roads are in good condition and makes sure that signage is clear.

Curdy says that he likes working amongst people. When he comes into work in the mornings he enjoys working with his mates. He believes that the people he works with make for a good environment.

When Curdy finishes working on the Park, he would like to move into traffic management as a supervisor or manager with his current employer.

**Name:** Jake Vinnicombe  
**Location:** Olympic Stadium  
**Role:** Apprentice pipe fitter  
**Lives:** Newham



# Olympic Park Enrolment and Pass Office



**Name:** Wanda Cains-Brook

**Lives:** Newham

**Role:** Data receptionist

Wanda works in the Olympic Park Enrolment and Pass Office checking people's credentials to enable them to work on the Park. She was studying, and worked for 19 years for the London Borough of Waltham Forest in various roles but could not find any employment in Health and Safety. She started working on the Park in June 2010.

She says: 'I'm enjoying meeting different people. Coming from Newham, it is great meeting people and being part of this wonderful experience that London has been awarded. For the Park to be in a borough which had been very run down for some time is great. It is going to bring people together, it has already started to, and I feel proud.

'The changes to the site are marvellous and stunning. I think the work that they have done, especially from an environmental point of view, cleaning the soil and reusing it – I think it is incredible the way they are trying to keep the environment ok for wildlife'.

**Name:** Zaynab Mahmoud  
**Location:** Olympic Stadium  
**Role:** Electrician tester trainee  
**Lives:** Waltham Forest



# Aquatics Centre



**Name:** Jordan Johnson

**Lives:** Bromley

**Role:** Apprentice pipefitter

Jordan was at Greenwich College, in south east London, before he worked on the Park. He is currently on a heating and ventilation course at Stratford College, in Newham.

Jordan says that working on the Park while at college is great as it gives him the chance to put into practice what he is learning first hand. He says: 'It makes things link up; learning about tools, equipment and fittings, how to use them and understanding site rules and regulations are completely different when you have to apply them, rather than just read about them'.

He started working as an apprentice pipefitter on the Aquatics Centre on the Park in April. Jordan's job is very varied and requires him to work alongside experienced workers.

His work includes carrying pipes, working in basements, fitting brackets to pipework, crimping and cutting pipes.

Jordan says: 'Working on the Park is a big thing, at my age as well. I'm 17, not many people have the opportunity to work here, it's very good. When it's finished I can say that I worked on one of the Olympic Park attractions, it's very unique, and that I did my apprenticeship on the Park'.

Jordan took an interest in the Games, but he didn't think he would ever be working on the Park. 'I was happy we got the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. I imagined what it would be like to work there and now I am'.

**Name:** Zak Woolford  
**Location:** Olympic Stadium  
**Role:** Apprentice Electrician  
**Lives:** Greenwich



# Handball Arena



**Name:** Tisha-Anne McLean

**Lives:** Waltham Forest

**Role:** Engineer

Tisha-Anne is studying civil engineering and construction management part-time at the University of East London while she completes her training. She has always liked drawings and the structure of buildings. She was able to do a 13-week work placement on the Park in April. Following her placement she was taken on by a Park Contractor. She says that people on her site are very welcoming and she likes working with the other women.

Tisha-Anne deals with document control, her role is to make sure everyone, from sub-contractors to project managers, is up to date with the latest drawing on each building. She also manages the sampling and benchmarking of items for the site.

She says that 'knowing that I'm coming here to the Olympic Park and knowing I play a part in the development of London 2012' is what gets her up in the morning

In the future she would like to expand what she is doing and work in different areas. She has also worked in the environment and sustainability team checking the recycling on site and making sure people are using the correct equipment. She is picking up many new skills while working on the Olympic Park.

**Name:** Rudo Manakore  
**Location:** Olympic Village  
**Role:** Information Manager  
**Lives:** Tower Hamlets



# Structures, Bridges and Highways



**Name:** Paul Henry

**Lives:** Tower Hamlets

**Role:** Graduate Engineer

Paul studied Civil Engineering at Cardiff University before working on the Olympic Park. As a site engineer, he is responsible for all of the technical information on site, providing lines and levels for the builders and making sure work is carried out to the drawings.

His employer is proud of its health and safety record and environmental management, and his role is key in making sure that the works conform to those standards.

Pauls says: 'The Olympic Park is a huge landmark and will definitely go down in history'.

Being from Tower Hamlets, Paul knew the site before the Games were awarded to London. He had family who worked on the Pudding Mill Lane industrial estate. He says: 'As a child I used to visit the family

when they worked there, so I knew the area really well.' He feels that the change to the surrounding area has had a massive impact.

He says that his company has given him a lot of responsibility and has also provided him with a lot of guidance and support.

When his work on the Park has finished, Paul would like to move on to another major project, and work towards his Chartership. He would like to stay working in the east end of London so he can continue to see the positive effects on the local area.

**Name:** Ben Rickman  
**Location:** Olympic Village  
**Role:** Plumber  
**Lives:** Kent



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