

leisure opportunities

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Daily news & jobs: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

Kids 'losing links' with outdoors

A new report has claimed to have found "overwhelming" evidence of a long-term decline in children's relationship with the outdoors.

Natural Childhood, which has been compiled by author, TV producer and naturalist Stephen Moss, combines years of academic research and surveys on the subject to highlight how a generation of children is finally losing touch with the natural world.

The new research has found that fewer than 10 per cent of kids play in wild places; down from 50 per cent a generation ago. Meanwhile, the 'roaming radius' for kids has declined by 90 per cent in just one generation (30 years).

The study shows that capturing children before they enter the teenage years is crucial, with Moss' research clearly showing that if you



The study found that fewer than 10 per cent of kids play in wild places

get young people hooked before they reach 12-years-old, it will help to establish a lifelong passion for the environment.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=FoTiP>



The survey will assess the impact of funding cuts

Museums Association in second 'cuts survey'

The Museums Association has launched its second annual survey in order to examine the impact of government and local authority cuts on museum services in the UK.

According to the organisation, the study will allow for year-on-year comparisons to be made with last year's findings and offer an insight into the effect of budget cuts.

In 2011, more than half of the museums that took part in the research (53 per cent) saw a reduction in funding, with 20 per cent reporting a cut of at least 25 per cent.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=Q3z7R>

The Visitor Attraction Company acquired

Paragon Entertainment, the York-based attractions design, production and fit-out company, has completed the purchase of The Visitor Attraction Company (TVAC).

TVAC is a provider of strategic development, operating and project management services to the sector and has been acquired for a maximum consideration of £300,000.

Among some of the schemes involving TVAC are the ArcelorMittal Orbit viewing platform in the Olympic Park and Skyvue in Las Vegas, US.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=07uY>

Digital venture for FIA/Sport England

David Stalker, CEO of the Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has announced details of a new joint venture with Sport England, which is designed to help secure a digital legacy for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Writing in the April issue of *Health Club Management*, Stalker said the partnership would encourage consumers to become more physically active and, as a result, grow membership numbers at sports and health clubs.

The strategy will be based around a new themed website – to be launched in the run up to the London Games – offering consumers that have been inspired by the Olympics an easy way of accessing sport in their area.



The new strategy is centred around a themed website

Describing the scheme, Stalker said: "We live in a digital age in which consumers are used to buying online, and in which we expect instantaneous outcomes at a click of a button."

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=p5W8q>

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The Leisure Media Company
Portmill House, Portmill Lane,
Hitchin, Herts SG5 1DJ, UK
Tel: +44 (0)1462 431385
Fax: +44 (0)1462 433909
e-mail: please use contacts'
fullname@leisuremedia.com

Subscriptions
subs@leisuremedia.com

Editor

Liz Terry 01462 431385

Managing editor

Tom Walker 01462 471934

Assistant editor

Pete Hayman 01462 471938

Design

Ed Gallagher 01905 20198

Internet

Dean Fox 01462 471900

Tim Nash 01462 471917

Publisher

Julie Badrick 01462 471919

Associate publishers

Paul Thorman 01462 471904

Simon Hinksman 01462 471905

Annie Lovell 01462 471901

Account manager

Sarah Gibbs 01462 471908

Account manager, attractions

Ben Barnard 01462 471914

Property desk

Simon Hinksman 01462 471905

Publisher, Spa Opportunities

Annie Lovell 01462 471901

Financial Controller

Sue Davis 01395 519398

Financial Administrator

Denise Gildea 01462 471930

Circulation Manager

Michael Emmerson 01462 471932

Subscribe to Leisure Opportunities,

Online: www.leisuresubs.com

Email: subs@leisuremedia.com

Tel: +44 (0)1462 471913

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SPORT

Tennis and judo receive funding cut

Sport England has reduced the amount of funding to the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and British Judo Association (BJA) as a result of "disappointing participation figures".

The LTA has renegotiated its participation aims with the funding agency after agreeing a cut of £530,000 due to its failure to achieve its initial growth targets for the period between 2009 and 2013.

Meanwhile, the BJA has also revised its growth target after agreeing a £353,000 cut. The decisions follow "lengthy negotiations" between the bodies and Sport England.

Sport England's *Active People Survey* has shown a decline in the average number of people playing tennis at least once a week from 487,500 (2007-08) to 375,800.

Participation in judo over the last two years has been described as "flat" – both in terms of



Tennis has suffered a £530,000 cut after missing its participation targets

the number of people taking part at least once a week and at least once a month.

Sport England chief executive Jennie Price said: "Sport England has been clear that failure to achieve the agreed growth in a sport would lead to a governing body's overall funding levels being reviewed."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=T6g7N>

Firms appointed to sport's Legal Panel Framework

A number of law firms have been appointed to the new Legal Panel Framework, which is to provide services to national governing bodies for sport and recreation organisations.

Sport England, Sport Wales, UK Sport and the Sport and Recreation Alliance have set up

the framework, which is formed of 10 firms selected through a procurement process.

It comes after it was found that sector organisations face challenges in terms of finance and resources when accessing legal services.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Z9r5G>

Windsor Park scheme moves forward

The multi-million pound redevelopment of Belfast's Windsor Park stadium has taken a step forward after the Irish Football Association (IFA) confirmed that initial funding is now in place.

A Letter of Offer has been received by the national governing body from the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL), which will release the first tranche of a £25.2m funding package towards the scheme.

IFA is working with DCAL,

Sport Northern Ireland and Linfield Football Club on the plans, which will transform the existing venue into an 18,000-capacity national stadium for football.

The next stage of the project, following the appointment of a planning consultant, will see



The Letter of Offer paves the way for work to begin at the Belfast venue

an integrated consultant team selected to draw up designs for the new-look Windsor Park.

A planning application is expected to be submitted in December, with the phased construction process to begin in August 2013.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w4h1p>

New facilities for Belfast university

Queen's University in Belfast, Northern Ireland, has opened new outdoor facilities at Upper Malone playing fields, following a £20m investment in its sports provision.

The project is designed to establish the institution as one of the leading sports universities in Ireland, with the facilities available to students and the local community.

At the centre of the project was the construction of the Arena Pitch, one of the only in the UK and Ireland to accommodate football, rugby and Gaelic Games on one single site.

The opening of the facilities marks the completion of a £13m second phase of work, which has also included 14 additional pitches and a spectator stand adjoining a new stand.

More than 20 changing rooms and additional changing facilities to the south of the



The new Arena Pitch can host football, rugby and gaelic games matches

site have been provided, along with a strength and conditioning suite.

Work on the outdoor facilities comes after the first £7m phase was completed in 2006, which included the expansion of the university's Physical Education Centre at Botanic.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=e5mow>

One-fifth of football clubs in 'ill-health'

New research released by corporate recovery specialists Begbies Traynor has found that nearly one-fifth of all English Football League clubs are currently showing signs of "financial ill-health".

The research comes amid ongoing financial problems affecting Portsmouth and Port Vale football clubs, as well as the Scottish Premier League side, Glasgow Rangers.

According to the Red Flag Alert survey, three clubs in the npower Championship; six in npower League One; and four in npower League Two are facing financial trouble.

Begbies Traynor partner Gerald Krasner said: "Football as an industry suffers from an enormous financial gap between the Premier League and the Football League.



Portsmouth's financial difficulties have been well-documented recently

"One effect of this disparity is that Football League clubs are often tempted to overspend on players to try to gain promotion [to the Premier League], and the promised riches and prestige that come with it."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=iok4v>

Richard Lewis named Wimbledon tennis chief

The All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) in Wimbledon, London, has announced that Sport England chair Richard Lewis is to become its new chief executive from 1 May.

Although he will remain as chair of Sport England, Lewis is to step down from his other

role of Rugby Football League (RFL) chair at the end of the month [April].

Lewis was former director of tennis at the Lawn Tennis Association before joining the RFL in 2002 – initially as executive chair.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=t1q5P>

Sports clubs receive hosepipe ban guidance

Sport England has made new guidance available to help sports clubs cope with the effects of a hosepipe ban now in effect in a number of areas across the country.

The agency has worked with national governing bodies to produce the advice, with water a crucial part of maintaining the quality and safe performance of surfaces.

The new guide includes how to maintain pitches and courts in a time of drought, as well as how to work with water companies to negotiate possible exemptions.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Q53H>



The track will be able to host international races

Major new BMX facility for London's Burgess Park

Southwark Council has approved plans for the development of a "national standard" BMX track in south London's Burgess Park, which is undergoing an £8m revamp.

Proposals include a 400m (1,312ft) track with a starting hill, banked hairpin turns and a variety of jumps. It has been designed for use by people of all ages and abilities.

Due for completion in January 2013, the new venue will be capable of hosting international races and will be one of the first in London to accommodate both summer and winter national events.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=x3N8N>

Final approval for Saracens' stadium vision

Saracens rugby union team has secured final approval for the multi-million pound redevelopment of London's Cophall Stadium from communities secretary Eric Pickles.

The Aviva Premiership team's vision for Cophall Stadium was approved by Barnet Council in February, with the development expected to cost £18m.

Both the national governing bodies for athletics and rugby union support the plans, which include new permanent facilities and the installation of temporary seating.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=d7D1j>

Half of Brits unhappy with work life balance

Nearly half of adults aged 16 and over are currently unhappy with their work life balance, according to the latest findings from the Office for National Statistics' *Measuring National Wellbeing* programme.

Those that use leisure time to engage in physical activities appear to be happier than those who prefer sedentary pursuits – such as watching TV or playing video games.

The latest figures show that in 2010-11, 54.1 per cent of adults in England had participated in some type of physical activity. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=p9h7s>



S&P Architects worked on the new venue's design

Work starts on new £31m Redcar leisure complex

Olympic swimmer Chris Cook has helped mark the official start of construction work on a new £31m leisure, business support and community facility in Redcar.

Willmott Dixon has been appointed to build the complex, which has been designed by leisure specialists S&P Architects in collaboration with Plus Three Architecture.

A fitness suite and a junior gym will be among the facilities at the venue, along with a 25m, six-lane swimming pool, a training pool, a learning pool and a sports hall. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=RoL8J>

£5m youth centre officially launches in Nottingham

A new youth centre has been unveiled in Nottingham following a £5m investment in the renovation and transformation of a Grade II-listed building in the city centre.

Base 51 is behind the NGY myplace project in conjunction with a number of other partners, which include Nottingham City Council and NHS Nottingham.

Facilities at the centre include a fitness suite; dance and recording studios; and a café. Services include health and wellbeing support and fitness sessions. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P5q7w>

Higher earners 'exercise more'

Research by Nuffield Health has found that, on average, higher earners work out at gyms three times more than those on lower incomes.

The group surveyed 1,600 people as part of its study, which shows those earning less than £20,000 work out for around one hour. Those who earn £101,000 or more exercise for three hours.

According to the findings of the report, earners between £21,000-30,000 workout for 1.5 hours; £31,000-50,000 workout for 2.1 hours; and £71,000-100,000 exercise for 2.6 hours.

However, the figures show a dip in the number of hours of exercise in a gym for individuals earning between £51,000-70,000 to 1.8 hours on average, bucking the overall trend.

Nuffield Health head of physiology Chris Jones said: "Evidence tells us that keeping fit



Nuffield's study found those earning £101,000+ exercise for three hours

and healthy can benefit your performance at work, which may in turn impress the boss.

"By doing regular exercise you help manage work-related pressures and help put in a better performance by better preparing your body for times of stress."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Bow0N>

TruGym opens fourth location in Bromley

Independently-owned budget chain truGym has launched its fourth health and fitness club in Bromley, Kent.

The 1,300sq m (14,000sq ft) club, which opened last month (March), joins sites in Maidstone, Peterborough and Plymouth in the portfolio.

The equipment at each of the chain's facilities has been supplied by Evolution Fitness. All truGyms are open from 6am-10pm and are manned during opening hours.

Monthly memberships start at £9.99, which includes a range of classes such as Body Pump, Yoga and Zumba are available at an extra cost.

According to Parm Singh, director and owner of truGym, the company is looking to expand aggressively and will also look to add



The new Bromley club becomes the fourth facility in truGym's portfolio

franchising services. "So far all clubs have been company-owned, but we are looking to open our first franchised club later this year," Singh told *Health Club Management*.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=A6L4H>

£400k renovation for Cardiff leisure centre

Plans for a £400,000 refurbishment of Cardiff's Fairwater Leisure Centre have been approved by the local authority, with work scheduled to begin on 20 April.

The project will see the existing lounge bar and activity area transformed into a large

fitness suite with around 50 Life Fitness stations and a dance studio.

Cardiff Council said the project will provide the centre with facilities comparable to those on offer at Western Leisure Centre. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=t7X6b>

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Crayford Weights and Fitness to double in size

Independently-owned Crayford Weights and Fitness in Crayford, Kent, will open a new gym extension next month (May).

First launched in 2010, the club acquired an adjacent unit at the Crayford Retail Park and has appointed supplier Jordan Fitness to equip the new space.

The extension has doubled the space available and new facilities include a group exercise studio, a ladies-only gym and spin room. The club has 1,000 members.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=03HoV>



A pool and a gym form part of the council vision

Councillors back £15m Didcot leisure scheme

Members of South Oxfordshire District Council's cabinet have backed plans for a new £15m leisure centre in Didcot.

The cabinet has agreed in principle to the proposals, as well as to invest £60,000 from the provisional capital programme towards feasibility and procurement work.

According to a report put before the committee, the minimum requirements of the planned new centre is that it includes a competition and training pool, as well as a sports hall; squash courts; and a gym.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=W1W2K>

Brivio named Quest development manager

Quality scheme Quest Sports Development has named management consultant Paul Brivio as its new development manager.

Brivio will be responsible for modernising the scheme and to bring it into line with the Quest 2011 Facility Management model – "a flexible, relevant, valuable tool for continuous improvement for all leisure sites".

Brivio has more than 20 years' experience in the industry, from his first role as an assistant leisure centre manager, working his way up to commercial director level.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=a6a4k>

Merrithew unveils new concept

Canada-based Merrithew Health and Fitness has announced the launch of its new ZEN.GA fitness brand, which aims to provide an "innovative fusion workout".

The new concept combines the "foundational principles" of Stott Pilates – the group's flagship Pilates brand – with yoga and dance to encourage greater mindful movement.

New and existing accessories, together with the V2 Max Plus Reformer, will target every muscle and enhance body awareness to enhance the mind-body experience.

Lindsay G Merrithew, president and CEO of Merrithew Health and Fitness, said the brand will provide diversity, while also "complementing current program offerings".

"Professionals and consumers alike will benefit from the experience of our trainers,



The ZEN.GA concept is designed to enhance the mind-body awareness

researchers and staff that have been in the health and fitness industry for more than 20 years," said Merrithew.

Master instructor trainer PJ O'Clair added: "This fitness brand increases your awareness to the deep stabilizing muscles of the body."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w4d1L>

'Positive role' of green spaces outlined

New guidance highlighting the "positive role" of well-designed green spaces and parklands in the recovery of patients from illness and injury has been published by the Forestry Commission.

Greenspace Design for Health and Wellbeing provides advice on how the design of green spaces around hospitals and wellness facilities can help supplement clinical care.

It is hoped the new Practice Guide will be of interest to practitioners, planners and policy makers within the NHS and others sectors involved in patient care.

Forestry Commission chair Pam Warhurst said: "We've all long known that we feel better after spending time outdoors and in green spaces such as parks and woodland.



Well-designed parkland can boost the recovery of patients from illness

"Now a raft of research findings in recent years have confirmed that this experience is not just a vague impression, it represents a range of mental and physical health benefits."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h4u4d>

Oldham leisure trust to introduce fitness for kids

Oldham Community Leisure has launched a new service aiming to attract young teenagers and their parents to exercise together.

From 1 April, children aged 11 and over have been able to attend specific fitness classes with an adult who is participating in the class.

Any juniors who currently have an OCL membership can access the classes at no extra cost. Junior memberships are available from £19.95 per month. Classes include zumba, bokwa, aquacise and aerobics.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=d7u8I>



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Hospitality offers a world of opportunity



PHILIPPE ROSSITER
is chief executive of the
Institute of Hospitality

A report by McKinsey has claimed that, by 2025, nine of the top 10 cities generating the fastest GDP growth globally will be in China. The OECD also predicted that, by 2030, 59 per cent of international middle-class spending will come from Asia Pacific, with 41 per cent from India and China alone.

The emerging economies are overtaking those in the established west at a tremendous rate, and this is reflected in global tourism trends, where by 2030 the former will represent 58 per cent of total international arrivals. These estimates are underpinned by the UN World Tourism Organisation which predicts that global tourism GDP will grow at around 4 per cent per year for the next decade, leading to the creation of a further 80 million jobs over the same period.

The opportunities are therefore huge for anyone considering a career in hospitality and tourism. With its low barriers to entry, amazing job variety, and rapid promotion prospects, the industry offers unrivalled career pathways at whichever level one enters. Above all, it is a fun and rewarding environment in which to work, providing experiences few other sectors can match.

At a time when job prospects are so poor for young people in the UK, the global industry can provide life-enhancing solutions to their plight, and companies will be scouring the world for bright and engaging talent to meet the increasing demand. In a recent article, the HR director of Hyatt International said "globalisation has changed us into a company that searches the world to find the best talents and greatest ideas".

In its unique position as the professional body for managers and aspiring managers working in all sectors and at every level in the worldwide industry, the Institute of Hospitality is providing the tools to assist people in capitalising on these opportunities. Through its network of training providers delivering its acclaimed awards and qualifications, as well as its e-Library facilities, the Institute's resources enable managers at all levels to acquire the skills needed for them to profit fully from the growth predicted for the industry over the next decade.

HOTELS

New luxury hotel for London

Singapore-based developer KOP Properties has received the green light to convert the 10 Trinity Square building in central London into a new luxury development.

Work will start on transforming the Grade II*-listed property in Q3 this year, with the Woods Bagot-designed project also involving China's Reignwood Group.

A 120-bedroom hotel; a spa; a members' club; 41 serviced residences; a restaurant; and two bars are planned as part of the development, which is expected to be completed in Q4 2014.

Details of the spa are yet to be announced, although it has been confirmed that LTW Designworks will be responsible for its design. KOP Hotels and Resorts will run the hotel.

David Collins Studio is consulting on design of the hotel's public areas, bar and members'



The property first opened in 1922 as the Port of London Authority's HQ

club at the building, which first opened as the Port of London Authority's HQ in 1922.

KOP Properties chief executive officer Leny Suparman said: "Our vision is for 10 Trinity Square to become a new global destination in of the City of London."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=B4m9t>

Laura Ashley plans to launch new boutique hotel

Laura Ashley has announced plans to open a new boutique hotel as a showcase for the UK-based fashion and homeware brand's products and design services.

In its results for the 52 weeks to 28 January, the company confirmed it had acquired a hotel

in Hertfordshire last November for £5.8m in an expansion of its marketing strategy.

Further details about the composition and facility mix of Laura Ashley's new boutique hotel are yet to be announced.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h5u8U>

Accor to open MGallery in Bath in May

French hotel group Accor will open the MGallery Francis Hotel in Bath on 28 May – the first MGallery-branded property located outside London.

The 98-bedroom hotel will be housed within the Grade I-listed former Mercure Bath Francis Hotel, which has undergone a £6m revamp.

The upscale hotel will feature individually-designed bedrooms and a fine dining restaurant. It is the second MGallery-branded hotel in the UK and follows the opening of MGallery St Ermins in London in April last year.

The MGallery concept has been positioned as an upperscale hotel brand and sits alongside Accor's Pullman business – but below the group's luxury Sofitel portfolio.



The MGallery Francis Hotel will be housed in a Grade I-listed property

Launched in 2010, there are currently 48 MGallery hotels across 18 countries and Accor has recruited actress Kristin Scott Thomas as the collection's brand ambassador.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=u5a6n>

ACE names funding recipients

London's Southbank Centre has been announced as one of the 26 organisations that are to receive funding through Arts Council England's (ACE) new capital programme.

The Southbank Centre has received £20m of the £114m invested in the first round of the programme, which will go towards an extensive redevelopment of its facilities such as the Hayward Gallery.

Other major beneficiaries of ACE's capital grants include the National Theatre (£17.5m); Gateshead Council (£10m), to provide an annex to The Sage; and Chichester Festival Theatre (£12m) in West Sussex.

Most of the 26 projects to benefit from funding will focus on a refurbishment or extension of existing buildings. It is the first new capital investment by ACE in nine years. Each of the successful applicants will now be invited



The Southbank Centre's Hayward Gallery will benefit from the funding

to complete a stage two bid within the next 18 months to show plans at a detailed stage of design and development.

ACE chief executive Alan Davey said: "We knew there was a real need to maintain and improve our existing cultural buildings."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=E9X3A>

Google unveils 'major' Art Project expansion

Internet giant Google has announced a "major" international expansion of the Art Project, after it entered into more than 150 new partnerships with institutions in 40 countries.

More than 30,000 objects are now available to view in high resolution, up from the 1,000 in

the first version. There are also now 46 venues covered by Google Street View images.

A number of institutions across the world, including the UK, US, Brazil and India, are among the new Art Project partners.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=L2F6v>

Ticket scheme evaluation report released

A report evaluating the success of a programme offering free theatre tickets to people under the age of 26 between February 2009 and March 2011 has been published.

According to the report by Arts Council England and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the initiative saw nearly 400,000 tickets allocated from its initial target of around 500,000.

The majority (278,000) went to young people who said they probably would not have visited the theatre otherwise, with 72 per cent saying price was a main barrier to attending.

The pilot scheme – A Night Less Ordinary – was launched to increase the number of young people attending theatre shows and



The programme distributed nearly 400,000 free tickets to young people

productions by removing the admission price as a potential barrier. A Night Less Ordinary saw more than 200 venues participate.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=X2h1E>

£1.5m digital investment for Scottish arts

Creative Scotland has announced a new investment programme worth £1.5m to support the digital development of businesses within the country's cultural sector.

The initiative – developed in partnership with NESTA, Ambition Scotland and Sync – will react to the needs of organisations that are already "digital natives".

Meanwhile, the programme will support capacity building around skills and infrastructure in adopting digital technologies in cultural and creative businesses.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C3o4w>



The venue first opened its doors in October 2011

Local authority reports

Marlowe Theatre deficit

Canterbury's £25.6m Marlowe Theatre has recorded a £236,000 deficit during its first six months of trading, according to a report put before Canterbury City Council.

The report, however, suggested that the financial shortfall had been mainly due to "one-off start-up costs" and issues only identifiable once the venue had opened.

Catering for start-up and essential training costs were seen as the primary reason for the deficit at the theatre, which accounted for £100,000 according to the report.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=16m1h>

New independent UK theatre survey launches

A new study exploring the influence of publicly-funded theatre on commercial theatre has been launched to gain a greater understanding of public arts investment.

Arts Council England has teamed up with Creative and Cultural Skills and NESTA to commission the survey, with the findings due to be published this summer.

The study aims to track the careers of people within the industry, as well as the talent that has emerged, to see what effect public investment has on UK theatre.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=3LoD6>

Lincoln Castle in line for £20m redevelopment

Lincoln Castle is to undergo a multi-million pound renovation after Lincolnshire County Council confirmed it had received Lottery funding towards the scheme.

The project is expected to cost £19.9m and has been awarded a £12m grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund. European Union support is also being sought in addition to the Lottery support and council funding.

A new vault to showcase Magna Carta and the Charter of the Forest is included among the plans for the redevelopment.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=H7F5P>



Wilton Eyre Architects designed the museum

Olympic rower opens new £15m SeaCity Museum

Double Olympic rowing gold medallist James Cracknell has officially launched the £15m SeaCity Museum as part of the new Cultural Quarter in Southampton.

The attraction – housed within the city's Grade II*-listed former Magistrates' Court – has been designed by Wilton Eyre Architects and built by Kier Southern.

SeaCity Museum comprises two permanent galleries examining the city's status as a "Gateway to the World" and its maritime heritage over the last 2,000 years.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C1z6x>

'Record' visitor figures for Wales' national museums

Wales' seven national museums attracted a record 1.69 million visitors in 2011-12, which is the highest total reported since the introduction of free entry in April 2001.

Among the successes from 2011-12 was the new National Museum of Art, which has helped boost National Museum Cardiff visitor numbers by 13.7 per cent.

Elsewhere, the National Wool Museum surpassed the 30,000 visits for the first time and has seen its total visitor numbers since 2000-01 increase by 236 per cent.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=1k2m8>

£6m for Science Museum project

London's Science Museum has secured £6m from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the creation of a new gallery exploring the history of communications technology.

The new Making Modern Communications project will see the museum exhibit "unique objects" combined with human stories in order to chart the 200-year evolution of modern communication.

The gallery will showcase prominent moments where technology helped change the world, such as the laying of the first telegraph cable across the Atlantic.

Around 1,000 objects will be put in display in the new gallery, including a 6m (20ft) tuning coil from Rugby Radio Station, which formed part of the UK's Cold War defences.

Science Museum Group director Ian Blatchford said: "The project represents a step



The new gallery will look at innovations in communications technology

change for the Science Museum and the first step in the delivery of its Master Plan.

"The award of the grant underlines the essential role of the Science Museum in helping to inspire engagement, particularly amongst young people."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=f9q4S>

ACE reveals finalised Renaissance awards

Arts Council England (ACE) has revealed the final awards to its Renaissance major partner museums, which will see more than £62m invested over the next three years.

Earlier this year, the organisation named the 16 successful applicants that are to receive support between 2012-13 and 2014-15 under the new-look Renaissance programme.

ACE admitted the amount to be invested was slightly higher than an initial budget of around £60m but said it would finance the "ambition and range of work" outlined in the bids.

Birmingham Museums Trust; Bristol City Council and Leeds Museums and Galleries have each secured more than £5m, along with the Manchester Partnership.



Birmingham Museums Trust, which includes Thinktank, secured £5.1m

ACE chief executive Alan Davey said: "These excellent and innovative museums will work with the Arts Council to contribute to the collective leadership of the museums sector."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=X8V1G>

Life Online opens at National Media Museum

Life Online, a new permanent gallery dedicated to the social, technological and cultural impact of the internet, has been unveiled at the National Media Museum in Bradford.

The gallery, which is seen as the first of its kind anywhere in the world, was opened by

Vint Cerf and incorporates contributions from a host of technology and internet specialists.

Among the contributors is Cerf, regarded as one of the "fathers of the internet", and Ray Tomlinson, who sent the world's first email.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=bo12y>

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Tackling the problem of age discrimination



KURT JANSON
is policy director of
Tourism Alliance

The government has established the Red Tape Challenge under Oliver Letwin's chairmanship to reduce the regulatory burden on small firms, but there continues to be a procession of new legislation or retrograde changes to existing legislation. Much of this will have the effect of hindering the very growth that the government seeks.

Take, for example, the announcements that VAT will be applied to static caravans used for holiday letting and alterations to listed buildings, the imposition of a higher than expected duty on gaming machines and increases in fuel and alcohol duty – all of which will have a dampening effect on domestic holiday expenditure.

Also on the horizon is the proposed introduction of age discrimination legislation in October, which could have a significant impact on some tourism businesses. The legislation is being introduced due to concerns that elderly people were being unfairly excluded from some financial and health products and services. However, rather than being targeted to solving specific problems, new legislation is to be applied to the provision of all goods and services to anyone over the age of 18.

The legislation will prevent firms limiting the sale of services to specific age groups – although there will be an exemption for products covered by Package Travel Regulations, such as Saga Holidays.

Importantly, the legislation will also prevent businesses imposing different terms and conditions on customers on the basis of age. It would not be possible for a business to ask customers for a larger deposit or to pay in advance on the basis of age unless they can prove "objective justification". Objective justification means there is an evidence-based reason why the imposed condition is justified. For example, the owner of an historic hall could argue that it is valid to charge certain age groups more on the basis that they pose a greater risk.

And therein lies the problem – it will be left up to the law courts to decide whether the operator has provided enough evidence to come to this conclusion.

TOURISM

ONS reports tourism growth

New figures from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) have reported an increase in both UK inbound visitor numbers and expenditure in 2011, when compared with 2010.

Inbound growth has continued into the new year, with the number of visits by overseas residents up 4 per cent in the year ending February 2012 to 30.9 million.

In the 12 months ending February 2012, the number of holiday trips was up 4 per cent to 12.1 million and visits to friends and relatives grew by 7 per cent to 9 million.

ONS data also revealed that a decline in the number of North American visitor numbers was halted in 2011, with a 5.6 per cent increase on figures for the previous year.

Elsewhere, visits from 'other countries' and European nations were up 9.3 and 1.3 per cent



Visitor numbers to London grew during the first three quarters of 2011

respectively in 2011. However, only Europe delivered growth during Q4 2011.

The number of visits to London increased during the first three quarters, before falling back in Q4. Trips to the rest of England showed signs of growth in all four quarters.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=L5y3a>

VisitWales campaign given marketing award

A marketing campaign run by VisitWales and backed by Welsh actress Joanna Page has won the Gold Award at the Chartered Institute of Marketing Travel Marketing Awards.

The "Proper Holiday" campaign featured a London man being surprised at his home and

then treated as a VIP guest of Wales. The campaign strategy was to highlight the variety of activities available for visitors in Wales.

It beat off competition from Royal Caribbean International Cruises, the Star Alliance airline network and Visit Manchester.

'Positive start' to 2012 for Irish tourism

Tourism Ireland and the Irish government have welcomed a "positive start" to 2012 after inbound visitor numbers increased between December 2011 and February 2012.

Central Statistics Office data showed a 2.7 per cent growth in overseas visitor numbers, with "strong growth" from the UK and a 1 per cent increase from Europe, although the North American market dropped 4.3 per cent.

Leo Varadkar, Ireland's minister for transport, tourism and sport, said: "This year has got off to a positive start, and it's good to see visitor numbers continuing to grow into February."

Niall Gibbons, chief executive of national marketing agency Tourism Ireland added:



Ireland has reported a strong increase in visitor numbers from the UK

"Particularly welcome is the growth of 6.6 per cent in visitor numbers from the UK, our largest and most important market."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C2p3d>

Buxton Crescent moves forward

The development of the UK's "first genuine spa hotel" for more than 100 years in Derbyshire, has taken a step forward following the signing of a landmark agreement.

High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council, the land-owners, have confirmed that an "historic" deal with the Buxton Crescent Hotel and Thermal Spa Company for the scheme has been secured.

The £35m Buxton Crescent project includes a restoration of the Grade I-listed Crescent building and the Grade II-listed Natural Baths and Pump Room. It is hoped work will start on the first of two construction phases in June.

A 79-bedroom spa hotel incorporating the Natural Baths is at the centre of the plans, in addition to a 2,000sq m (21,528sq ft) natural thermal mineral water spa.



A natural thermal mineral water spa is at the centre of the £35m project

The spa will comprise a dry treatment area with six massage rooms; a manicure and pedicure area; and an exercise studio. Meanwhile, hydrotherapy wet treatment areas will incorporate four thermal mineral baths and an underwater jet massage.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=Y2X3a>

Seasons Holidays acquires Seaham Hall

Bristol-based Seasons Holidays has purchased Seaham Hall, a luxury hotel and spa in County Durham, out of the administration of von Essen Hotels 2 Ltd.

The 20-bedroom hotel is situated amid 37 acres (15 hectares) of gardens and woodland and facilities include the Feng Shui-inspired Serenity Spa.

Teak, granite and limestone have been used in the oriental-influenced design of the spa, which comprises 19 treatment rooms, an ozone cleansed pool and a hammam.

A sanarium with crystal light therapy; a sauna with quartz crystal; a black granite steamroom; a hydrotherapy bath with 12 massage stations; and an ice fountain also form part of the spa at Seaham Hall.



Serenity Spa comprises an ozone cleansed pool and 19 treatment rooms

Barry Donaghey of Seasons Holidays, said: "We will ensure the hotel continues to be one of the top destinations at a regional, national and international level."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=t8E2f>

Chewton Glen to launch Tree House suites

Chewton Glen spa hotel in the New Forest, Hampshire, is set to open its new Tree House Suites this summer.

Located above tree tops, some 200 meters from the main hotel, the secluded suites have been designed in partnership by Terence

O'Rourke and Blue Forest with the interiors being created by designer Martin Hulbert.

Guests staying at the suites will be offered a bespoke range of in-room treatments by Chewton Glen's spa partner ila-spa.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=l3f4R>



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RENTAL/PE/VIEW/STOCK

The council is planning to demolish the complex

New report deals blow to fresh Tropicana plans

A report by property consultant DTZ has dealt a blow to fresh plans for the redevelopment of the 75-year-old Tropicana building in Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.

Trop (WSM) is behind the latest bid to bring the leisure complex back into use, but the report said the proposals had been based on "a number of uncertainties".

DTZ also said there was an "over-reliance" on grant funding that may not be applicable, as well as a "significant underestimate" of the costs involved.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w14B>

Work starts on London regeneration scheme

A groundbreaking event has marked the start of construction work on the East Greenwich regeneration scheme in London, which is being delivered by Hadley Mace.

The developer is a joint venture between Hadley Property Group and Mace and the scheme also involves the Royal Borough of Greenwich; the Homes and Community Agency; and London and Quadrant.

A leisure facility with a gym, swimming pool complex and a café is included among the proposed new community.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=u0H5P>

New Olympic Park corporation launches

The new London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) has opened, taking over responsibility for the regeneration of the Olympic Park and surrounding areas.

Created using powers given to the mayor of London under the Localism Act 2011, the body has assumed the duties of the Olympic Park Legacy Company (OPLC).

A board has been appointed to the LLDC, which includes Baroness Ford – chair of the OPLC and now chair of the new organisation until the end of the 2012 Games.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Z6jor>

Chobham Manor shortlist reduced to three

The Olympic Park Legacy Company (OPLC) has whittled down the shortlist of developers competing for the contract to build east London's new Chobham Manor neighbourhood.

Late last year, OPLC confirmed that six bidders had been shortlisted in the race to deliver the first residential-led development at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.

However, only three have remained in the process: East Thames and Countryside Properties; Barratt Homes and Le Frak Organisation; and Taylor Wimpey and London and Quadrant.

OPLC will now enter into "competitive dialogue" with the three bidders and it is expected a partner will be appointed by summer.



Chobham Manor will be located adjacent to London's Olympic Stadium

"The three shortlisted parties are all capable of creating a thriving family community," said OPLC chief executive Andrew Altman.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=i1T8r>

Colwyn Bay pier funding bid rejected

Conwy County Borough Council's proposals for the restoration of the Grade II-listed Victoria Pier in Colwyn Bay have been dealt a blow after a funding bid worth £4.9m was rejected.

After considering the local authority's application for support towards the project, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) said it was "unable to support" the proposals.

Jennifer Stewart, head of HLF Wales, said the agency had been "impressed" by the vision for the pier and its Art Deco pavilion but couldn't allocate funding.

"The quality of bids was exceptionally high but, regrettably, we just didn't have enough money to support all the applications we looked at on the day," said Stewart.

It comes after the council announced it had taken ownership of the pier with the help of the



IMAGE/SHUTTERSTOCK

The local authority pulled out nearly eight years after agreeing the deal

Welsh Government as part of a multi-million pound regeneration of Colwyn Bay.

However, a local campaign group has challenged Conwy Council's announcement and insisted that the pier remains under the ownership of Steve Hunt and Family.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=04joc>

New £1.5m industrial heritage fund launches

A £1.5m initiative has been launched by the Association of Independent Museums in partnership with Biffa Award to support industrial heritage projects throughout the UK.

The new National Heritage Landmarks Partnership Scheme is designed to establish a

network of interpretation and education projects showcasing industrial development.

Biffa Award will contribute £500,000 each year for three years towards projects that help revitalise derelict buildings and sites.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k2F5v>

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SAQ launches new online diploma

SAQ Online Sports College has announced the launch of its new online diploma – Strength and Conditioning for Fitness Professionals.

The new qualification is NCFE-accredited at Level 4 and covers all aspects of resistance training, fitness and conditioning, stamina, speed, fitness testing, periodisation and planning. The 14-month course offers eight-week modules, with up to five downloadable lectures a week and one assessment module.

Alan Pearson, managing director of SAQ International, said: “The online diploma is a fantastic way to learn.

“It has been designed by experts in the field of strength and conditioning, health and fitness and sports conditioning.



The course comprises eight-week modules and downloadable lectures

“We’re excited about the diploma because of the quality and accessibility for people involved in the health and fitness industry – you can learn in the comfort of your own home.”

The diploma is worth 36 REPs points. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n5H8M>

Well done to REPs on 10 years of success!



SUKHI KALIRAI
is interim chief executive officer of SkillsActive

We all spend time reflecting on new ideas, things we can alter, or things we can improve on. As management, it is equally important to reflect and recognise success. We all know we have challenges but recognising success, and talking about it, can fuel further success.

I was particularly touched by comments from Technogym vice president Tony Majakas at SkillsActive’s gathering for the 10th Anniversary of REPs, who said the world (of fitness) recognises the largest register internationally and tries to emulate its success but no one comes close; we should be proud of a great British success!

So we should be! Well done REPs for achieving this – 10 years of growth to reach 28,000 active members covering 65 per cent of instructors and trainers working in the industry. All without a statute, all achieved with great support. That is a global benchmark – one that SkillsActive can and will improve on with the continued support and help of the employers, employees, trade bodies and increasing public recognition of the service the register provides.

Indeed, minister for sport and the Olympics Hugh Robertson, praised REPs in a special message. He said: “The work of REPs plays an important part in helping people make the transition into a more active lifestyle, which can often be an important first-step into more people taking up and enjoying sport – something that is very much a priority of mine”

SkillsActive is building on REPs’ success, starting earlier with training provider engagement, creating awareness and working with employers and trade associations, but also involved in supporting ways for the applicability of similar concepts to other sub-sectors within our footprint, such as outdoor pursuits; sport; playwork; and the spa, hair and beauty arenas.

To everyone involved for the last 10 years: thank you and congratulations on creating a world leader. Here’s to building on that success in the next 10 years!

‘Outstanding’ rating for Icon Training

Icon Training has achieved seven Grade is from a recent Ofsted inspection – the first time a leisure company has been assessed as “outstanding” in each category.

In its report, the inspectorate states that Icon Training’s skills tutors are highly regarded by employers and learners who recognise and appreciate the contribution they make to the leisure industry. Among the seven categories assessed as outstanding were quality of provision, leadership and management and outcomes for learners.

The Ofsted report also said: “Icon Training provides an inspirational resource for the industry and has transformed many learners’ lives.

“With a current learner success rate of 93 per cent, the company’s success rates have continued to improve much faster than they have nationally.”



Among the categories that Icon was assessed in was quality of provision

Julian Leybourne, chief executive of Icon Training, said: “I’m delighted to be named as an outstanding training provider.

“We hope to continue by encouraging new learners and supporting the government’s priority of employing apprentices aged 16-24 years, which we think makes excellent business sense for succession planning.”

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=I3U6K>

Welsh Government boost for Techniquet initiatives

Techniquet and Techniquet Glyndwr have both been awarded funding by the Welsh Government to expand their science and mathematics programmes in schools.

The Cardiff and Wrexham-based groups, which provide educational services using

interactive exhibits and learning materials, have received £1.3m and £349,400 respectively.

Funding will be used by the centres in the delivery of education schemes for Foundation Phase pupils through to 14-19 learning.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n8e5S>

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You may also be eligible to access free training via our L2 & L3 Apprenticeships in Sport & Active Leisure (Fitness Instructing, Operational Services, Business and Administration and Retail)

For further information or to reserve your place on one of the above courses please contact Peter Morrison Head of School of Sport, Business, Public Services and IT (0191) 3754437

www.newdur.ac.uk

New College Durham **Apprenticeships**

Wear our halo®

At Halo Leisure we are all about enabling Healthy Lifestyles. Join us as our **Healthy Living Partnership Manager** and help to "Inspire Fuller Lives."

Halo Leisure is expanding through an exciting opportunity, delivering the Healthy Living Partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council.

An outstanding opportunity has arisen for a dynamic and inspirational leader with substantial experience in the leisure sector to join our team. Providing positive relationship management with key partners and stakeholders, you will lead the continued development of commercial success and social impact outcomes within the Partnership in the Bridgend County Borough (approx. 30 minutes from Cardiff). Leading the transformation and integration of the service to form part of the wider Halo organisation will form a key part of the role.

In return we can offer a sector leading package for the right candidate.

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Scott Rolfe, Halo Leisure Head of Operations, 0845 241 0353.

Application packs are available online at www.halo-leisure.org.uk or from 0845 241 0348.

Closing Date: 1st May

Interviews: 17th and 18th May

Dewch i weithio i halo®

Yn Halo Leisure, ein prif amcan yw galluogi pobl i fabwysiadu Ffyrdd Iach o Fyw. Ymunwch â ni fel ein **Rheolwr Partneriaeth Byw yn Iach** a helpwch i "Ysbrydoli Bywydau Llawnach."

Mae Halo Leisure yn ehangu trwy gyffwrdd, gan gyflawni'r Bartneriaeth Byw yn Iach mewn cydweithrediad â Chynghor Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr.

Mae cyfle neilltuol wedi codi i arweinydd dynamig ac ysbrydoledig sydd â phrofiad helaeth yn y sector hamdden ymuno â'n tîm. A chithau'n rheoli perthnasoedd cadarnhaol â phartneriaid a rhanddeiliaid allweddol, byddwch yn arwain y broses barhaus o ddatblygu llwyddiant masnachol a deiliannau o ran yr effaith gymdeithasol o fewn y Bartneriaeth ym Mwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr (oddeutu 30 munud o Gaerdydd). Bydd arwain y broses o drawsnewid ac integreiddio'r gwasanaeth fel rhan o gyfundrefn ehangach Halo yn rhan allweddol o'r rôl.

Yn gyfnewid gallwn gynnig pecyn sydd gyda'r gorau yn y sector i'r ymgeisydd cywir.

I gael sgwrs anffurfiol am y swydd cysylltwch â Scott Rolfe, Pennaeth Gweithrediadau Halo Leisure, ar 0845 241 0353.

Mae pecynnau ymgeisio ar gael ar lein yn www.halo-leisure.org.uk neu drwy ffonio 0845 241 0348.

Dyddiad cau 1af o Fai

Cyfweliadau 17eg a 18fed o Fai





CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LONDON • SIX FIGURE PACKAGE

Les Mills International (LMI) creates the world's most popular group exercise programmes that are enjoyed by millions of people every week. Our programmes are taught around the world by 90,000 certified instructors in 14,000 licensed clubs. In the UK our classes have been running in all the main health clubs and fitness chains since 1997 through LMI's appointed distributor.

The company has now acquired the UK distribution agency. As a result of this acquisition, Les Mills Fitness UK is already a substantial business delivering some 5,700 Les Mills programmes every year in 1,700 clubs with 30 employees and a team of 32 contracted trainers.

But that is just the start. Les Mills Fitness UK has ambitious plans and is seeking to appoint its first CEO to develop and deliver its substantial growth strategy for the UK market.

The Role

- To develop the business to deliver significant growth in the UK through existing channels and clients and to identify and develop new channels and revenue streams
- To establish Les Mills Fitness UK as an industry champion of the UK H&F sector
- To promote and advance the Les Mills brand in the UK
- To ensure Les Mills Fitness UK is an integral part of the global LMI success story
- To lead the transition from distributor model to proprietary model

The Candidate

- An experienced, results-focused leader with relevant industry experience
- A senior executive with excellent sales and marketing skills and a track record of commercial success
- Significant experience and understanding of how to penetrate the UK leisure and/or fitness markets at both strategic and tactical levels
- A strong organisational leader, people manager and industry thought-leader
- Proven change management skills and cultural sensitivity

This is a significant appointment and so we are looking for someone who is energetic and passionate about the Les Mills brand to lead the growth of our business in the UK.



For a confidential discussion and to find out more about this unique opportunity, please call our retained advisor Michael Emmerson on 0845 600 9650 or on 07798 898271. Alternatively, email your details to MichaelEmmerson@HR-Support.org.uk or apply online at www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/LesMills

LES MILLS
FOR A FITTER PLANET

JOIN THE TEAM AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

DUTY MANAGER VACANCY

Reporting to the Senior Manager, you will be responsible for leading and motivating a diverse team of staff delivering high standards of customer service and be responsible for facility management, ensuring the day to day operation of the Centre is delivered to exceptionally high standards. This is a high-pressure position and the candidate will be required to 'hit the ground running'.

We would like to hear from you if you have at least 6 months experience in a supervisory role within a busy leisure centre and hold or are working towards IMSPA or equivalent supervisory management certificate. You must also hold a current NPLQ and First Aid at Work qualification.

This is a full time position (37 hours per week) operating on a rota basis Monday - Sunday therefore candidates must be able to work weekends and out of hours as required.

TO RECEIVE A JOB DESCRIPTION, PERSON SPECIFICATION AND RECRUITMENT PACK PLEASE EMAIL james@formbypool.co.uk

To apply, please forward your application form together with a covering letter demonstrating your suitability for this post to davidk@formbypool.co.uk by 27th April 2012



Ladies of Leisure require a full time CLUB MANAGER

This is a small, private ladies only club in Canterbury.

Duties include opening/closing the club, supervision of staff, staff rotas, class timetables, taking classes, carrying out consultations with members and writing fitness programmes.

This position would suit someone who has been a fitness instructor, level 3, for some time and is looking for the next step up into management, or someone who would one day like to have their own club.

Salary is £15,000 pa plus on target bonus of £1000 - £1500. Working on a shift basis Mon-Fri. 4 weeks paid holiday plus bank holidays.

Send CV with cover letter to Karl Grant, Ladies of Leisure, 33 St. Dunstan Street, Canterbury, CT2 8BZ.

Commissioning and Delivery Manager

Salary range: £37,000 - £42,000 per annum

Contract: Full time, 2 years initially (subject to external funding)



Are you motivated by making a real difference to people's lives through sport? Are you keen to see a grassroots sporting legacy delivered after the Olympic and Paralympic Games? Do you believe in doing things differently to engage more and different people in sport and physical activity?

Get Berkshire Active, a social enterprise organisation operating on a not-for-profit basis that incorporates the role of the County Sports Partnership for Berkshire, is seeking to appoint an experienced and dynamic strategic manager to join the team at Bisham Abbey National Sports Centre.

The successful candidate will have a strong track record of delivering results working with and through external partners. You will know how to deliver success in a fast-changing policy environment and how to develop relationships that lead to new partnership opportunities.

You will possess sound knowledge of sports policy and related agendas such as health and services for children and young people. Your experience of converting customer and market insight into new products and services, will enable Get Berkshire Active to achieve its vision to 'Get more people, more active, enjoying the benefits of more and better sport in Berkshire'.

Your excellent communication and people management skills, coupled with the ability to think and act flexibly in a small social entrepreneurial organisation, will enable you to plan and implement new programmes and activity effectively. Your facilitative style will motivate your team members and partner organisations across the County to increase participation in sport through effective joint-working. This post will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

For an application pack please email

jobs@getberkshireactive.org or download the

application pack at www.getberkshireactive.org Jobs section.

For an informal conversation about the

role please call Mark Lawrie on 07718 195910.

The closing date for applications will be

5pm on Monday 30th April 2012.

Shortlisting by: Friday 4th May 2012

Interviews: Friday 11th May 2012



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ActiveConnection

International Recruiters for Spa & Leisure

The following roles are in Saudi Arabia and offer full expatriate package - 1 year contracts

FEMALE FITNESS INSTRUCTORS qualified in personal training and who have the ability to teach at least 3-4 group exercise classes for leading ladies only spa and wellness sites. Salary 1800-2000 USD per month (tax free).

FEMALE FITNESS MANAGERS with personal training, group exercise skills and a proven track record in the management and development of a fitness team. Budget and financial skills are desirable along with working to targets. Salary 2250-2800 USD per month (tax free).

Please send your CV and photograph to team@activeconnection.co.uk or call 00 44 208 878 3180 for more details

Vacancies listed are for female only sites in Saudi Arabia. So, for religious and cultural reasons we can only accept applications from female candidates.

www.activeconnection.co.uk

Full Charge Book keeper /Accounts Admin

£25,000 - £30,000 based on competency

Bookkeeper required for a Fitness Firm based in Marble Arch, London you will be responsible for putting together various accounts and reports. The successful candidate will be a keen bookkeeper with experience



Key responsibilities include

- Management of multiple client accounts
- Invoicing and Order Payments
- Production of VAT Returns
- Bank reconciliation
- Monthly and quarterly management reporting
- Implement and manage an accounts filing system
- Monthly payroll completion
- Project Work

Key Experience Required

- Sage Line 50, Microsoft Word and Excel
- Cash book and Bank Reconciliations
- Monthly control accounts and intercompany account reconciliations
- Purchase and Sales Ledger and working to month end deadlines

Please send CV with covering letter to interviews@fitnessagents.co.uk

For more details on the following jobs
visit www.leisureopportunities.co.uk
or to advertise call +44 (0)1462 431385



Head of Site - RHS Wisley Garden, Royal Horticultural Society, Woking, UK
Chief Executive Officer, Les Mills, London, UK
Assistant General Managers, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK
Personal Trainer, Fitness First, Fleet / Godalming / Camberley, UK
Junior Membership Manager, Exeter Golf & Country Club, Exeter, UK
Female Fitness Managers, Active Connection, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia
Societies and Volunteering Assistant, Bucks Students' Union, UK
Student Activities Assistant - Internship, Bucks Students' Union, UK
Team Leader, Physicals Fitness Club, Woodford Green, Essex, UK
Customer Advisor, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Dulcut, UK
Duty Manager, Formby Pool Trust, Formby, UK
Membership sales consultant, Energie Group, Epsom, UK
Landscape Gardener/Kongeparken, Norway, Scandinavia
Fit4Less crew member, Energie Group, Epsom, UK
General Assistants and Cafe Crew, Valley Leisure Ltd, Charlton, Andover, UK
Mobile Climbing Wall Operator, Valley Leisure Ltd, Andover, UK
Duty Manager, Rossendale Leisure Trust, Lancashire, UK
Personal Trainer, Pure Gym Limited, Various locations, UK
Qualified Part-Time Sessional Tutors, Surrey County Council, Surrey, UK
Purchasing Manager, HB Leisure, North Wales, UK
Become a Master Trainer - Functional Movement, Creating Chaos, Leeds, Manchester, London, UK
Commissioning and Development Manager, Get Berkshire Active, Berkshire, UK
Football Development Officer, Rossendale Leisure Trust, Lancashire, UK
Area General Manager, Yesterday's World, East Sussex & Great Yarmouth, UK
Operations Manager, Lakes Aquarium, Newby Bridge, Cumbria, UK
Duty Manager, Everyone Active, Staines, UK
Sales Officer, University of Westminster, Central/West London, UK
Community Sports Coach, The Access to Sports Project, London, UK
General Manager, Basingstoke Sports Centre, Basingstoke, UK
Divisional Business Managers, Fusion, London / Midlands, UK
Sports Development Co-ordinator, Dacorum Sportspace, Berkhamsted, UK
Contract Manager, Everyone Active, Daventry, UK
General Manager, Mack Golf, Blackpool, UK
Club Manager, Ladies of Leisure, Kent, UK
Senior Personal Trainer, Profile Health & Fitness, London, UK
Group Fitness Instructor and Personal Trainer, LeisureForce, West coast, Saudi Arabia
Operations Manager - Fitness, Heights Holdings - nuyi, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Personal Trainer and Group Exercise Instructor, Heights Holdings - nuyi, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
General Manager required for large leisure centre, Fusion, Enfield, UK
Full Charge Book keeper/ Accounts Admin, Club Trainings, London, UK
Senior Beauty Therapist, Citirecruit, Stroud, UK
Beauty Therapist, Citirecruit, Stroud, UK
Director of Leisure Facilities, BH Live, Bournemouth, UK
Operations and Sales Manager, Energie Group, Merseyside, UK
Fitness Instructor, Energie Group, Crosby & Waterloo, Liverpool, UK
Membership Sales Consultant, Energie Group, Forest Hill, UK
Fit4Less Crew Member, energie group, Kettering, UK
Sun Lane Leisure - Centre Manager (Full Time), Wakefield Council, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, UK
General Manager - Seven Islands Leisure Centre, Fusion, Southwark, UK
International Fitness Training Manager- Europe, Cybex International Inc, Europe, UK
Assistant Country Club Manager, Ashdown Park Hotel and

Country Club, Wych Cross, Nr Forest Row, East Sussex, UK
Football Strategy Manager, Herefordshire Football Association, Herefordshire, UK
Chief Executive Officer, Worcestershire Football Association Limited, Worcestershire, UK
P/t Qualified Fitness Trainer, YMCA Watford, St Albans, UK
Swimming Teachers, Everyone Active, Weymouth, Dorset, UK
General Manager, The Gym Group, Edinburgh, UK
Full time Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Malvern, UK
P/t Qualified Fitness Trainer, YMCA Watford, St Albans, UK
Landscape Gardener, Kongeparken, Norway, Scandinavia
Fitness Manager, Everyone Active, Cambourne, UK
Part Time Swimming Teacher, Everyone Active, Various locations, UK
Female Fitness Instructors, Active Connection, Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia
Leisure Assistant (Lifeguard), Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Tower Hamlets, UK
Group Exercise Instructor, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, UK
Full time Membership Consultant (Maternity Cover), Everyone Active, Staines / Sunbury
Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Daventry, UK
Swimming Instructor, Everyone Active, Spelthorne Leisure Centre, UK
Lifeguard, Everyone Active, Spelthorne Leisure Centre, Staines, UK
Sales Manager, Everyone Active, Daventry, UK
Lifeguards (Full- and part-time), Everyone Active, Basildon, UK
Massage and Beauty Therapist, Coworth Park, Ascot, UK
Spa Attendant, Coworth Park, Ascot, UK
Freelance Therapists, Coworth Park, Ascot, UK
Spa Therapists, Orient-Express, Venice, Portofino, Ravello and Sicily, Italy
Spa Therapist Coordinator, Orient-Express, Venice, Portofino, Ravello and Sicily, Italy
Spa Manager, Lion Quays Waterside Resort, Shropshire, UK
Regional Trainer and Account Manager, Aromatherapy Associates, Hong Kong
Spa Manager, SpaStaff.com, Chennai, India
Spa Manager, SpaStaff.com, Coventry, UK
Assistant General Manager, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK
Duty Supervisor, Tone Leisure, Taunton, UK
Gymnastics Instructor, Everyone Active, Spelthorne Leisure Centre, Staines, UK
Recreation Manager, Tone Leisure, Dartmouth, UK
Full and part time lifeguard positions, Everyone Active, Basildon, UK
Personal Trainer, Pure Gym Limited, Coventry, UK
Personal Trainer, Pure Gym Limited, various locations, UK
General Manager, The Gym Group, London Tottenham, UK
Group Exercise Instructor, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, City of York, UK
Maintenance Technician, Valley Leisure Ltd, Romsey/ Chandelers Ford/ Andover, UK
Casual Duty Assistants, Herefordshire Sports Village, Herefordshire, UK
Assistant General Manager, The Gym Group, Luton, UK
International Netball Roadshow Coach, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
Annabel Croft Tennis Academy Coach, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
Activate Sport - Activity Instructor, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
Activate Sport - Sport Instructor, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
Brendan Cole Dance Academy Instructor, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
Activate Sport Camp Manager, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
Shane Williams Rugby Academy, Activate Sport, Nationwide, UK
General Manager, The Gym Group, Norwich, UK
Personal Trainers, The Gym Group, Leeds, UK

for more news and jobs updated daily visit www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

Full time. Permanent IRO £20,000

With record new members this year and with so many families using Exeter Golf and Country Club, we want to make sure we are offering the very best service for them so we are looking for a Junior Membership Manager.

This exciting new post is perfect for a professional individual who has a wealth of experience working with children and young people in providing and developing children's activity programmes, holiday clubs and sports coaching!

This is a senior role and therefore we need to see proof of your experience in these areas as this is an important area of further development for the club.

You will work closely with the Club Manager, Head of Marketing and PR and the sports coaches to help promote junior memberships externally and internally along with the new programmes you devise.

Please apply by sending your CV and covering letter by email to martin.halse@exetergcc.co.uk or by post to: Martin Halse, Exeter Golf & Country Club, Topsham Road, Exeter, EX2 7AE Closing date: Friday 20th April 2012



VACANCY AT THE LAKES AQUARIUM OPERATIONS MANAGER

Salary and benefits package circa £30k

Lakes Aquarium is a small visitor attraction on the southern shore of Lake Windermere in the picturesque tourist area of the Lake District. Encompassing a fresh water aquarium, two retail outlets and two catering outlets, the attraction is an established fixture in the local tourism offer and attracts approximately 100,000 visitors per year.

The attraction is owned and operated by Parques Reunidos, one of Europe's largest leisure and attraction operators who specialise in the tourism/leisure sector. Parques Reunidos currently operates 71 parks around the world and attracts over 25.8 million visitors annually.

We are currently seeking an Operations Manager, dedicated to giving our visitor's a great experience. Reporting to the UK Director you will lead the team on site, ensuring that the park is operating safely, efficiently and profitably whilst providing the best possible customer service to our visitors.

Prospective candidates will ideally come from an environment where health and safety and customer service are paramount. The role will involve motivating and managing the team, visitor services, personnel, accounting, reporting and facilities management. The ideal candidate will also have the ability to self-motivate and problem solve and enjoy working in a challenging environment. IT literacy, planning, presentation skills and the ability to work to tight deadlines are essential.

You will be an experienced senior leisure professional, an accomplished and experienced team leader, combining business awareness with the ability to organise yourself and your team and communicate at all levels.

Please send a detailed CV and covering letter explaining why you wish to be considered for this post to James Eels, Oceanarium, Pier Approach, Bournemouth, BH2 5AA or by email to james.eels@realive.co.uk

Closing date for applicants: 30th April 2012
Job Description on application.



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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, 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

Rank ends Gala Coral casino talks

Rank Group, the owner of the Grosvenor Casinos and Mecca Bingo brands, has terminated discussions over the possible acquisition of Gala Coral Group's casino arm.

Earlier this year, Rank announced it had entered into talks over the purchase of Gala Coral's 24 Gala Casinos across the UK in a deal reportedly worth around £250m.

However, Rank said that it had ended discussions "after it became clear that the proposed terms of the acquisition would not serve the best interest of Rank's shareholders".

Rank chair and chief executive officer Ian Burke said: "We will now concentrate on delivering our organic growth plans, including the delivery of 12 more G casinos by 2015."



Rank Group already owns and operates the UK's Mecca Bingo business

A Gala Coral spokesperson added: "The group will continue to manage its casino business in line with its stated objectives."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=f8x8j>

Goals Soccer Centres in Canadian takeover approach

Goals Soccer Centres, the five-a-side football facility operator, has revealed that it is the subject of a takeover approach from Canada-based Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan.

In response to media speculation, the group said it had received a preliminary approach

from the pension fund but could not confirm an offer would be submitted.

The announcement comes just over a month after Goals Soccer Centres reported a "year of progress and change" in 2011.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=U2moy>

Aspers succeeds in MK casino bid

A new large casino to be developed in Milton Keynes is to be operated by Aspers after the company was announced as the successful applicant by Milton Keynes Council (MKC).

The award means that the casino operator can now apply for a large casino licence, with the proposed venue to deliver a £10m investment within the existing Xscape complex.

Gaming tables and machines will form part of the casino, along with entertainment, dining and bars. MKC will receive at least £500,000 per year for the entire lifespan of the facility.

The council's licensing sub-committee resolved to grant Aspers the provisional statement after the group's bid was adjudged to offer the "best all round package" for the city.

"It will provide not only a new completely different, yet responsibly managed, kind of leisure facility for Milton Keynes, but numerous



Aspers held off competition from two other bidders

associated facilities and benefits for the local community," said a council spokesperson.

"This outcome has been the result of two years' work by a small team of council officers and advisers who enabled all three applicants to carefully construct their final bids."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w9b5x>

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