leisure opport

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Bolton One scheme moves forward

Construction work on a new £31m healthcare and leisure complex in Bolton has reached its latest milestone. with a topping out ceremony marking the completion of the main structure.

Facilities at the Nightingale Associates-designed Bolton One development will include a 25m, eight-lane pool built to the Amateur Swimming Association's standards for hosting county events.

One third of the pool's length will incorporate a moveable floor to allow for a range of uses, while a 50sq m (538sq ft) hydrotherapy pool

is also to be included in the complex.

Elsewhere, a 70-station fitness suite; a dance/ aerobics studio; a community gym; and access to the University of Bolton's sports hall will be on offer in the leisure element. The healthcare element will feature an out-of-hours service



Representatives from the project's stakeholders attended the ceremony

base with treatment rooms; an emergency dental service; and a minor injuries unit.

Eric Wright Group is the developer of the new complex, which has been built as the result of a partnership between the university; NHS Bolton: and Bolton Council.



The Diamond Jubilee will be a key event in 2012

VisitBritain secures £27m of funding support

VisitBritain has secured an additional £27m to promote the UK in key overseas markets and to drive greater numbers of visitors to the country over the next four years.

The money will be invested in campaigns designed to capitalise on the international attention the UK is to receive in 2012 - the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Culture secretary Jeremy Hunt said that over the next four years, inbound tourism aims to attract 4.6 million more visitors, spending an additional £2.3bn.

Women's sport missing out on deals

A new report published by The Commission on the Future of Women's Sport has revealed that women's sport is "spectacularly missing out" on large sponsorship agreements.

Big Deal? The case for commercial investment in women's sport found sponsorship of women's elite sport in the UK represented just 0.5 per cent of the total market.

Men's sport currently accounts for more than 61.1 per cent and mixed sports the remainder, with the report showing a continuing "chronic lack" of commercial investment. The value of women's elite sport has grown just 0.1 per cent between the last valuation and 2010-11, despite the forthcoming London 2012 Games.



Women's sport represents 0.5 per cent of the market

Commission chair Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson said: "It's disappointing that more brands and rights holders haven't seized the opportunity to benefit themselves and women's sport, and help create a lasting legacy."

Half a million members set to vote for clubs

Entries are flooding in for the second Health Club Awards, sponsored by Centrum Performance and backed by Health Club Management.

The new annual competition is unique because the winners are voted for by members, who rate their club on service, facilities and value for money. This makes the awards a true mark of each club's ability to meet clients' needs and requirements.

Simon Brown, who runs the awards, said: "We'll find out who's giving the best membership value in regions around the UK."

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SPORT

Harman: "Sport inspires people"

Shadow culture secretary Harriet Harman has hailed the role of sport and leisure in acting as an inspiration to people and for providing jobs and opportunities for young people across the UK.

Addressing the Business in Sport and Leisure (BISL) 2011 Conference at London's Lord's Cricket Ground on 10 November, Harman was making one of her first major speeches since taking over the shadow culture brief from Ivan Lewis last month.

Delegates were told how sport and leisure continues to remain an important part of people's lives, as well as forming part of the UK's national identity. Meanwhile, Harman also hailed the sector's role in employing one-infour young people, while emphasising how important sport and leisure will be in keeping an ageing UK population healthy.



Harriet Harman (left) with shadow sports minister Clive Efford at BISI

Harman told the BISL 2011 Conference: "I look forward to working with you to develop a new plan for jobs and growth in sports and leisure; to protect sports in our regions; to protect sports in schools; and to secure opportunities for young people in sports and leisure. It's vital for the economy, it's vital for young people and for the country as well."

RFU's acting chief executive to step down

Martyn Thomas, the acting chief executive officer of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), is to step down from the position on 16 December following the end of his current contract.

Thomas will also relinquish his position with the International Rugby Board Council

and the Six Nations Committee, as well as the chair of England Rugby 2015.

It has been confirmed that RFU chief financial officer Stephen Brown will take over as acting chief executive officer on 16 December until a permanent replacement is found.

£4m Sheffield sports hub plans approved

Sheffield and Hallamshire Football Association's (SHFA) plans to build a new £4m sports and community hub on the site of the city's former Westfield School have been given the go ahead.

The scheme, which has been approved by Sheffield City Council, will involve the transformation of the 28-acre (11.3-hectare) site and provide SHFA with a new home.

At present, the site comprises eight poorly-drained pitches and vandalised chang-

ing facilities used by more than 20 football and rugby union teams at the weekend.

SHFA's proposals for the site include the creation of a full-size artificial floodlit pitch; five-a-side pitches; and up to eight grass pitches for football, rugby and American Football. A



The proposed development will transform the site of the former school

gym; a jogging/cycle track; archery facilities; and a physiotherapy clinics; are also planned. Funding is to be provided by The Football Association, The Football Foundation, Sport England and the Rugby Football Union, as well as capital raised by SHFA.

Saracens project reaches backing

Revised plans put forward by Saracens rugby union team for the overhaul of Copthall Stadium in Barnet, London, have been backed by two national governing bodies.

UK Athletics and the Rugby Football Union have both indicated support for the £18m plans, which include a refurbishment of existing facilities; new permanent facilities; and the installation of temporary seating.

The current main building to the west of the venue will be redeveloped and a new

permanent stand will be built to the east for use by athletics and rugby union spectators.

Offering fully covered seating, the total capacity of the east and west structures will be 3,000, while the refurbished west stand would also house facilities for clubs and officials. An all-weather surface inside the athletics track



will host up to 16 Saracens matches per year, with the venue made available to the community and local clubs at other times.

For the rugby matches, temporary seating will increase the seating capacity to 10,000,

- 3,000 more than Saracens' current average attendance Watford's Vicarage Road.

The new venue will host its first game in January

Sport England to help councils cut costs

Sport England has joined forces with leisure operators and local authorities to help relieve pressure on budgets, without affecting provision.

The agency has organised seminars outlining solutions that will safeguard facility provision, while achieving up to 30 per cent savings in revenue and capital expenditure.

Surrey's Elmbridge Xcel Leisure Centre hosted the first seminar, with speakers including Sport England property director Charles

Johnston. Another took place at Heywood Sports Village, Rochdale, on 7 November, while Spiceball Leisure Centre in Banbury will host an event on 6 December.

The events will also see the launch of the Affordable 25m Community Pools guide,



produced by Sport England in conjunction with the Amateur Swimming Association.

Under the approach, building costs will be £2.1m-£4m; operating budgets will generate a surplus of £24,000 per year; and pools could be opened within two years of a decision.

Southampton unveils diving facility for Olympic hopefuls

A new dry-land diving studio has been officially unveiled at The Quays Swimming and Diving Centre in Southampton.

The new facility incorporates new springboards and trampolines and improved harness and landing facilities, which aim to allow

divers of all skill levels to perfect their skills alongside pool-based training.

Richard Sheath, chair of the Southampton Diving Academy, said: "This is an important step in maintaining The Quays as a High Performance Centre for British diving."

Sports Grounds Safety Authority launches

The Sports Ground Safety Authority (SGSA), a new organisation created in order to ensure the safety of spectators at venues across the UK, has been launched

SGSA is aiming to build on the work of the Football Licensing Authority, which helped improve the safety of football grounds. However, SGSA's remit will now also extend into other sports.

Sport minister Hugh Robertson said: "The Football Licensing Authority played a critical role in spectator safety at football grounds over the past two decades."

St Helens RLFC receives kevs to new stadium

St Helens Rugby League Football Club has been given the keys to its new 18,000-capacity stadium on the edge of the Merseyside town by developer Langtree.

Langtree appointed Barr Construction to build the £25m venue, which has taken 14 months to complete. Arcadis UK acted as project manager on the development.

The next 10 weeks will see work carried out by the Super League club to fit out the internal areas of the stadium, including kiosks, catering outlets and turnstiles. It is anticipated the first St Helens match will take place at the ground in late January.

Skiplex opens new indoor skiing facility in Chiswick

Chemmy Alcott, the UK's female number one alpine ski racer, has officially opened a new indoor ski simulator training centre at Dukes Meadows Golf and Tennis in Chiswick, west London.

It is the first facility of its kind to open in the UK and will provide Londoners with an indoor venue where users can hone their skiing and snowboarding techniques.

Personal instructors are also available at the new Skiplex facility, which the group said is "ideal" for ongoing training and as a practice aid for beginners or improvers.

Reebok Club unveils new group cycle studio

A two-hour endurance event has marked the official opening of Reebok Sports Club's new group cycle studio at Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London.

The new 198.5sq m (2,137sq ft) facility is one of the largest studios of its kind in the UK and has been equipped with 80 Technogym Group Cycle Bikes.

Reebok Sports Club, which covers 100,000sq ft (9,290sq m) over three floors, added the bikes as part of an investment in equipment totalling more than £100,000.



An artist's impression of the new leisure centre

Waterlane centre set for new year reopening

Waterlane Leisure Centre in Lowestoft, Suffolk, is preparing for a reopening, following an extensive £6.5m redevelopment.

The revamp of the existing leisure facility is being delivered by Pulse as the strategic leisure development partner of Waveney District Council, with work including a new teaching pool and 25m main pool; a thermal spa; and a 100-station gym.

Pulse were appointed by the council, in partnership with Sentinel Leisure Trust, to design, build, provide capital funding, project manage and equip the new centre.

Dunfermline leisure centre nears completion

Dunfermline's Carnegie Leisure Centre is to reopen its doors to the public on 26 November following a £17m redevelopment undertaken by Fife Council.

The new-look complex, which had been due to open 10 months ago, will be operated by Fife Sports and Leisure Trust on behalf of the local authority.

Carnegie Leisure Centre will include a 25m, six-lane deck-level swimming pool with a moveable floor. Meanwhile, a new health suite with steamroom, sauna and spa bath; an 80-station fitness suite; and three aerobic studios will also be on offer.

Pro SW Gym opens in Loughton

Pro SW Gym, a new independent gym which to be used by Ghana's national boxing team ahead of the London 2012 Games, has opened its doors in Loughton, Essex.

A Life Fitness-equipped cardio suite, featuring running machines and cross trainers, and 15 Spinner NXT bikes from Star Trac are among the facilities at the new 4,000sq ft (3728q m) boxing and fitness centre.

Designed to accomodate both amateur and professional boxers, the new Pro

SW Gym also incorporates a full-size ring with six ringside punchbags; a speed ball and two floor-to-floor ceiling balls.

The new facility offers monthly memberships, which include fitness classes, at £49, while a pay-as-you-go option is also available starting at £10 for use of the gym.



The gym will be used by Ghana's boxing team ahead of the 2012 Games

Pro SW Gym owner Michael Amoo-Bediako said: "Boxing is an intensive sport, which requires a lot of cardio and resistance work.

"Speed and stamina are vital for elite boxers, but to achieve greatness, time needs to be spent on building up cardio and respiratory fitness levels."

Fit4less expands with first Welsh club

Low-cost operator Fit4less has continued to expand its UK estate after unveiling its new Port Talbot location, which the health club chain's first in Wales and 15th overall.

The owner of Fit4less, énergie Group, confirmed earlier this year that it was aiming to launch a total of 45 facilities under its low-cost concept by the end of 2012.

Port Talbot's new 17,000sq ft (1,579sq m) Fit4less venue has been equipped by Precor and offers a cardio theatre and

a free weights area, in addition to changing facilities. Personal training and fitness classes are also available.

The opening comes shortly after clubs in Stockport and Hartlepool joined the Fit4less estate, with further sites planned in Redditch,



The Port Talbot club forms part of Fit4less' wider UK expansion plans

Bromley and Stevenage – in conjunction with North Hertfordshire College.

Fit4less Port Talbot co-owner and general manager James Taylor said: "You cannot argue with the price proposition and high quality of product Fit4less has to offer."

Stroud leisure centre to undergo refurbishment

Stroud District Council (SDC) has started work on a £750,000 overhaul of the Gloucestershire town's Stratford Park Leisure Centre.

The start of work coincides with the handing over of the centre's day-to-day management to Sports and Leisure Management (SLM).

SLM will operate the facility under its Everyone Active brand, with improvements to include a new exercise studio at the venue.

An upgrade of the gym; the installation of new fitness equipment; and the creation of a health suite will also be carried out by SDC.

M Club Spa and Fitness opens

A former Esporta Health Club on Festival Heights, Stoke-on-Trent, has been revamped and relaunched as M Club Spa and Fitness by Mo Chaudry.

The entrepreneur bought the 35,000sq ft (3,252sq m) facility in August and has transformed it into a new private club comprising a fitness suite; a spa area; a swimming pool; and a crèche.

A total of 120 pieces of cardiovascular and resistance machines have been installed by Pulse Fitness in the gym, along with its new management software called SmartCentre.

Elsewhere, M Club Spa and Fitness' spa area offers a full range of treatments and wellbeing packages, as well as providing access to the sauna and whirlpool facilities.

In addition to supplying equipment and assisting in the gym layout design, Pulse also



Pulse Fitness has supplied 120 pieces of equipment for the club's gym

assisted in the pre-launch sales and marketing campaign for the facility.

Chaudry said of his new M Club venture: "My vision for the new club was to go back 20 years to when members received the extra attention needed to achieve and fulfil their personal health and fitness goals."

Further expansion for Fitness Unlimited

The Fitness Unlimited gym at the English Institute of Sport-Sheffield is to benefit from a major transformation as part of a ten-week renovation.

The club will be fully refurbished with new Technogym fitness equipment being installed and a new group fitness studio and new changing rooms being added.

Fitness Unlimited is operated by Sheffield International Venues and was recently rolled out into EIS Sheffield when it was awarded the management contract earlier this year.

Paul Hudson, general manager of EIS Sheffield, said: "New and improved gym equipment and a group fitness studio is exactly what our members have asked us for so we are delighted to be able to deliver this project."



The Fitness Unlimited brand rolled out to EIS Sheffield earlier this year

As an elite and community venue, the gym is used by 2012 athletes such as Jessica Ennis and the GB boxing squad as well as members of SIV's GP referral scheme and the On Track: Sheffield scheme for teenage cancer patients.

London Colney leisure centre plans move forward

St Albans City and District Council (SACDC) is to pursue plans for a new leisure centre in London Colney, Hertfordshire, after consulting with local ward and parish councillors.

Further work will now be carried out alongside the local parish council to address issues raised during the consultation, which include ensuring affordable access.

Facilities at the Cotlandswick venue are expected to include a 60-station gym; a dance studio and multi-purpose room; a single-court sports hall; and eight five-a-side pitches.



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The 20.12 campaign shows that the sector is important



UFI IBRAHIM is chief executive of the British Hospitality Association

ourism is one of the world's most competitive global industries, so the announcement by Jeremy Hunt that the government was supporting, with VisitEngland, the 20.12 per cent promotion next year, shows that the government appreciates the value of UK tourism. Combined with the £49bn day visitor spend, the whole sector amounts to a stagegring £86bn of our nation's economy.

Later announcements were also encouraging. A further £27m has been found by DCMS to help VisitBritain mount an image campaign in selected priority markets; and a £19m grant is being made from the Regional Growth Fund to VisitEngland for additional funding to be used on a three-year project entitled, 'Growing Tourism Locally' - a key part of which will be a national campaign aimed at inspiring Britons to take more short breaks and holidays.

All this is good news but marketing alone will not enable tourism to fulfil its job-creating potential as long as UK tourism is at a significant VAT disadvantage compared with Europe. All but two EU members states (Denmark and Slovakia) have a reduced rate of VAT for hotel accommodation and many for attractions and restaurant meals. Unless removed, a barrier like this will hinder the impact of other initiatives.

How easily will a 20.12 per cent promotion be implemented? In some cases, with difficulty. Hospitality businesses are faced with unprecedented rising costs, including increases in business rates, as well as facing difficulties in funding and bank lending, which makes across-the-board discounts particularly difficult to justify and implement. Nevertheless, the BHA is working to ensure that the 20.12 promotion is achievable and - just as important - inclusive to all sectors of the UK hospitality and tourism industry. If operators wish to participate, they will be free to use their own innovation and creativity to decide how best to apply the 20.12 campaign.

We certainly welcome the 20.12 initiative as part of the government's policy to support the industry and we will continue to work in partnership with government to realise the industry's untapped potential.

HOTELS

Government backs 20.12 initiative

Culture secretary Jeremy Hunt has backed a new 20.12 per cent discount scheme among hotels and B&Bs which aims to increase domestic tourism within the UK.

A dozen or so holiday brands – including Bourne Leisure, Superbreaks and Hoseasons – have signed up to the initiative, which is due to be launched early next year. The scheme is also supported by VisitEngland as part of a larger campaign to use the Games to boost domestic tourism. Under the scheme.

holidaymakers booking a short break before the closing ceremony of the Paralympic Games will be eligible for a 20.12 per cent discount. VisitEngland's campaign is supported by a £3m investment from the Olympic budget.

Hunt said: "The 2012 Games give us a oncein-a-lifetime opportunity to showcase all that



perators are expected to take part in the 20.12 senem

is GREAT about Britain.

"We want to show all the wonderful things Britain has to offer to an international audience, but next year will be the perfect opportunity for more of us to holiday in the UK."

Read Ufi Ibrahim's comment on the initiative next to this story (see left).

UK hotel sector reports 'healthy' September

The UK hotel industry experienced a "healthy" September, with rooms yield up 6.8 per cent and 2.1 per cent in London and regional areas respectively, according to new figures.

PKF Hotel Consultancy Services said the performance was "impressive" against the wider economic backdrop, but issued a warning about uncertain times that lay ahead.

London hoteliers reported a 7.5 per cent growth in room rate, while the regional sector saw a 2.2 per cent increase in occupancy help offset a nominal decrease in room rate.

Starwood brings Aloft brand to the UK

Starwood Hotels and Resorts has opened its first Aloftbranded property in the UK with the launch of Aloft London Excel in the heart of the capital's Docklands.

The development – located adjacent to ExCeL – includes 252 loft-style guest rooms; the wxyz bar; the re:fuel by Aloft grab-and-go food pantry; and the re:charge gym.

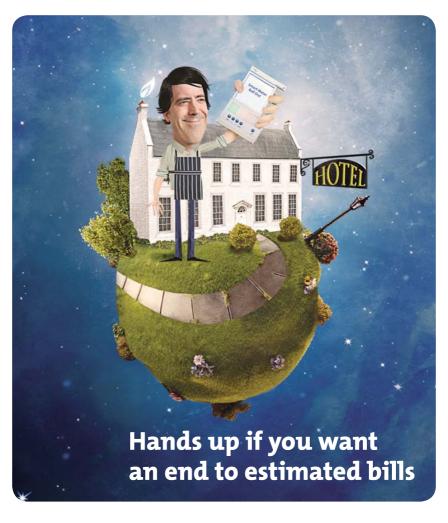
Other facilities include the splash swimming pool and the re:mix lounge, an open space where guests can play pool. Guestrooms offer complimentary Bliss Spa products.

The Rockwell Group is behind the design of the Aloft concept, which is the second Starwood brand to enter the UK this year, after the launch of W London-Leicester Square.



The new Docklands hotel includes the wxyz bar and the re:charge $\operatorname{\mathsf{gym}}$

Aloft London Excel is the second European hotel for the Aloft brand and has been developed by ExCel's parent company, Abu Dhabi National Exhibitions Company.



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TDC submits 'compelling' Dreamland CPO case

Thanet District Council has submitted its application for the compulsory purchase of Margate's Dreamland site as part of plans for a "new and viable" theme park.

The council said it has a "compelling case" for a compulsory purchase order, which will push forward the regeneration of the site alongside The Dreamland Trust.

Plans for the site include the world's first heritage amusement park comprising historic rides and attractions. A public inquiry into the compulsory purchase plans is due to commence on 10 January 2012.



The grant will fund a new arrival area for the zoo

£4.5m EU funding boost for Dudley Zoo scheme

Redevelopment plans for Dudley Zoological Gardens and the Black Country Living Museum have secured £4.5m from the European Regional Development Fund.

The funding will help finance the creation of a new access and joint arrival area for visitors to the zoo, Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Trust.

The funding is the second successful bid for the zoo in recent months. In July, the zoo secured a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to redevelop and preserve its collection of Tecton buildings.

Stonehenge overhaul moves 'a step closer'

Plans to revitalise Stonehenge have moved "a step closer" after the government agreed to close sections of two roads that currently run near to the historic attraction.

An 879m (2,884ft) stretch of the A344 from the junction with the A303 and a 263m (863ft) part of the B3086 from the junction with the A344 are to be shut.

Roads minister Mike Penning said the decision will reduce the amount of traffic currently travelling near to Stonehenge and ease congestion for those heading for the proposed new visitor centre at the site.

ArcelorMittal Orbit topped out

A new sculpture and public viewing platform sited adjacent to London's Olympic Stadium, which has been designed by Anish Kapoor and Cecil Balmond, has reached its full heieht.

The top lattice loop of the 114.5m (375.7ft) ArcelorMittal Orbit has been fitted into its place at the top of the structure and marks the completion of its main steelwork.

Work on the construction of the capital's newest landmark has been undertaken by Ushida Findlay Architects

and Arup, with the tower becoming the UK's tallest sculpture. Visitors will be able to experience views of up to 20 miles (32km) across London, with a lift taking guests to the viewing platform at the top of the structure.

Guests will then be encouraged to travel back down to the bottom using a 455-step



loop is now in place at the top of the interior intain ord

staircase that will spiral around the structure, although the lift will also be available.

London mayor Boris Johnson said: "It would have boggled the minds of the Romans. It would have dwarfed the aspirations of Gustave Eiffel, and it will certainly be worthy of the best show on earth, in the greatest city on earth."

Merlin secures Ice Age deal with Fox

Merlin Entertainments has teamed up with 20th Century Fox with the view of launching a 4D attraction based on the *Ice Age* movie franchise.

It is anticipated that Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs - The 4-D Experience will debut at two Merlin parks in March 2012 - Alton Towers in the UK and Gardaland in Italy.

Designed and supplied by SimEx-Iwerks, the immersive attraction will combine 3D film footage from the third movie in the franchise, with an array of synchronized physical effects.

Upon exiting the 4D experience, visitors will find themselves in an *Ice Age*-themed area where they will have the opportunity to meet their favorite costume characters, as well as

The new 4D attraction will debut at Alton Towers theme park in Stafford

purchase branded merchandise. In addition to the new 4D attractions and gift shop, Alton Towers Resort will also feature two interactive Ice Age-themed bedrooms inside the theme park's Splash Landings Hotel.

Global Immersion appoints new head of operations

Planetarium and 4D theatre supplier Global Immersion has appointed Paul Isaacs, the former operations director of Evans and Sutherland, as its new head of operations.

Isaacs joins the group from Rockwell Collins Simulation and Training Solutions where he held the role of principle manager of Europe, Middle East and Africa programmes.

Martin Howe, Global Immersion CEO said: "Paul will assist with the alignment of our business goals and our aim of providing an ever-improved service to our clients."



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ARTS & CULTURE

New artistic director for Scottish Ballet

Christopher Hampson, a former professional dancer with the English National Ballet, has been named as the artistic director designate of Scottish Ballet.

Hampson is to take up his new role in August 2012, having worked with companies around the world and winning the Barclays Theatre Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance.

"I am looking forward to working with the team at Scottish Ballet to realise an even wider commissioning vision and breadth of distinctive programming," he said.



Oxford Dance Forum moves into new home

Oxford Dance Forum is to unveil a new two-year, artist-led development programme after the group moved to the newly-revamped Old Fire Station.

The Home-bed project, which aims to benefit artists from Oxfordshire and across the region, is to officially launch in spring 2012 with the assistance of a £67,000 Arts Council England grant

As well as providing a hub for professional dance, the Old Fire Station also offers flexible performance space; dance studios; a gallery; and a social enterprise café.

Creative England secures government support

Creative England, an organisation which supports independent arts firms, will net a share of funding from the second £950m round of the Regional Growth Fund.

The financial support will be used in a revolving fund for match funding that supports creative and digital small and medium enterprises across the north west, Birmingham and the south west.

Creative industries minister Ed Vaizev said: "The Creative England project aims to help small and medium-sized companies develop."

ACE reveals strategic funding plans

Arts Council England (ACE) has published details of how it will invest £440m worth of strategic funding between 2012 and 2015, including capital and touring support.

The strategic funding will complement the £1.04bn investment in National Portfolio organisations, with an increase in philanthropic giving among its aims.

ACE's strategic funding plans will consist of three parts. Under targeted grant programmes, there will be three strands that groups can

apply to including the £180m Capital strand to help facilities become more sustainable.

The £50m Catalyst Arts programme aims to help groups diversify income streams, while the £45m Touring programme will encourage collaboration between organisations. In the specific grant commissions section, a £7.5m



Some of the funding will be allocated to help widen or sustain audiences

Audience focus fund will benefit projects that work to widen and sustain audiences or visitors to the arts, museums and libraries.

The Audience fund opened on 4 November, although the £4.5m Artsmark fund is now open to submissions. The Creative People and Places fund will open in early 2012.

Derby gallery to undergo transformation

Derby Museums is to undertake an extensive refurbishment at the historic Joseph Wright Gallery, which is designed to conserve and upgrade the original attraction built in 1882.

It is anticipated the scheme will enable the attraction to showcase more of Derby

Museums' collection of paintings and drawings by Joseph Wright, an English landscape and portrait artist who died in 1797.

Joseph Wright Gallery has now closed in order to undergo the refurbishment project, with its reopening due on 25 February 2012.

CLA underlines role of cultural learning

A new report from the Cultural Learning Alliance (CLA) has underlined the importance of the use of arts in the education of children and young people.

Despite a survey of 2,500 teachers suggesting 13 per cent of schools had already cut back on drama, music and arts, the CLA said cultural learning remains crucial.

The findings included in ImagineNation: The Case for Cultural Learning are based on a review of all available large-scale English language data, which has been funded

by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Among the report's conclusions is that learning through arts and culture boosts attainment in all subjects, while participation in



The alliance underlined the importance of art in the education of kids

structured activities improves cognitive ability. Meanwhile, students from low-income families who take part in arts activities at school are three times more likely to gain a degree.

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YTL to develop new spa hotel in Bath

YTL Hotels, the hospitality arm of Malaysiabased YTL Corporation Berhad, has said it plans to transform a historic Bath property into a new 98-bedroom spa hotel.

Housed in the vacant Gainsborough Hotel building, the hotel is to become one of the first in the UK to use natural thermal water when it opens in 2014.

It is hoped the conversion of the property will start in early spring 2012, although initial work has already been undertaken by Bath Hotel and Spa Limited (BHSL). YTL Hotels will now take over the development. although BHLS joint owner Trevor Osborne will continue to advise on the project.

Meanwhile, work has started on the drilling of a new borehole to source water from Bath's hot springs, which will also be used at the Roman Baths and Thermae Bath Spa.



The spa will offer traditional beauty treatments

Atlas Health Spa opens at David Lloyd Stevenage

David Lloyd Leisure health club in Stevenage, Hertfordshire, has announced the opening of a new day spa on site.

Atlas Health Spa was unveiled on 7 November and offers guests a menu that combines beauty and wellness with health and sports treatments.

The traditional beauty spa element provides treatments using the ESPA product range - including facials, massage and body wraps. Beauty services also include manicures and pedicures using ESSIE, waxing, massage, and evelash extensions.

Meanwhile, sports treatments include osteopathy, physiotherapy, cranial osteopathy, biomechanical assessment and orthotic prescription - all of which are being provided by Osteopathy First, the sports injury specialists.

Longleat buys von Essen hotels

Two hotels that were formerly part of the von Essen group have been sold out of administration by Christie + Co to Longleat Enterprises.

The first hotel to be sold on behalf of von Essen's administrators was the 32-bedroom Bishopstrow House hotel in Warminister, which includes the Halycon Spa.

Elemis products are on offer at the spa, which boasts four therapy rooms - one of which is a double treatment room - and a Rasul Mud Therapy Room decorated in a Turkish Ottoman style.

Meanwhile, the second hotel to be acquired by Longleat is the 21-bedroom Homewood Park Hotel and Spa near Bath, which offers a spa nestled amid the property's gardens.

Spa facilities at Homewood Park include a hydrotherapy pool; a thermal suite with sauna



Bishopstrow House was the first of two properties acquired by Longleat

and steamroom; and a Champagne nail bar, in addition to two treatment rooms offering [comfort zone] therapies.

A number of signature treatments devised by [comfort zone] are on offer at the spa, while an outdoor heated swimming pool within the gardens and changing rooms also feature.

Next phase of Deeside project begins

Flintshire County Council (FCC) and Alliance Leisure have started work on the latest phase of redevelopment work at Deeside Leisure Centre in Queensferry, North Wales.

The latest multi-million pound stage of redevelopment work will see the addition of Wales' first public-sector day spa and an indoor extreme sports zone with one of the ŪK's largest skate bowls.

When complete, Deeside Leisure Centre's spa will offer four treatment rooms; a herb sauna; a crystal steamroom;

a salt grotto; an aroma room; foot spas; and an igloo. A spa pool; heated loungers; and a relaxation area will also form part of the venue's new spa area, which is scheduled to open to guests in early 2012.

Wales' first public-sector day spa will be created during the latest phase

Meanwhile, the old ice rink will house the extreme sports facility. In addition to a large wooden skate park, it will offer 80sq m (861sq ft) of climbing space. ISG will be involved with the delivery of the new facilities.

Macdonald Hotels launches Spa Collection

Macdonald Hotels and Resorts, one of the UK's largest privately owned hotel brands, is to focus on the growth of its spa hotels with the introduction of the Spa Collection.

The first capital expenditure under the new strategy will see the group invest £4m in the

refurbishment of its flagship spa hotel, the Macdonald Inchyra Hotel and Spa, Stirling.

The spa at the Scottish Manor House, will comprise eight treatment rooms, a rock sauna, ice fountain and a massage shower, as well as a Rasul mud therapy room.



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Kengo Kuma will design the new V&A at Dundee

£300m for Dundee's waterfront proposals

A major global regeneration conference has been told that £300m worth of investment has now been secured towards the transformation of Dundee's waterfront.

The figure is one third of the £1bn target required to bring about the regeneration of the area, with a number of projects to benefit such as the proposed V&A at Dundee.

Dundee Waterfront is one of Scotland's largest regeneration projects, divided into five sites, such as the Central Waterfront residential, office and leisure zone and Riverside (green space and leisure).

Preston's Tithebarn scheme 'no longer financially viable'

Preston City Council (PCC) has confirmed that the multi-million pound Tithebarn project is "no longer financially viable" after retailer John Lewis pulled out.

The scheme was given the green light by communities secretary Eric Pickles after a public inquiry and was to include a cinema, cafés and bars alongside retail units.

However, PCC said the current economic climate and John Lewis' decision to withdraw had meant that the Tithebarn development proposals were no longer "deliverable" in their original form.

New business to help UK companies to 'go green'

A new business has been launched by the Carbon Trust to help UK companies "go green" with the installation of more efficient technology and cut energy expenditure.

Carbon Trust Implementation services has been established in order to help businesses remove the three main barriers to improving energy efficiency.

The trust found that the obstacles to firms included insufficient time or resources: being able to quantify the expected returns; and energy efficiency being a lower priority than other concerns.

Read Leisure Opportunities online: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/digital

Landprop plans London scheme

A 26-acre (10.5-hectare) site in Stratford, east London, is to be transformed under plans for a new mixed-use scheme unveiled by Landprop - part of the Inter IKEA Group.

Strand East is designed to regenerate a derelict site with open public spaces, community facilities and a restaurant run by Graysons, along with a 350-bedroom hotel.

A creative zone built around Dane's Yard targeted at the creative industries and the Walk of Chimneys, which will celebrate the area's industrial heritage, are also proposed.

The development site is located to the south of London's Olympic Park and covers the area between Stratford High Street; the Three Mills Wall River; and the River Lea.



The development site is located a short distance from the Olympic Park

Arc-ML are the architects responsible for the proposals, with the first phase comprising the Dane's Yard element having already received approval from Newham Council.

Cyclopark facility to launch in Kent

Cyclopark, a major new complex offering facilities for cycling, running and extreme sports, is due to open its doors to the public near Gravesend, Kent, in spring 2012.

Kent County Council is leading the development, which will be located in 43 hectares (106 acres) of landscaped parkland and is being delivered by civil engineering firm VolkerFitzpatrick.

The scheme, which will cost nearly £10m, will incorporate a 340m BMX racetrack and a skate park, as well as a 2.9km

(1.8-mile) circuit track for cycling and running. Other facilities will include a 600sq m (6,458sq ft) multi-use games area; and 6km (3.7 miles) of mountain bike trails, with the complex capable of hosting an array of events.

Sport England; British Cycling; and the Homes and Communities Agency have also



Cyclopark will provide facilities for a wide range of sports and activities

offered funding, in addition to the Colver Fergusson Charitable Trust and EU.

Sport minister Hugh Robertson said: "With the Olympics taking place in the year that Cyclopark is due to open, 2012 looks set to be an incredible year for sport; not only in London but throughout the South East."

Work starts on new Irish World Heritage Centre

Work has now started on a two-phase development to build a new Irish World Heritage Centre in Cheetham Hill, Manchester, 25 years after the original venue opened.

The venue, which celebrates the history and contribution of Irish communities across the

world, will be located at the heart of a 25-acre (10.1-hectare) site on Queen's Road.

An attraction exploring the history of Irish communities worldwide will be created, while the first phase will also include a multi-use hall; a bar and restaurant; and a business centre.

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Provision of Operating a Function Room, Catering Facility, Licensed Bar & Café Bar/Bistro

Life Leisure invites tenders from suitably experienced organisations wishing to apply for the provision of operating various catering facilities within a brand new £8 million new build facility in Woodley, Stockport. This exciting development will house a large function room, kitchen and catering facilities, a licensed bar and a cate Bar/bistro.

Massive potential lies with the use of the kitchen facilities to provide hot/cold food for functions with a cover of 160, catering for meetings, and functions on or off site.

The initial contract will be for five years with a breakout clause at 3 years but also offers the option of an extended 10 year lease with the contribution of capital funding for the fit out of the facilities.

The proposed opening date of the facility is June 2012. The exciting development will provide a training function in partnership with Stockport College and will house 500 students per weekday and the health club will have a minimum of 4000 members using the centre. In addition the usage of the football pitches during the week is expected to potentially reach an additional 5000 customers. Initially, prospective operators must be able to demonstrate previous experience of similar operations and be prepared to provide references by completing the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire. Applications are welcome from single organisations or consortia from the public, private and voluntary/community sectors.

To express an interest please send an introductory email to info@lifeleisure.net

Initial expressions of interest must be received no later than 9th December 2011.

After this date, full tender documentation will be sent out to interested parties.

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The London Borough of Bromley is seeking expressions of interest from a suitably experienced development and management partner who will fund, design, construct, manage, maintain and operate a multi sports hub in Norman Park, Bromley.

The current offer at the park includes grass football pitches and an athletics track which is home to the successful Blackheath and Bromley Harriers Athletics Club. Although the site is well used, there is an opportunity to unlock its full potential.

Development opportunities could include floodlit astro-turf football pitches, upgrades to the athletics track facilities and/or inclusion of cafeteria and function facilities. As the park is green belt land, special conditions may be required to justify the development.

The successful partner will work in partnership with the Council and to develop proposals that support the Council's aspirations for the site.

To request an information pack containing details of this exciting opportunity, please email hannah.jackson@bromley.gov.uk or telephone 020 8313 4456



Expressions of interest should be received by Monday 5th December 2011

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Brits still opting for staycations

While a number of indicators suggest the global tourism sector is in for a tough ride during 2012, there is optimism that domestic UK tourism will prosper during 2012.

According to the World Travel Market (WTM) 2011 Industry Report, 38 per cent of Brits did not have a holiday during 2011, with the weak pound, the government's austerity measures. the increased cost in flying and the real-term cuts in earnings combining to create a 'perfect storm' to create

barriers for outbound tourism.

This has resulted in Brits opting to taking more domestic holidays, with VisitEngland figures showing that in July 2011 alone, the number of domestic overnight trips taken in England was 11.6 million, a 12 per cent increase on July 2010.



Announcing the results, WTM director Fiona Jeffery said: "The findings confirm yet again that UK holidaymakers are reassessing how they spend what little money they have, and that government and local tourism taxes are compounding the current economic difficulties?

FUR6.6m for nine tourism schemes across Ireland

More than EUR6.6m (£5.7m) worth of government funding is to be shared by nine tourism projects across Ireland with an emphasis on outdoor-based activities

Tourism minister Leo Varadkar made the announcement during a visit to County Clare, with cash allocated through Fáilte Ireland's Tourism Capital Investment Programme.

Varadkar said: "Walking and cycling play to our strengths as a holiday destination. The easier we make it for participants, the more attractive Ireland becomes as a destination."

London to see Olympic tourism slump?

The European Tour Operators Association (ETOA) has found that its members are expecting a "significant downturn" in inbound leisure tourism during the 2012 Games.

ETOA canvassed 38 operators who bring more than 2 million people to the capital a year, with bookings for the Games period currently down 95 per cent on normal levels.

Forward sales projections published on 31 October also predict a 60 per cent fall in bookings for July and August outside the Games period and

a 20 per cent shortfall for the rest of the year. While the figures only represent the current leisure tourism trends, ETOA said that booking numbers will have to strengthen "enormously" to plug the shortfall. If the London drop is seen



ETOA said current booking levels for Games-time are down 95 per cent

across the UK, the economy is to miss out on £3.5bn of business for July and August alone. ETOA's Tom Jenkins said: "During the

Olympic period itself, there is currently almost no demand from regular tourists."

Tourism getting the credit in deserves



EDWINA HART is business minister at the Welsh Assembly

he decision to move responsibility for tourism from the former Heritage department to my new ministerial portfolio of Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science was a clear acknowledgement of the important contribution tourism makes to the potential economic prosperity of every part of Wales. One of my first decisions as Business Minister was to designate Tourism as one of three new priority sectors in the Welsh economy. By making it a new priority sector, along with Food and Farming and Construction, we can strengthen the distinctive national identity of Wales, within the UK and internationally, as a place to visit, invest in and as a place to do business.

These three sectors will build on the six existing priority sectors that we are supporting to help Welsh businesses grow and create the jobs needed for the future development of our economy - Energy and Environment; Creative Industries: Life Sciences: ICT and: Financial and Professional Services

I am delighted that Dan Clayton Jones, chair of the Heritage Lottery Fund, has accepted my invitation to chair the new tourism panel. He also becomes the Welsh representative on the VisitBritain board. I recently announced the members for the tourism sector panel, they represent a wealth of experience and expertise and I am confident they will make a significant contribution to support and help the sector grow and create new jobs. Key commitments within our programme for government. launched recently by the first minister, also reflect the crucial role for tourism in growing the economy and creating jobs.

Those commitments include: developing tourism activity and niche markets and securing maximum benefit from major events in our high profile venues; promoting Wales as a destination with a high quality tourism offer; working to extend the tourism season and associated benefits; identifying opportunities to improve visitor infrastructure in Wales and supporting investment in staff training and management to support a high quality tourism industry.

Carry On and Keep Calm



GARETH EDWARDS is education director at The Springboard

he economy is understandably dominating headlines today. Every time we pick up a newspaper or turn on a TV, we're bombarded with tales of woe about the economy, and the latest threat of a double dip recession to add a bit more gloom.

Working for a charity can be challenging as the charitable aspect of giving is often the first thing to be hacked off a bottom line when belts need to be tightened. But thankfully Springboard, which is celebrating its 21st year, has been punching above its weight for a long time, and with the support of the hospitality, leisure and tourism industry, will continue to do so.

There is a hugely strategic aspect to the funds raised by Springboard, as monies raised are used to help deliver a pipeline of talented recruits to the industry over the next couple of years. The importance of this aspect can only be re-enforced as the education media tells us that our young people lack skills such as team work, and independent thinking to help the economy recover. Add that to ever increasing restrictions on visas and work permits and it becomes easy to feel more than a little depressed about the development of the sector in the UK.

Springboard is committed to ensuring that firms weather the storm with a constant supply of talented recruits to the market. The sector needs this assistance from us and we're channelling all our efforts into ensuring we can deliver. Links with education and training providers, coupled with our comprehensive business partnerships, mean that we been able to build trust about what we do and how we do it. People know that Springboard really works on delivering quality and consistency in the market place - even when times are hard.

It's become obvious to all of us that we have to batten down the hatches for what will continue to be a bumpy ride, with hospitality not immune. But the sector should breathe a sigh of relief that Springboard is big enough to help you cope and small enough to care. Carry on and keep calm!

TRAINING

Everyone Active invests in kids' fitness

Leisure management company Everyone Active has trained up its entire fitness staff in order to be better equipped to offer physical activity sessions to children.

A total of 197 fitness trainers and workers across Everyone Active's 75 leisure centres throughout the UK have completed the Adapting Fitness Instruction for Adolescents Level 2 qualification.

Trainers will look to use their specialist skills to adapt fitness classes, such as circuits, spin and step, to a previously under-provisioned demo-

graphic of young teenagers - 11-15-year-olds. The qualification also includes an accred-

ited child protection and safe guarding unit and is delivered by Fit For Sport.



Trainers will use specialist skills to adapt classes for 11-to-15 year olds

By the end of the year, all full time staff employed by the company will have completed the qualification, which will enable them to better cater activities to 11-15-year-olds.

Edinburgh property receives support

The Scottish Historic Buildings Trust (SHBT) has been awarded initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards its proposals for Riddle's Court on Edinburgh's Royal Mile.

SHBT also received development funding to work up a full bid for HLF support of £2.4m, which will go towards a £5.8m scheme of repair and restoration work has been planned for the A-listed property in Edinburgh's Old Town, which is believed to be one of the city's oldest surviving courtyard houses.

The property will form part of The Patrick Geddes Centre for Learning and Conservation and will provide an extensive educational programme, as well as a hub for the built environment. The proposals will see the ground floor offer exhibition space to interpret the



One of the historic rooms at Riddle's Court on Edinburgh's Royal Mile

development of Riddle's Court and the influence of Patrick Geddes, the founding father of modern town planning.

Colin McLean, head of the HLF Scotland. said: "This project will totally rejuvenate this fine, medieval building, uncovering its historic features and its fascinating social history."

Millward to retire as STA chief executive

Roger Millward will retire as chief executive of Swimming Teachers' Association (STA) in July 2012 after 17 years in the role.

He will relinquish his position on his 70th birthday in July 2012 and will be replaced by Alan Siddons, STA's current business development director. Millward will retain a consultative role within the association.

During Millward's tenure as CEO, STA has quadrupled its membership and increased the number of people trained to swim to more than 30,000 per year in the UK.



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Duty Manager at Spelthorne Leisure Centre,

Everyone Active, Staines, United Kingdom

Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Staines, Middlesex, United Kingdom

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Mechanical Fitter, Gullivers Theme Park, Warrington

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REPS Registration Supervisor, Skills Active Group, Croydon, United Kingdom

Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex, United Kingdom

Health and Wellbeing Manager, Everyone Active, Plymouth, United Kingdom General Manager, Fusion, Charnwood, Loughborough, United Kingdom

Duty Manager, Ealing Squash & Fitness Club, London, United Kingdom

School Games Organiser, Golden Hillock School, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Head Coach, The Running School, Southampton, United Kingdom

Swim Teacher, Everyone Active, Fareham, United Kingdom Regional Account Managers x 2, Gladstone Health &

Leisure, North & Glasgow, United Kingdom

Operations Director, The Shard, London Bridge, United Kingdom

Personal Trainer, Fitness First, London and South East, United Kingdom

Active Lifestyles Advisors x 3, Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom

Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Romford, Essex, United Kingdom

Read Leisure Opportunities online: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/digital

Sales Manager, Beadlow Manor, United Kingdom

Hyndburn 2012 Legacy Officer, Leisure in

Hyndburn, Accrington, United Kingdom

Fitness Manager, Ashford Leisure Trust, Kent, United Kingdom

Duty Manager, University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom General Manager - Oxford Ice Rink, Fusion, Oxford, United Kingdom Club promoter (part-time), Energie Group, Guildford, Surrey, United Kingdom fitness instructor (full-time), Energie Group, Guildford, Surrey, United Kingdom

Fitness instructor (part-time), Energie Group, Guildford, Surrey, United Kingdom

Fitness Trainers, Energie Group, Chelmsford, United Kingdom

Personal Trainers, Pure Gym Limited, Edinburgh, United Kingdom Personal Trainers, Pure Gym Limited, Bournemouth, United Kingdom

Personal Trainers, Pure Gym Limited, Manchester, United Kingdom

Personal Trainers, Pure Gym Limited, Belfast, United Kingdom

Energy Manager, Leisure Connection Ltd, Nationwide, United Kingdom

Reports Analyst, Leisure Connection Ltd, United Kingdom

Fitness Managers, Leisure Connection Ltd, Nationwide, United Kingdom Business Manager, Leisure Connection Ltd, Harpers at Parklands Leisure Centre, Okehampton, Devon, United Kingdom

Business Manager, Leisure Connection Ltd, North Kesteven, United Kingdom

Business Manager, Leisure Connection Ltd, Long Sutton, Spalding, Lincolnshire, United Kingdom

Tutors and Assessors, Fitness Industry Education, Various, United Kingdom

Mat Based Pilates Tutor/Assessor, Future Fit Training, Midlands / South, United Kingdom

Experienced exercise professionals required, Ten Pilates, Central London, United Kingdom, United Kingdom

Duty Supervisor (Cover), Tone Leisure, Totnes, United Kingdom

Body Balance Instructor, Tone Leisure, Kingsbridge, United Kingdom Sales and Retention Manager - South Hams Contract, Tone Leisure,

Ivybridge/ Kingsbridge/ Totnes/ Dartmouth, United Kingdom

Part Time Sales Advisor / Fitness Club Promoter. Ènergie Group, Porstmouth, United Kingdom

Sales Advisor/ Club Promoter, Energie Group,

Leighton Buzzard, United Kingdom

Membership Sales Advisor, Energie Group, Liverpool, United Kingdom

Beauty Therapist, Center Parcs, Whinfell Forest, Cumbria, United Kingdom Group Spa Operations Manager, ESPA International, Farnham

Full and Part Time Therapists, Wildmoor Spa and Health

Club, Stratford upon Avon, United Kingdom Spa Operations Manager, Shire Hotels Ltd, Leeds, United Kingdom

Massage Therapist, Verbier Exclusive, Verbier, Swiss Alps, United Kingdom

Spa Therapists (Full and Part time), The Malvern Spa, Worcestershire, United Kingdom

UK Southern Sales Manager, Barr + Wray, London

Beauty therapist, Energie Group, Guildford, Surrey, United Kingdom General Manager, Mack Trading, Manchester, United Kingdom

Personal Trainers, Pure Gym Limited, Walton on Thames, United Kingdom

General Manager, The Gym Group, Bournemouth, United Kingdom

Personal Trainers, Pure Gym Limited, Coventry, United Kingdom

General Manager, The Gym Group, Wood Green, United Kingdom

General Manager, The Gym Group, London Stockwell, United Kingdom General Manager - Luton, The Gym Group, Luton, United Kingdom

Personal Trainer, The Gym Group, Glasgow, United Kingdom

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DUTY MANAGER

Salary: £18 000p/a Hours: 42hrs/week
Ealing Squash & Fitness Club is looking for an
enthusiastic, self-motivated and flexible individual who
is committed to delivering excellent customer service.

The individual will be responsible for day to day management of this Club.

You will need to possess a relevant professional qualification, at least 1 year management/supervisory experience and be prepared to work shifts and weekends.

The facility offers 3 floors of state of the art gym, a studio, 2 squash courts and a bar.

To apply for this position please send your cv to Ada: ada@ealingsfc.co.uk

UK Senior Sales Manager

Due to our exciting growth strategy Wattbike are recruiting for the position of Senior Sales Manager for the UK. The successful candidate will be highly molivated for here sales in the UK through their own actions in addition to their management of a small but floussed sales team. You will be responsible for developing and manitaring key relationships with major gym operators, and establishing sales across the whole fitness sector. They will be required to manage every stage of the sales process from introduction of a customer to the Wattbike through to closing the sale. You will be responsible for setting the sales team's fancial targets in line with the overall business strategy, aiming to meet and exceed their targets. You will also be required to review your own, and your team's, performance and report to the Sales Director and the Board of Directors. The successful candidate will have a loss of the Sales Director and the Board of Directors. The successful candidate will have a similar role, ideally within the fitness industry.

Package: £40K+ OTE to total of £80K + benefits

Please visit our website to view the full job description & to apply directly - http://wattbike.com/uk/company/job: Closing date 15 December 2011



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Gulliver's Family Theme Parks currently operate 3 theme parks, 1 Farm & Dinosaur park, 1 camping and caravanning site and 2 Splash Zones. Due to our continued success and future expansion plans we require:

A full time Mechanical Fitter for our Warrington Park

Reporting to the theme park Duty Manager you will be working with an existing team of electrical and mechanical fitters. Your duties will include a daily pre-operational safety & maintenance inspections on all rides within a designated area of the park, performing weekly & monthly Inspections on rides and performing any necessary repairs and maintenance to rides prior to the variety of the park operation.

A full time Splash Zone Manager for our Warrington Park.

Reporting to the Theme Park Revenue Manager you will be responsible for the smooth running of the Splash Zone attraction, comprising of an indoor water play feature, soft play area, and both catering and retail facilities. You will have excellent interpersonal skills with a flexible, 'hands on' approach. Preferably with a background in leisure and an understanding of poolside or pump room operations, this would suit a junior manager looking for a multifunctional challenge to further their caree.

If you are self motivated, have a flexible attitude towards your work and want to become part of the Gulliver's team please in the first instance send your CV with current salary package to:

lan Gardner (Operations Director)
Gulliver's World, Warrington, Cheshire, WA5 9YZ
or e – mail: darren@gulliversfun.co.uk

Membership and Office Services Manager



Package: up to £35k

Dynamic, charismatic and customer focussed individual to join the UK's leading Commercial Visitor Attractions Association

In our 75th anniversary year, BALPPA is the non-profit making Trade Association which represents the interests of owners, managers, suppliers and developers in the UK's vibrant commercial leisure parks, piers, zoos and static attractions sector.

Reporting to the Chief Executive, this exciting position provides a comprehensive and efficient support and administration service to the members and officers of the Association, acting as a key contact and co-ordination point for our many members, partners and stakeholders.

Experience of working in a similar environment within the commercial attractions industry or in a membership organisation is desirable. Ideally you will have experience of arranging events, seminars and trade shows and the ability to work within a small support team.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 18 NOVEMBER

Visit www.balppa.org/jobs.cfm for full job description and person specification.

Please apply by email to: jeremy@balppa.org

THE GLOBAL RESOURCE FOR ATTRACTIONS PROFESSIONALS

ATTRACTIONS MANAGEMENT 2012–2013 Handbook



The 2012-2013 Attractions Management Handbook – the ultimate reference guide for the international attractions market – will be published in spring 2012 as a comprehensive resource for operators and suppliers worldwide. The handbook will be distributed to buyers and operators and will also have bonus distribution at key industry events.

WHAT'S IN THE HANDBOOK?

SUPPLIER INFORMATION

- Company profiles: including key information
 - including key information, contact details, images of products, a company logo and a picture of a key contact
- Multiple listings of industry suppliers
- Innovation roundup
- Web address book
- Product selector
- Organisation contact book

OPERATOR INFORMATION

- Key industry statistics and research
- 2012-2013 Diary: industry events, shows and networking opportunities
- Predictions and trends for 2012-2013
- Features and analysis
- Resource section with contact information
- Development pipeline
- Green resources

TO BOOK YOUR PROMOTION OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT JULIE BADRICK

Call +44 (0)1462 471919 or Email juliebadrick@leisuremedia.com









In 1066 an arrow met its mark. In 2012 you'll help us hit our targets.

General Managers: Dover Castle, Kenwood and Wrest Park
Property Manager: Hadrian's Wall (4 English Heritage Hadrian's Wall sites and Carlisle Castle)
Area Managers: West Midlands; East territory (East Midlands and East of England)
Property or Site Managers: Walmer Castle, Battle Abbey, Eltham Palace, Brodsworth Hall,
Belsay Hall, Whitby Abbey, Stott Park Bobbin Mill, Bolsover Castle, Beeston Castle
Operations Managers: Yorkshire and Hadrian's Wall sites

Commercial Managers: Osborne, Dover Castle and Stonehenge Plus other Historic Property Manager roles nationwide.

Salaries range from c£18,900 to £47,700 plus up to 15% performance related pay, depending on role, location and experience

Perhaps you'll use your management and leadership expertise while treading the best-known frontier of the Roman Empire, Hadrian's Wall? Or maybe on Hastings' battlefield your entrepreneurial eye will spot a new business opportunity! Because while we're bringing history alive for over 11 million visitors each year, we're also keen to see our business continuing to thrive, and with this in mind we're looking for experienced General, Site and Area Managers to join our restructured Historic Properties Department within the English Heritage National Collections Group.

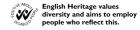
In all of these roles you will be responsible for the overall management of a historic site, or collection of sites, including a team of property stewards and all income and expenditure budgets. Day-to-day you'll ensure the highest standards of presentation, customer service and overall property stewardship, as well as taking responsibility for health and safety and security. Working in close strenship with other departments within English Heritage, and external stakeholders and partners, you'll see that each property achieves its full potential, in providing a holistic and exciting visitor experience, and effectively marrying conservation, curatorial and commercial aspirations in pursuit of income targets for admissions, membership, realic, catering, knoliday cottages, hospitality, filming, concerts, and events.

You may not have managed a castle or historic house before, but you'll certainly have worked within the cultural sector or leisure and tourism industry, have experience of running a business, and you'll know how to deliver a first class visitor experience. Your creative and entrepreneurial talent, coupled with your natural judgement, communication and organisational skills, will shine through, helping you find innovative ways to engage the public so that they not only take home great memories, but return to visit again and again.

Recruiment for management roles will involve attendance at an assessment centre. These will be held week commencing I2th December for positions at Dover Castle, Wrest Park, Hadrian's Wall and the Area Manager posts. Assessment centres for other management roles will be from week commencing 9th January.

To discover more and apply, please visit our website at www.english-heritage.org.uk/management-vacancies Closing date: 4th December 2011.





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£14.4m Scunthorpe venue unveiled

Scunthorpe's new £14.4m Baths Hall, which will host to a programme of music. theatre, comedy and dance events, has been unveiled

North Lincolnshire Council's (NLC) architects led the design of the complex. which is located on the site of the former Scunthorpe Youth Centre and old Baths Hall

Built by local firm Clugston Construction, the venue has retained the frontage of the 1930s Baths Hall and boasts an auditorium accommodating more than 1,000 seated and up to 2,000 standing.

Nick Reed of SMG Group, which is to run the venue on behalf of the local authority, said: "This is a very special time to be involved in The Baths Hall. We are opening a building to



The new venue will host a range of music, dance and arts performances

be enjoyed over many years to come. We're also aware we're following in the footsteps of a venue that meant many different things to many different people over the last 70 years."

SNP revives minimum alcohol pricing proposals

The Scottish National Party (SNP) has called on other parties in the Scottish Parliament to support its plans for the introduction of a minimum price per unit of alcohol in Scotland.

Efforts by the Scottish Government to implement the proposal last year were thwarted by opposition parties, but the SNP secured an overall parliamentary majority in May.

Bob Doris, vice convener of the health committee, said: "To move Scotland forward we must face the nation's problems head-on and

not shirk away from alcohol misuse.

Luminar Group enters administration

Luminar Group Holdings, the operator of nightclub chains including Lava and Ignite; Oceana; and Liquid, has entered administration after its lenders refused an extension to its banking facility covenants.

Earlier this year, Luminar secured a waiver of "certain covenants" in a three-year facility with its Banking Group, which comprises Lloyds TSB, Barclays and the Royal Bank of Scotland. The waiver expired on 27 October and the Banking Group informed the group that it was not going to grant an extension.

The decision left Luminar unable to meet repayment obligations and its shares were suspended from the official list by the Financial Services Authority. Administrators from Ernst and Young were appointed by the group.

A Luminar spokesperson said: "The Banking Group informed Luminar that it will not grant



Luminar's nightclub brands include Lava and Ignite

an extension to the waiver when it expires. Absent such waiver, the company is unable to meet certain of its repayment obligations to the Banking Group.

"The directors of Luminar have no option but to take steps to place the company and certain of its subsidiaries into administration."

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