

# WELCOME TO 2012 LONDON OLYMPICS

## 2012伦敦奥运欢迎你



四年一次的体育盛宴——奥运会将于2012年7月27日至8月12日在英国伦敦举行。伦敦奥运会的理念是：“伦敦2012将是每一个人的奥运会，每一个人的2012，让奥林匹克精神启发每个人。”让我们拭目以待吧！

○ 张家宜译 张国庆校注

Many of us still remember London's eight-minute performance at the end of the 2008 Olympic Games as they took over the title of host city from Beijing. Now more than three years have passed. How are preparations going in the UK capital for the 2012 Games?

Selina Walker, a reporter with the BBC, found that the majority of Londoners she spoke to felt proud that they would be holding the Games. Most hoped that it would leave a “lasting legacy<sup>1</sup> and benefits” for the city.

*The Guardian* says that “legacy” could be rich and rewarding. British sport has received a great boost<sup>2</sup>. Big and impressive Olympic stadiums are built in East London, one of the poorest parts of urban Europe.

Yet not everyone is looking forward to 2012. “I have endured years of noise,

许 多人还记得2008年北京奥运会闭幕式上伦敦接东道主的8分钟表演吧！现在三年多的时间已过去了。2012年的奥运会，英国首都伦敦准备得怎么样了呢？

BBC记者赛琳娜·沃克，发现大部分受访者都为即将举行赛事感到自豪。多数人希望能为这个城市留下永久性的遗产和实惠。

《卫报》说，这种“遗产”可能既丰富又难得。英国的体育已得到了迅猛的发展。规模宏大的奥运体育馆在英国最贫穷市区之一的伦敦东区建起。

然而，不是每个人都对2012年翘首以盼。“这些年，由于附近建设奥运场地，我可是受够了噪音、交通拥堵、污染和各种不



congestion<sup>3</sup>, pollution and inconvenience due to the Olympic site being built just down the road from me,” Ben, a London web user, commented angrily on the website of the BBC.

What has made Londoners even angrier is the complete confusion over ticket sales. Londoners are not given any preference<sup>4</sup> when it comes to getting tickets for the Games. Even the parents of British Olympic diving champion Tom Daley did not get tickets to watch their son.

For Londoners who do not believe the Olympics will improve life, there is little reason to be excited. As Jenny Jones of the Guardian pointed out: “Without the environmental and social legacy benefits, the Olympics would be little more than four weeks of corporate<sup>5</sup> entertainment and people playing games.”

便。”一位名叫本的伦敦网民在BBC网页上这样愤怒地评论。

令伦敦市民更愤怒的是比赛门票销售混乱，他们购买奥运会门票没有任何优惠。甚至是英国奥运跳水冠军汤姆·戴利的父母也没有得到观看儿子比赛的门票。

对于那些不相信这次奥运会将改善他们生活的伦敦市民来说，丝毫没有值得兴奋的理由。《卫报》的珍妮·琼斯指出：“倘若没有环境和社会效益的话，奥运会充其量不过是为期四周的商业娱乐与比赛。”

## THE MASCOTS<sup>6</sup> FOR THE 2012 SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES

2012夏季奥运会吉祥物

Jokingly described as “two parts-Teletubby, one-part lava lamp”, Olympic mascot Wenlock and Paralympic mascot Mandeville are the

作为2012年夏季伦敦奥运会官方吉祥物的温洛克和残奥会吉祥物曼德维尔，被戏称为“两



1. legacy ['legəsi] n. 遗产，遗赠
2. boost [bu:st] n. 推动，促进
3. congestion [kən'dʒestʃən] n. 拥挤，阻塞
4. preference ['prefərəns] n. 偏爱，优先权
5. corporate ['kɔ:pərit] adj. 团体的
6. mascot ['mæskət] n. 吉祥物



official mascots of the 2012 London Summer Olympics that are getting lots of attention worldwide!

Wenlock has friendship bracelets<sup>7</sup> in the color of Olympic rings while Mandeville has a pink stopwatch<sup>8</sup> to signify the competitive spirit of the games.

分像天线宝宝，一分像熔岩灯”，越来越受到全球的关注。

温洛克戴着象征友谊的手镯，呈奥运五环的颜色；而曼德维尔佩戴粉红的秒表，象征奥运的竞技精神。

## MEDALS 奖牌

A total of around 4,700 medals for the Olympic and Paralympic<sup>9</sup> Games are produced by the Royal Mint. The medal, designed by David Watkins, weighs 375-400g and is 7mm thick, with the sport<sup>10</sup> and discipline engraved<sup>11</sup> on the rim. Following recent tradition, the front of the medal features Nike<sup>12</sup>, the Greek goddess of victory, stepping from Parthenon<sup>13</sup>. The reverse side features the Games logo, the River Thames, and a series of lines symbolizing the energy of the athletes.

大概共计4,700块奥运会和残奥会奖牌由皇家造币厂生产，由大卫·沃特金斯设计，每枚重约

375-400

克，厚约7毫米，边缘刻着运动大小项目的名称。遵照传统，正面印有从帕台农神庙走下来的胜利女神图像，反面是奥运徽标、泰晤士河、以及象



征运动员力量的一系列线条。

## INTERESTING OLYMPIC TRIVIA<sup>14</sup> 奥运趣闻

1. When London hosts the Olympic Games in 2012, they will become the first country to host the Games three times: 1908, 1948 and 2012.

1. 届时，英国将成为第一个举办三届奥运会的国家，分别在1908年、1948年和2012年。



**2.** There are four special Olympic flags that differ from all others in that they have a 6-coloured fringe<sup>15</sup>. Such a flag will be displayed in the City of London. The flag was presented to Boris Johnson the mayor during the Beijing closing ceremony.

**3.** Gold medals haven't been pure gold in years. The 1912 Olympics was the last time that gold medals were solid gold. Ever since, they've been silver with gold plating.

**4.** The first Paralympic Games was held in 1948. The name "Paralympics" comes from the words "Parallel" and "Olympics".

**5.** In 1900, in France, winners got paintings instead of gold medals. Gold, silver and bronze medals weren't given out until the third modern Olympics in 1904. The French gave the winners paintings because they believed they were more valuable.

**6.** The Beijing Olympics, 2008, began at exactly 8:08:08 PM on 8/8/08 because the number 8 is considered lucky in China.

**7.** In order for a sport to be considered for inclusion in the Olympics it must be "widely practiced" by men in at least 75 countries and on four continents, and by women in at least 40 countries and on three continents.

**2.** 奥运会上有四面特别的会旗，其不同之处在于有6色穗饰。其中一面旗帜将在伦敦市展出，这面旗帜是在北京奥运会闭幕式上赠送给伦敦市长鲍里斯·约翰森的。

**3.** 很多年以来奥运金牌不再是真金了。1912年奥运会最后一次使用真金金牌。自那以后，金牌都是银质镀金牌。

**4.** 1948年首次举办残奥会。这个名称来自于单词"Parallel"和"Olympic"的缩写。

**5.** 1900年在法国，获胜者奖品是绘画而不是金牌。直到1904年第三届现代奥运会，才颁发金牌、银牌和铜牌。法国之所以奖励绘画，因为他们认为绘画更有价值。

**6.** 北京奥运会于2008年8月8日8点8分8秒开始，因为8在中国是个吉祥数字。

**7.** 一项体育运动要成为奥运项目，必须得到四大洲至少75个国家的男性以及三大洲至少40个国家的女性"广泛参与"。

7. bracelet ['breɪslɪt] n. 手镯

8. stopwatch ['stɒp,wɒtʃ] n. 秒表, 跑表

9. Paralympic [ˌpærə'ɪmpɪks] n. 国际残疾人奥运会

10. sport [spɔ:t] n. (奥运会)大项目。奥运会大项目叫做sport, 分项目叫做discipline, 小项目叫做event。

11. engrave [ɪn'ɡreɪv] v. 雕刻

12. Nike ['naɪki:] n. 胜利女神

13. Parthenon 帕台农神殿 (希腊用以祭祀雅典娜女神的神庙)

14. trivia ['trɪvi:ə] n. 琐事

15. fringe [frɪndʒ] n. 穗, 边缘