

WHAT AN ICE COMPLIMENT CO DOWN MAN RECOGNISED FOR HIS PART IN SUCCESS STORY

COLIN'S OLYMPIC COLD MEDAL

TONY ALLEN

A CO Down entrepreneur has been told by Olympic chiefs that a piece of every medal won by Team GB at London 2012 is his. Colin Edgar, who is the brains behind local company CET CryoSpas, was given the remarkable accolade after supplying a

top secret recovery room in the athletes' village with his 21st Century ice baths for recovery after exercise.

And following the success of Team GB, who had their best Olympics ever, scooping 29 gold, 17 silver and 19 bronze medals, he has received an official thank you from Dave Reddin, Team GB's Director of

Performance Services. Last week Colin was presented with a framed letter thanking him for the role he played in Team GB's success.

It said: "Colin and all at CET, thank you for your support, effort and fantastic product — the CET Cryospas were the right choice and a huge success, allowing us to provide the best possible support to Team GB in London.

"Thank you for going the extra mile and take pride that a piece of every medal is yours."

Colin, who has also supplied his ice bath-style spas to Manchester City, AC Milan, Glasgow Warriors, the English Institute of Sport, the New York Jets, and the New Jersey Nets, revealed that his Olympic adventure happened by chance.

"We signed up for the Olympic suppliers gateway, CompeteFor, a couple of years ago but the process was so bureaucratic that I didn't pursue it," he said.

"Then, this time last year, we supplied a CryoSpa to the English Institute of Sport at Loughborough University where Team GB would be headquartered for their pre-Olympic Training.

"It was by chance that the Director of Performance Services for Team GB, Dave Reddin, saw our installation there and he contacted me in February this year to discuss his plans for the recovery suite for Team GB in the Olympic Village."

Colin explained that the existence of the recovery suite was so top secret it was given its own code name on the plans.

"It was a very hush-hush facility which didn't appear on any of the Olympic Village drawings and was simply known as Building 54," he said.

"Extensive negotiations took place over the next couple of months and it was proposed that we supply six units.

"I was sworn to secrecy — I didn't have to sign the Official Secrets Act or sign in blood, but it was almost at that level!"

The installation of the specialist spas in 'Building 54', presented some challenges however.

When Colin visited the site he discovered that if all of the chillers needed for the spas to work were placed with the spas there would be a massive heat build up.

That meant he had to quickly change the design so that they could be housed outside.

In the end he managed to finish building the newly designed chillers by working round the clock at his headquarters in Dromore, Co Down.

"We just managed to get the chillers built two days before we were due to depart for the installation," he revealed.

Colin says he is proud to have played a small part in the most



GRATEFUL: Colin Edgar with Dave Reddin and (above) the letter he received from Team GB

Team GB's big thank-you

successful Olympic Games ever. He added: "All in all it's a great boost for a small business from rural Co Down.

"It's proof that world class equipment can be produced locally and that we can compete with any manufacturers worldwide." Since the London 2012 he has received a new order for

spas from the German Olympic Association.

The busy entrepreneur has also set the wheels in motion for a new project called Salsa Bikes, which allow cyclists to change their bikes from single speed to multi-gear without splashing out on a new model. Colin said the idea came to him when he

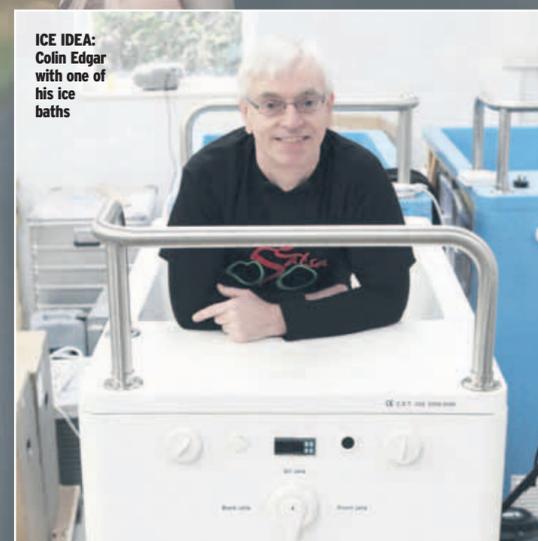
COLD MEDAL



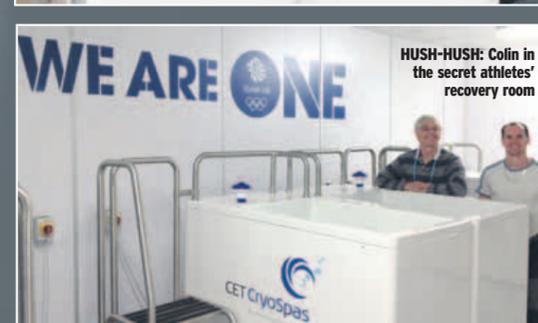
» Thank you for going the extra mile and take pride that a piece of every medal is yours



GOLDEN MOMENTS: Jessica Ennis, Victoria Pendleton and Mo Farah



ICE IDEA: Colin Edgar with one of his ice baths



HUSH-HUSH: Colin in the secret athletes' recovery room

MoD has to make decision on Scap files

ALAN MURRAY

THE Ministry of Defence will have to decide soon whether to hand over secret documents about army spy Freddie Scappaticci or pay damages to a Newry woman for wrongful arrest and false imprisonment.

Legal sources say that the High Court action brought by Margaret Keeley has now reached the "discoverable" stage which means that MoD lawyers will have to decide whether to hand over some of its most secret documents about Northern Ireland intelligence operations or pay up.

The landmark action against Scappaticci, who has denied that he is the top army agent known as 'Stakeknife', was given the go ahead last year when Mr Justice McCloskey ruled that the Newry woman could add Scappaticci and the Ministry of Defence as further defendants in her action against the Chief Constable.

Mrs Keeley, whose husband Peter infiltrated the IRA at the behest of the army and provided intelligence information on its activities in the Newry area, is seeking damages for her detention in 1994 when she



ARMY SPY: Provo Freddie Scappaticci

was arrested by the RUC and questioned at Castlereagh police station about her husband's activities.

She claims that the arrest and questioning operation by the police was merely a ruse to protect her husband's role as an army agent.

She and her husband were later questioned by the IRA and she said she only realised that Scappaticci was one of her interrogators at a house in Belfast when his identity as an IRA member and army agent was publicly revealed in 2003.

In April last year Mr Justice McCloskey ruled that even though her action was beyond the three year limit to bring an action against 'Scap' and the MoD, he would allow her application.

If it decides to settle the action brought by Mrs Keeley, the MoD will avoid handing over many secret documents about Scappaticci.

However, if it settles the action out of court it could lead to similar damages actions by people interrogated by Scappaticci for the IRA or from the relatives of republicans murdered by the IRA after being interrogated by him.

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Fare is one way from Belfast City to London Gatwick and includes taxes, charges and admin fee. Travel to 31 May '13. Book by 20 Dec. Subject to terms, conditions and availability.

The Salsa Bike project is being run via Kickstarter, a funding platform for creative projects, which was launched in the UK in November following huge success in the USA. For more information about Salsa Bikes, log on to www.salsabikes.co.uk/kickstarter