

London Olympics 2012



by Nitin Changela

Oh ! What a glorious 17 days we have had. It just seems like a big dream! London was the theatre that the world watched.



First we had the Torch Relay throughout the U.K. This built up the tempo and people turned up in thousands to show support in Wales, Scotland, Ireland and England. We had ordinary folk nominated for their charitable efforts in their communities and celebrities too, like Amitabh Bachhan and Aamir Khan. I think the worthy bearers were the valiant soldiers who carried the torch despite disabilities sustained by IEDs in Iraq. Tickets for the Athletics,



Swimming and Cycling and most other popular sports were like gold dust to obtain. I had applied for 4 events and managed to obtain just four tickets for Boxing at the Excel Arena. I was disappointed, but boy, the atmosphere on the day was electric! There were 10 fights to watch in 3 hours so it was definitely good value and it was good to see the different nationalities supporting their boxers.

I was still not satisfied as we had not been able to experience the ultimate theatre that was the Olympic



Stadium and Park. So when LOCOG announced that more tickets shall be made available, I started to log on their website repeatedly, in a vain chance for tickets. No luck for me after four days of trying, but my son, Prem hit the jackpot on Thursday before Super Saturday!



This was the daytime heats of the Mens 100m, 400m and the Heptathlon along with Pole Vault among an action packed 4½

Hours. We saw Jessica Ennis, Usain Bolt, Yohan Blake and a host of other athletes compete. Jessica Ennis was set up for that evening where she secured the Gold medal along with Mo Farah. The buzz was superb on the underground as we set off at 6.00am for our show at 10.00am. We had Union Jacks draped around us for the day and we were not alone! We saw Olympic history created when Oscar Pistorius of South Africa with no legs compete for the first time with able bodied athletes in the 400m Mens. These were the most memorable moments inside and outside the stadium for my family and we will never see the Olympics in London again in our lifetimes. The sights and sounds still linger on in our heads.

Bring on the Paralympics!! We are going to three events and just cannot wait.

***“The important thing in the Olympic Games is not winning but taking part. The Essential thing in life is not conquering but fighting well.” ---- Baron Pierre de Coubertin
(Founder of the Modern Olympics)***

