

## Green light for £1bn Llanwern steelworks scheme

By **Pete Hayman**

Developer St Modwen has been given the go-ahead for a £1bn urban community development on the site of the former Llanwern steelworks near Newport, South Wales.

The company has secured a section 106 agreement with Newport City Council to progress the Glan Llyn project, having already acquired the 600-acre (242.8-hectare) site from Corus in 2004.

Full planning permission has already been obtained to enable the developer to begin large-scale land remediation work in preparation for the scheme, which is poised to



**The former steelworks site is to be transformed under the scheme**

include the construction of around 4,000 new homes.

A number of retail and leisure facilities – including sports, amenity and play space, parks and lakes – are planned

for the Llanwern site, in addition to schools, a police station, a supermarket, a library and a doctor's surgery.

Rob Skelston, development director for St Modwen in

South Wales, said: "Signing the agreement with the council signals an important milestone for the development of the site, meaning we can now start physical building work on the first residential phase and also Celtic Business Park."

NCC's head of service for planning, regeneration and strategic housing, Andy Evans, added: "In the short term, the city will reap the rewards of a dedicated park and ride facility for the Ryder Cup 2010 while in the longer term a major brownfield site will be transformed into a thriving new community. This is a massive contribution to Newport's future growth strategy."

## Council approves Horley leisure centre proposals

Multi-million pound facility to boast six-lane, 25m swimming pool and sports hall

By **Pete Hayman**

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council has approved detailed plans for a new leisure centre on the site of a former school in Horley, Surrey.

The multi-million pound scheme was awarded outline planning consent in March last year, although proposals were referred to the Government Office for the South East.

Existing buildings at the former Court Lodge Secondary School are set to be demolished during June in preparation for



**The proposed leisure centre is due to open in January 2012**

the start of construction work on the new leisure centre.

Facilities planned for the venue include a six-lane, 25m

swimming pool with access for disabled users; a teaching pool; a four-court, multi-use sports hall; a 50-station fitness suite and an exercise studio.

Separate changing areas for males, females, families and disabled users and a reception are also planned, as well as car and cycle parking to be shared with Horley Town Football Club.

The existing Horley Anderson Centre will remain open until the new facility is complete in January 2012, before being demolished to make way for new public open space.

### LTA funding 'to be maintained'

Sports minister Gerry Sutcliffe has pledged to maintain current levels of funding for the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), despite criticism of its performance in the wake of Great Britain's Davis Cup defeat to Lithuania.

According to the BBC, Sutcliffe insisted the national governing body will continue to benefit from £26m Lottery and Exchequer investment through Sport England between 2009-2013.

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## Further delays for Harlow Leisurezone

New £25m leisure complex now earmarked for May opening after latest setback

By Pete Hayman

A new £25m leisure complex being developed in Harlow, Essex, will not be completed until mid-to-late April after the contractor delivering the scheme reported further delays.

Forming part of the wider Harlow Gateway regeneration project, the Harlow Leisurezone was initially due to be handed over to Gateway partners by Christmas 2009 but is now not set to open until May.

An issue with the installation of fire dampers meant developer Leadbitter had to push back the "practical completion" of the leisure centre until late February 2010.

However, further delays have been reported to the Gateway partners and will mean that work will not be completed



Gateway Partners were due to start fit-out work earlier this year

until later this month, ahead of a four-week fit out period.

Harlow Council's three group leaders – Andrew Johnson, Mark Wilkinson and Chris Millington, said: "These delays are out of the partners' hands and we have asked that once again our disappointment is registered with the contractors."

The complex will feature a 25m swimming pool with seating for 300 spectators, a learner pool, a national club standard sports hall for badminton, basketball and trampolining and a gym.

An indoor tennis hall, three fitness studios and four squash courts will also be on offer.

## PAFC hosts 'world's first' carbon-neutral match

By Pete Hayman

Plymouth Argyle Football Club (PAFC) has hosted the world's first carbon-neutral match – the Coca-Cola Championship fixture with Newcastle United Football Club (NUFC) on 19 April.

The club teamed up with Carbon Life, the project management group, and consultant Independent Utilities for the scheme, which saw all carbon emissions relating to the staging of the game offset.

Information regarding the location and travelling habits of PAFC fans was handed to Carbon Life, which worked out the travel footprint in line with national travel figures to create a 'best practice' figure.

The travel footprint of both sets of staff and players, as well as NUFC supporters, was also



The club's Home Park hosted the carbon-neutral match

sale of refreshments sourced from local ingredients, provided by sponsors Ginsters.

PAFC chair Sir Roy Gardner said: "It is well documented that Newcastle to Plymouth is the longest trip in the Football League, so to be able to offset the carbon footprint for that amount of travel, not to mention all the other energy consumption and waste surrounding the game, is a phenomenal achievement."

Carbon Life director Carl Hughes added: "PAFC has committed to understanding the carbon impact attributable to their football games, make real changes to show what can be achieved, and offset the residual emissions associated to the match through robust, transparent and quantifiable carbon projects."

calculated in order to determine the level of carbon that had to be offset in order to be completely carbon-neutral.

Measures implemented as part of PAFC's carbon-neutral efforts also included matchday programmes printed by publishers Deltor on recycled paper; waste recycling and the



## £17.5m for Welsh coastal tourism plans

Welsh Assembly Government agrees funding for four schemes across the country

By **Pete Hayman**

Four tourism schemes designed to improve the visitor experience of Wales' coastline will share a £17.5m funding package from the Welsh Assembly Government.

Three visitor centres will be created in Pembrokeshire; Aberdaron, Gwynedd and Swansea Bay, while a number of the country's beaches will benefit from improvements.

Developed as part of the assembly government's Coastal Tourism initiative, the schemes will be backed using £8.4m through the European Regional Development Fund. Private and public sector partners will provide the remaining funding.

The £4.2m Pembrokeshire Coastal Waters Centre development will boost the experience



The Pembrokeshire coastline will benefit from a new visitor centre

of those looking to explore the coastline from the water, including new landing stages.

Swansea Bay water sports centre, a £4.2m project supported with nearly £2.2m European funding, will offer a range of water-based activities using the bay's natural facilities.

Aberdaron coastal visitor centre will receive more than £1.5m from the European Union towards the project's £3.4m total cost.

Meanwhile, £1.3m European funding will go towards the £2.75m Green Sea Programme to improve beach facilities.

## RCLT secures Liverpool theatre lease agreement

By **Pete Hayman**

Efforts to renovate Liverpool's Royal Court Theatre have taken a step forward after Royal Court Liverpool Trust (RCLT) was awarded a 30-year lease to operate the venue.

The trust is now able to move forward plans to raise funds for a £10.6m renovation of the Grade II-listed venue, following Liverpool City Council's decision on 26 March.

Designs drawn up by Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM) were chosen from a shortlist of seven bids in March



AHMM is behind plans for the Royal Court Theatre renovation

2009, with RCLT now aiming to secure funding for the project.

Plans for the 1,250-seat theatre include an enlarged entrance space, a rooftop

restaurant and bar and the reorganisation of the middle two floors to create more comfortable casual spaces.

RCLT expects to apply for support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, foundations and private companies, as well as hoping to get the backing of the Northwest Regional Development Agency.

Trust chair Elizabeth Christie said: "We are determined to succeed in our fundraising efforts and ensure the future of this building, which has been at the heart of Liverpool's cultural offer for such a long time."

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**IN BRIEF**

**Ultrabody secures énergie detox deal**

► The franchisee of the énergie Fitness for Women club in Belfast, Northern Ireland, has introduced a new revenue stream by launching a detox programme. Club owner Saima Akram said around 50 members have taken up the programme since it launched in January, equating to 20 per cent of the club's 250 members. The 30-day programme uses products from supplier Ultrabody, with 30 sachets retailing for £16.95. Containing a blend of detoxifying herbs, the sachets are combined with water and consumed on a daily basis.

**Freedom Leisure to invest in Sandwich**

► Freedom Leisure is set to invest £250,000 at Sandwich Sports & Leisure Centre after confirmation that the trust is to continue managing the centre for a further 10 years. More than £150,000 will be invested in new equipment for the gym, including Power Plate machines and Summit trainers, bikes, treadmills and cross-trainers from Life Fitness. The centre's squash courts and exercise studio will also be revamped and the booking system upgraded when work gets underway at the beginning of June. The centre is set for a grand reopening on the weekend of 12-13 June.

**Life Fitness and Serco renew deal**

► Fitness equipment supplier Life Fitness and leisure management company Serco have extended their partnership contract for another five years. The new agreement has a projected spend of £3m over the next three years. The partnership will see Life Fitness supplying its equipment to more than 20 leisure centres managed by Serco for, and on behalf of, local authorities.

# Gateshead Leisure Centre relaunches

New fitness suite, changing facilities and viewing areas form part of £8m revamp

By **Pete Hayman**

Gateshead Leisure Centre has reopened following a major £8m revamp – part of a wider council-led project to improve the city's leisure provision.

A new 650sq m (6,997sq ft), 150-station fitness suite with equipment by Life Fitness has been created as part of the extensive renovation scheme, which has been designed by S&P Architects and carried out by contractor Willmott Dixon.

Other improvements included a new entrance and reception atrium, new spectator and viewing area with café, new sports, gym and pool changing facilities and an upgraded main swimming pool.

An additional teaching pool, poolside sauna and steam-rooms and three fitness studios complete the centre's facilities, along with two children's party rooms and two meeting rooms.



**Life Fitness has equipped the centre's new 650sq m fitness suite**

Gateshead Council's leader Mick Henry said: "This project is part of a £36m investment that will see state-of-the-art sport and leisure facilities on the doorsteps of Gateshead residents inspiring them to lead healthy and active lives and this is the first of the new centres to open its doors."

The reopening of Gateshead Leisure Centre is the first scheme to be completed as

part of the wider £36m investment in the city's leisure facilities, which will include the development of two new-build leisure centres located at Heworth and Blaydon.

Existing facilities at the city's Birtley and Dunston pools will be overhauled as part of the council-led programme, while improvements are also set to be carried out at Gateshead International Stadium.

## Anytime Fitness plans UK move

Franchised health club operator Anytime Fitness has announced plans to expand into the UK and Ireland after securing its 1,300th contract.

CEO Chuck Runyon said the group plans to open clubs in the UK, Ireland, Luxembourg, Mexico, India and the Netherlands.

Joe Moore, president and CEO of the International Health, Racquet and Sportsclub Association (IHRSA), said: "The tremendous growth of Anytime Fitness demonstrates that the public will respond if you make it easy for them."

## Ben Dunne launches fourth club

By **Tom Walker**

The Ben Dunne Group has expanded its health and fitness offering by opening a fourth club – its first 'high value' site.

The new facility in Lucan, West Dublin, offers a 1,500sq m (16,146sq ft) gym with strength kit from gym80 International – including a 500sq m (5,382sq ft) free weights area – and CV equipment from Technogym.

The 'high standards: low prices' vision is similar to the group's other sites, but the new club offers no pool or wet features and membership is priced at €175 (£154) a year.

"The aim of Ben Dunne Gym is to offer world-class fitness



**The 'high value' club does not offer any pool or wet facilities**

facilities at an affordable price," said director Mark Dunne.

However, Dunne prefers not to use the term 'low cost' or 'budget' to describe the new club. "This has connotations of comparing us with low-cost airlines, where customers can feel they've received a less than satisfactory service or product."



## £1.5m revamp for Folkestone complex

Major renovation scheme to include creation of a new gym and kids' fitness area

By **Tom Walker**

Folkestone Sports Centre is currently undergoing a £1.5m revamp which will include the introduction of a new dedicated kids gym.

The refurbishment of the near 40-year-old centre, which is being funded by loans from Charity Bank and Big Issue Invest and supported by Alliance Leisure, will see the creation of a new gym, café and bar area; as well as upgrades to the roof, pool plant, reception and foyer.

The new junior gym will boast eight ZigZag Xer-Dance platforms and resistance and CV equipment, while the main fitness centre will move into the main building and double in



**Folkestone Sports Centre will benefit from a new children's gym**

size to 300sq m (3,229sq ft), featuring 65 pieces of resistance and CV equipment.

The existing toning studio will move to the site of the centre's current gym and see new Powertone and Easytone chairs installed.

Tessa Stickler, general manager at Folkestone Sports Centre Trust, said: "The ethos of the Trust is that we provide affordable sports facilities for the community and the fact we now have a modern new gym doesn't change that in any way."



## New fitness suite opens at Ripon Leisure Centre

By **Pete Hayman**

A newly-extended fitness suite has opened at a leisure centre in Ripon, North Yorkshire, following the completion of a major £285,000 renovation.

The scheme has been funded by Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) and Ripon City Council (RCC), which has created the largest gym in the borough council's portfolio.

Ripon Leisure Centre's ground floor Brimhams' Fitness



**The centre boasts new facilities**

Suite has become a free weights area as part of the project, with Technogym supplying

36 pieces of equipment for the 209sq m (2,250sq ft) facility.

The renovation comes after HBC secured a deal to take over the freehold transfer of the site, having operated the complex as part of a leasehold/management contract with RCC. RCC also provided £125,000 to invest in the centre.

Brimhams fitness manager Andy Hawkswell said: "The new gym is light and airy and provides the best environment for staying in shape."

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## £5.6m to be invested in Rossendale leisure provision

Rossendale Borough Council is to invest £5.6m in its leisure portfolio following the culmination of a year-long review of leisure provision across the area.

Improvements will be carried out at Marl Pits sports complex and a new swimming pool will be built at Haslingden Sports Centre.

Martin Kay, acting chief executive for Rossendale Leisure Trust, said: "While it has been a very difficult time for Rossendale Leisure Trust over the past 12 months, the future looks good for the Trust.

"The review identified that the trust model is the best value for money option for Rossendale."

## IN BRIEF

### Work to start on new Dorchester 3G pitch

► West Dorset District Council has announced that work is due to start on the installation of a new 3G football pitch at Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre in Dorchester. The centre's existing pitch is set to be resurfaced and filled with rubber crumbs rather than sand, while nets will allow the facility to be divided into three smaller pitches to increase booking opportunities. Dorchester Town Football Club has expressed an interest in using the new pitch, which is due to take around six weeks to complete and has been funded using a £124,400 grant from the Football Foundation.

### New sports facilities for Yorkshire Dales

► Reeth and District Community Sports Club (RDCSC) has received the green light to move forward with plans to develop new sports facilities for rural communities in Yorkshire. Residents in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale are in line to benefit from a new floodlit multi-use games area, which can be used for basketball, netball, five-a-side football, hockey and tennis. A pavilion equipped with changing rooms and showers, storage areas and improvements to the existing playing surface also form part of the RDCSC scheme, which is set to cost more than £600,000.

### Council eyes up leisure privatisation plans

► Leisure centres in the Vale of Glamorgan, South Wales, are set to be run by a private sector operator after the local authority agreed plans to seek a partnership agreement. The Vale of Glamorgan Council's cabinet has now backed proposals to transfer the operation of leisure centres in Barry, Cowbridge, Penarth and Llantwit Major.

## Water tests for 2012 Aquatics Centre

Zaha Hadid-designed Olympic venue remains on schedule for completion in 2011

By **Pete Hayman**

More than 10 million litres of water are being used to test the three concrete pools at the London 2012 Aquatics Centre, which remains on track for completion in 2011.

Testing of the dive pool and training pool has been completed, with the competition pool due to be filled before work starts to seal and line the pools with 180,000 tiles. Olympic Delivery Authority chief executive David Higgins said: "The Aquatics Centre is on track for completion in mid-2011 and the sweeping roof that will form the 'Gateway to the Games' is now a fixture in the skyline alongside the Olympic Stadium.



The centre will be owned by Lee Valley Park Regional Authority

"Testing the pools is a major milestone for the construction of the 2012 Aquatics Centre which in legacy will provide a range of swimming and diving facilities and become a new London landmark."

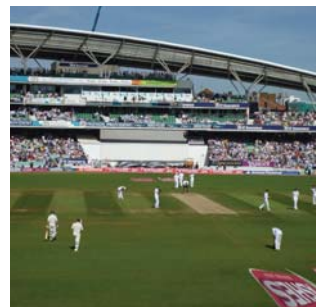
The Aquatics Centre, designed by Zaha Hadid, will boast two 50m swimming pools with moveable floors, a diving pool and a dry diving area for use during the 2012 Games and community use in legacy mode.

## General Election set to delay free-to-air decision

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans to overhaul a list of sporting events protected for broadcast on free-to-air television have been delayed after the government called the General Election on 6 May.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) had set up an independent panel to review which sports should be added or removed from the 'crown jewels' list. Among recommendations expected to



The Ashes – will they be 'free'?

be decided on in June was the addition of home Ashes Test match cricket, England football

qualifiers and the Wimbledon tennis championships to the list.

However, a DCMS spokesperson said there would be no decisions taken before May's election, with free-to-air proposals not included among legislation put in place ahead of the election campaigns.

Some national governing bodies are concerned that plans to alter the list of protected events could reduce the amount of funding if pay TV operators were unable to bid for events.

### Funding boost for Telford community tennis proposals

Plans for a £2.2m community tennis centre in Telford have been handed a boost after the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) agreed to contribute towards the scheme.

The sport's national governing body has agreed to grant Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC) £370,000 towards construction costs, in addition to a £130,000 loan.

Under the council's plans - the first phase of the new Oakengate Sports and Learning Community, the new facility will boast eight courts - four indoor and four all-weather outdoor courts. TWC has also outlined its Tennis Development Plan, which will see the new centre work with schools.



# Cardiff white water venue unveiled

£13.3m canoeing facility forms part of International Sports Village development

By **Pete Hayman**

Cardiff International White Water (CIWW) – situated in Cardiff Bay – has been opened by the Winter Olympic gold medallist, Amy Williams.

Facilities at the new £13.3m venue – part of the city's International Sports Village (ISV) development – include the UK's first Olympic-standard pumped water canoe slalom course. Canoeing and white water rafting facilities will cater for people of all abilities, from starter through to international competition, with 50,000 users expected each year once fully established.

HydroStadium – the France-based group behind similar venues used during the Sydney, Athens and Beijing



The new venue has been designed by France-based HydroStadium

Olympics – designed the venue, which was built by Dean and Dyball Civil Engineering.

Cardiff Council was behind the scheme with assistance from the Welsh Assembly Government and the Welsh Canoe Association, while Cardiff

Harbour Authority will manage the centre. CIWW, which also boasts a café and a retail unit selling sports equipment, will be used as a training ground for the 2012 Games and aims to become one of the city's top tourism destinations.

## IN BRIEF

### London borough 'to benefit from Olympics'

▶ A series of measures has been agreed by the Olympic Board to ensure the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBD) benefits from the 2012 Games. The borough will not stage any Olympic or Paralympic events at London 2012, but will be a member on the East London Legacy Board to help shape future planning for the region. LBBD will be given a key role in the Cultural Olympiad.

### Hooligans to receive 2012 football ban

▶ New legislation has been introduced by the Home Office to ban football hooligans from attending matches across the UK during the 2012 Olympics. Olympic football matches are due to be held at English, Scottish and Welsh venues as part of the London Games, with new laws set to stop anyone with a banning order from attending. Football Banning Orders will be automatically recognised across Britain under the new laws, regardless of the country in which they are applied, as part of ongoing attempts to crack down on hooliganism.

### Council seeks Yeovil Sports Zone views

▶ South Somerset District Council has invited more than 100 schools, sports clubs and organisations to help shape plans for the proposed Sports Zone facility in Yeovil. Current plans for the £28m complex include a 25m swimming pool with moveable floor, a combined 530sq m (5,704sq ft) leisure and learner pool, an eight-court sports hall and a four-court indoor tennis centre. A 125-station fitness suite, a multi-purpose aerobics and dance studio and a climbing wall are also earmarked for the Sports Zone.

## Essex stadium scheme on hold

Plans to overhaul Essex County Cricket Club's County Ground venue in Chelmsford have been delayed as a result of the general election.

A decision on whether the major multi-million pound project can proceed has been put on hold until after the election by the Department for Communities and Local Government after the plans were called in for further scrutiny last year.

The communities secretary is now expected to determine the fate of the development on or before 10 June, with a complete overhaul of the stadium's cricketing facilities mooted, including a new pavilion.

## Go-ahead for Hadley Wood centre



The planned sports facilities have been designed by AndArchitects

By **Tom Walker**

Hadley Wood Youth Trust (HWYT) has secured planning permission for new community sports facilities at Hadley Wood, north London.

Designed by AndArchitects, the scheme will include the development of a full-size, floodlit artificial grass pitch, sports pavilion with four changing rooms, an education suite, kitchen, multi-function

room and a number of grass pitches. As well as the local community, the facilities will be used by a number of further education courses currently run by Wingate & Finchley Football Club, Barnet College and Whitefield School.

The courses are aimed at giving young people aged 16-19 the opportunity to study for a sports-related qualification while gaining first hand experience in sport.

## The positive impact of professional leadership

The UK sector needs more qualified managers to fully exploit its growth potential

**T**he pace of business life continues to accelerate, and managers could be forgiven for feeling that they are less and less in control. There are a number of new challenges facing us – technological advances; determined competitors; increased red tape; and the growing demands of customers are just some of the daily issues with which managers now have to contend. In a broader context, there are many global issues which impact on operations, with security and environmental responsibility being two key areas of interest.

Managers in the hospitality industry are not immune from any of these pressures. Indeed, it could be argued that they are more susceptible to their influence than managers in other sectors. The global nature of the industry, its reliance on disproportionately high labour levels – together with a propensity for rapid staff turnover – its vulnerability to outside forces and its focus on customer service are all factors which create a complex and challenging environment for hospitality managers across all sectors.

Recent research suggests that to maintain its competitiveness on the global stage, the UK will need more professionally qualified managers and leaders. Furthermore, if the growth potential of organisations is to be exploited fully, the post-recession environment will require a stronger focus on talent development to enable managers to become more self-reliant and innovative. In this context, professionally qualified leaders can have a positive impact on organisational performance, and evidence suggests that managers with such a background are more likely to be retained and developed by employers.

Research from People 1st highlights the current low level of qualified managers within the industry, emphasising how important it is to address this major weakness and potential impediment to future growth. As a result, the industry has suffered for many years from a very weak attitude towards CPD, illustrated by the relatively low adherence to professional bodies.

Therefore, despite a small number of entrepreneurs and certain industry 'role models', the overall image projected by the sector remains one of low skills, limited opportunities and poor professionalism. While much can (and must) be learned 'on the job', experience must go hand in hand with an ethos of CPD. Only when this is embedded fully into the industry's culture will significant improvements begin to be seen.



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Hotels in the capital have experienced a healthy start to the year

## London hotels report Q1 growth

First quarter figures show 10 per cent RevPAR rise

By **Pete Hayman**

London's hotel operators have reported an increase of more than 10 per cent in revenue per available room (RevPAR) for Q1 2010, according to new research from Deloitte.

Compared with the same period last year (Q1 2009), operators in the capital have seen occupancy grow by nearly 5.5 per cent to 76.2 per cent and average room rates increase by 4.5 per cent to £123.

Regional hotels, however, have continued to struggle, according to the business

advisory firm. RevPAR decreased by 1 per cent in the first quarter, although occupancy grew by 3.4 per cent.

Marvin Rust, hospitality managing partner at Deloitte, said: "The start of 2010 has seen hoteliers in the capital build upon growth reported in the final quarter of 2009.

"Performance was, however, affected by Easter being a week earlier this year, as the drop in business travel reduced RevPAR in the last week of the first quarter. Without this, London's performance would undoubtedly have been stronger."

## Zaza acquires Hertfordshire site

Independent Italian restaurant operator Zaza is to open its third site in the south-east as part of a larger expansion programme for the brand.

The Hertfordshire-based operator has acquired the former Jimmy's on 27 High Street, Bushey, through the London-based property agent, Davis Coffey Lyons.

Operated by Terry Greenhill and Ferdi Pacelli, Zaza specialises in Italian

food and currently trades from two Grade II-listed sites in Rickmansworth and Ruislip, both in Hertfordshire.

The operator has taken a new 30-year lease from landlord Wellington Pub Company at a £36,250 rent.

The Bushey property, which is located close to the town church, has been restored to retain its village feel and will have outdoor seating for up to 90 diners.



## 4D experience for Our Dynamic Earth

Scotland's first permanent 4D attraction explores the history of the planet earth

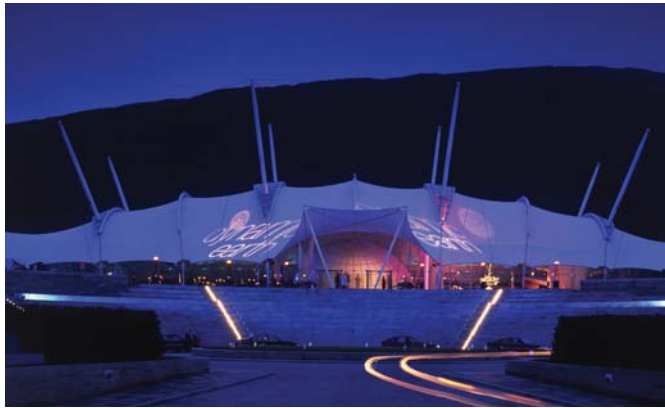
By **Tom Walker**

Our Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh, Scotland, has invested £700,000 in creating a permanent 4D experience.

The theatre will be an addition to the existing Journey of Contrasts gallery and will take guests on a journey from the arctic tundra to the tropical rainforests.

Supplied in partnership with Global Immersion and NSC Creative, the new theatre will incorporate a number of effects including audio, special lighting, seat movements, snow, wind and olfactory stimuli in order to engage viewers in the 4D experience.

Douglas Walker, Our Dynamic Earth's commercial director, said: "This latest investment proves that there is always something new at Dynamic Earth." He added that



Edinburgh's £39m Our Dynamic Earth attraction opened in 1999

the new attraction will be utilised in efforts to increase the number of corporate events held at the site each year.

Work on the new facility was completed in time for the attraction to launch during the Easter holidays.

During the construction of the theatre, the existing gallery was closed to allow the area to be completely revamped.

Catriona Cardie, marketing director of Our Dynamic Earth, added: "I am confident that this is our most exciting investment to date.

"3D film is very topical right now but we have taken that a stage further by producing a completely immersive experience, which is even more lifelike and also has some startling moments."

## Barry Island fun park reopens

A pleasure park in Barry Island, South Wales, has reopened under new management.

Barry Island Pleasure Park – which it is hoped will benefit from being featured in the BBC sitcom, *Gavin and Stacey* – has been leased to Studt Funfairs for one season.

Company director Vernon Studt, has run the dodgems at the park for three years, but has also operated other sites, such as Groveland Adventure Park in Pembrokeshire in 2005.

Studt has installed new rides, including a junior rollercoaster, and has closed others, such as the log flume and Evolution rides, at the 4.6-acre site.

Studt estimates that the park will be fully operational by July.

## New museum unveiled in Wigan

By **Pete Hayman**

A new museum has opened in Wigan, Greater Manchester, following the completion of a £1.9m scheme to revamp the town's former History Shop.

Manchester-based restoration company William Anelay was chosen to deliver the new Museum of Wigan Life, which was designed by architects Bradshaw, Gass and Hope.

The project – awarded £500,000 by the Heritage Lottery Fund, included external improvements, the refurbishment of the first floor local and family study area and a new entrance ramp.

A new Wigan exhibition, reception and shop have been created on the ground floor,



The new museum replaces the town's former History Shop

while a purpose-built learning space and meeting room and an area for temporary exhibitions are also included.

The Museum of Wigan Life project is also funding initiatives that will enable learning and outreach for heritage services, while around 5,000 images from Wigan and Leigh's history will be digitised.

### IN BRIEF

#### Hartlepool set for giant wheel attraction

► A new 130ft (39.6m) big wheel attraction is set to open in Hartlepool this summer as part of celebrations designed to coincide with the 2010 Tall Ships Races. The wheel – one of the largest of its kind in the UK – will be sited at the Town Moor Fair on the Headland, which is due to run between 29 July and 10 August. Fair operator John Murphy said: "The Giant Wheel is a huge attraction and there is no doubt that it will enhance the experience for the many visitors we are expecting this summer."

#### New butterfly exhibit opens at NHM

► The Natural History Museum (NHM) has unveiled its new Butterfly Explorers exhibition this week. The exhibit, which will run between 8 April and 26 September, is located on the museum's east lawn and features a butterfly house filled with hundreds of live butterflies in four different habitat zones (South America, North America, Asia and Africa), with two hatchery windows to observe pupae and emerging butterflies, as well as an outdoor garden with tips on how to attract butterflies at home, a maze and a treehouse. It also features a series of interactive activities throughout and a gift shop.

#### New visitor attraction opens in Tameside

► Waterworks – the latest addition to Tameside Council's museum and galleries portfolio – has been officially opened in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire. The attraction, which will be an add-on to Setantii – tales of Tameside at Ashton Town Hall, examines the developments that helped shape the future of water sanitisation, including the Longdendale reservoirs.

## WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

### ANNUAL AND QUARTERLY PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS

Wandsworth Borough Council is inviting suitably qualified and experienced organisations to express an interest in being considered for the provision of Children's Play Facility Annual and Quarterly Inspection services for a period of three years with a possible further mutually agreed extension for two years.

The Department of Children's Services has approximately 54 play facilities, which include play facilities in children's nurseries, 1 o'clock centres, specialist settings, adventure playgrounds and parks. In addition many of the Borough's schools have outdoor play equipment. The Housing Department has approximately 122 play facilities which are mostly located on Housing Estates across the Borough and the Leisure and Amenity Services Department have approximately nine play facilities to include seven trim trails and two outside gyms based in local parks or commons.

Applications will only be considered from organisations able to demonstrate experience in the following essential areas of expertise:

#### ANNUAL AND QUARTERLY INSPECTIONS

- i) Conducting annual and quarterly inspections that include whether the play facility complies with British and/or EU standards EN1176 and EN1177,
- ii) the Disability Discrimination Act and an assessment of reasonable and practical modification to achieve compliance or to rectify deterioration/damage;
- iii) a site and equipment risk assessment;
- iv) an estimate of play equipment life expectancy and
- v) immediate identification and notification of any emergency works.

The annual inspections take place in March each year with the quarterly operational safety inspections being undertaken quarterly with written reports being provided three times a year in June, September and December.

#### POST INSTALLATION INSPECTIONS

Conducting Post installation inspections of newly installed equipment to include a full written report that involves the information as set out above for annual and quarterly inspection requirements and also includes the inspection of the depth of any safer surfacing material used and that each item meets all installation requirements.

The estimated annual value of the contract is in the region of £20,000. although there is no guarantee of the volume or value of the work to be placed. It is anticipated that tenders will be sought in July 2010. The contract will commence on 1st September 2010.

Organisations wishing to be considered for selection to tender are required to complete a pre-qualifying questionnaire (PQQ) which should be obtained from Teresa Constantinou either by email at [tconstantinou@wandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:tconstantinou@wandsworth.gov.uk) or by post from Wandsworth Borough Council, Children's Services, Play Services, Town Hall, High Street, SW18 2PU and submitted by 5pm on Friday 28th May 2010.

#### Selection for inclusion within the tender list will be based on the following criteria: -

1. Evidence of the company being a member of the Register of Play Inspectors International (RPiI)
2. Evidence that the inspectors have a valid RPiI Annual Inspectors Qualification.
3. Evidence that Inspectors have a current Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) certificate.
4. Evidence of at least three years experience in play facility inspection services environment of at least 75 sites.
5. Evidence of ability to deliver to the contract standard drawn from three references.
6. Sufficient suitably qualified staff to cover the relevant Essential Areas of Expertise set out above.
7. Three years of profitable financial accounts
8. Suitable insurance cover. (Public Liability to a minimum of £5,000,000 per occurrence, Employers Liability to a minimum of £10,000,000 (B) Professional Indemnity to a minimum per claim of £500,000) (or statements that these will be obtained if awarded the relevant contract(s))
9. The organisation has an annual turnover equivalent to at least twice the contract value
10. A sound record of quality standards including complaint handling.
11. Sound policies including safe guarding, customer care, health and safety, equalities/inclusive play and business continuity.

The award of the contract will be based on lowest price.

Applicants are advised that references will be obtained in writing from the three referees. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their referees respond within the time scale.

It is intended to limit the tender list to a maximum of six companies. If more than six companies fulfil the criteria for selection, those scoring the highest number of points on the PQQ evaluation will be invited to tender.

A performance bond will not be required.

If you completed and a returned the pre-qualifying questionnaire (PQQ) to the first advert you need not re-apply. Your application will be considered alongside any new applications that are received.

Draft specifications may be inspected free of charge at the Town Hall (Play Services Office - Prefab 1) on weekdays between 09.00 and 17.00.

**If you wish to discuss the contract please contact Teresa Constantinou on 020-8871-7792.**

G K Jones, Chief Executive and Director of Administration  
Town Hall, Wandsworth, London SW18 2PU



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The building is situated on the corner of tree-lined Palmyra Square with its attractive Open Aspect, Theatre, Museum and Parr Hall Arts Centre and it is adjacent to Warrington Town Hall, with its impressive Georgian architecture and magnificent Golden Gates.

The immediate area has been considerably redeveloped with many improvements including the £140 million Golden Gate Shopping Centre, incorporating a 1800 space car park, and the Bus Station. Both of these and Bank Quay Railway Station are a mere 3 minutes walk away. The Club is conveniently located in Warrington town centre with many shops and businesses in the immediate area, offering the opportunity for ongoing Corporate Memberships.

The Health Club is finished to a high standard and includes a fully equipped Gym, Weights Room, Mirrored Dance Studio with natural light, luxurious Spa Pool and Sauna Room, very well appointed Male & Female Changing Rooms and a variety of Offices & Treatment Rooms.

The Health Club is fully functioning with full Fitness Staff and full-time Sales Person. The Club has an existing, growing Membership Database and Monthly Income. Rental: On Application.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND VIEWINGS  
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of Connolly Property 07944 472948**



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### TEES BARRAGE WHITE WATER COURSE

#### Watersports retail opportunity EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

**Tees Active Ltd** will be taking a lease to manage the redeveloped Tees Barrage White Water Course, which is currently undergoing a £4.6million upgrade and is due to open in October 2010. We are currently considering options for the management of the shop within the building and are taking this opportunity to gauge market interest.

The hugely popular site with great road and rail links will be the only sustainable White Water Course in the UK and has the potential as an Olympic training site and International venue. The centre currently has a shop, which has been run "in-house" over previous years and now has the sound footing to become a bigger and better opportunity for the right person/company.

The Tees Barrage White Water Centre is a building in a prime location set on the banks of the River Tees. With excellent road access just off the A19 and A66 the site is opposite the main retail park in Teesside, Teesside Park and adjacent to the redeveloped white water course.

Please email [dennis.smith@teesactive.co.uk](mailto:dennis.smith@teesactive.co.uk) to express your interest and request an submissions pack.

*For the evidence of doubt, this is not an official tender process, following submissions Tees Active Ltd may speak to all, some or none of the interested parties and is not ultimately obliged to choose any of the options.*

The closing date for receipt of Expression of Interest is  
12 noon on Friday 7th May 2010.



### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### Design, Construction and Operation of a Football Centre

**Burnley Borough Council** is keen to develop a major football centre at its Prairie Playing Fields Site, which is situated on the border of Burnley and Pendle in Pennine Lancashire.

The site currently has ten outdoor pitches, a floodlit redgra pitch (110 x 66m), changing facilities for the pitches and parking for 150 cars.

The Council is keen to work with a private sector partner to deliver for a period of approximately 25 years a number of '3G' synthetic pitches on the existing redgra area, whilst at the same time, developing new changing facilities into the clubhouse for the outdoor grass pitches.

**Expressions of interest must be made in writing to:**  
**Mick Cartledge, Director of Community Services,**  
**Town Hall, Manchester Road, BURNLEY BB11 1JA**

Email: [mcartledge@burnley.gov.uk](mailto:mcartledge@burnley.gov.uk)

**Deadline for receipt of expressions of interest  
is 5pm Monday 10th May 2010.**

# leisure property news

Visit [leisureproperty.com](http://leisureproperty.com) for the latest news on Properties, developments, tenders and investment.

## Survival of the fittest?

The battle of the budget health and fitness sector



**THOMAS ROSE** is senior surveyor at Cushman and Wakefield

There has been something of a revolution in the health and fitness sector over the last 24 months. The depressed health club market presented an opportunity for a continental concept, proven in the US and Germany, to expand into the UK.

The low-cost budget gym model of value for money, no frills, limited-service but high quality offer, has exploded across the country.

The early evidence suggests things look good. The Gym has secured eight sites in 18 months; Pure Gym has five sites and Fitspace has eight clubs. Current locations seem to be highly cash generative and membership levels continue to be extremely high with low attrition rates, helping further growth.

Yet one of the questions hanging over the sector is how sustainable the growth remains for clubs of this size in the UK with so much competition.

The real issue arises in cities such as Manchester, Leeds and Birmingham, where operators compete head-to-head. For example, The Gym and Pure Gym have opened in Manchester and are trading successfully. Would a third operator dare compete?

The key for success will be to provide a quality offer managed well and that is popular with consumers. Time will tell who will triumph but it is sure to be an interesting time for the low-cost model.

## BAM to deliver new Leeds Arena

Leeds City Council selects contractor to build multi-million pound venue

By **Pete Hayman**

BAM Construction has been chosen to build a major new £80m entertainment venue in the centre of Leeds, West Yorkshire.

Bovis Lend Lease has been named as the reserve contractor by Leeds City Council (LCC) for the Leeds Arena scheme, which will see a 13,500-capacity facility developed on the site in Claypit Lane.

'Super theatre' proposals for the venue will ensure that the furthest seat will be no more than 68m (223ft) from the centre of the stage – compared with 90-95m (295-312ft) at most conventional arenas.

SMG Europe, which has already been appointed by LCC to operate Leeds Arena, is now expected to secure a naming rights agreement that will see an organisation sponsor the entertainment venue.



The proposed interior of Leeds' new arena

LCC leader Andrew Carter said: "BAM Construction has significant experience in building world leading stadiums and throughout the tender process they have demonstrated huge commitment and enthusiasm for the project."

## New eateries planned for Westfield London



A Jamie Oliver eatery is scheduled to open

Westfield, the £1.6bn shopping centre in London's White City, has signed deals with several new cafes and restaurants.

Following the opening of the 14-screen, 3,000-seat Vue cinema in February, it has signed Jamie Oliver's Jamie's Italian, his third in London; Mandaloun, a Lebanese restaurant group; Royal China; Café Isola Bella, the centre's first kosher restaurant; Zaza, the Italian chain; and Shawa.

Two existing tenants have also signed new deals – Caffè Concerto and Searcy's Champagne Bar are both set to expand.

## Council reveals Kelvin Hall investment proposals

A master planning exercise for Glasgow's historic Kelvin Hall is set to be completed after Glasgow City Council (GCC) agreed to provide £85,000 funding

The council's executive committee met to discuss five different proposals for the future of the hall, which opened in 1927.

GCC has now narrowed the options to just two, which include a £15.6m plan to upgrade the indoor athletics venue so it could be used as a boxing venue during the 2014 Commonwealth Games, and a £16.8m scheme to build a larger sports complex and museum store.



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# THE leisure property REPORT

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Sports-related academic studies have evolved from solely producing PE teachers to being a source of serious scientific research. *Leisure Opportunities* finds out how the transformation has taken place and what skills you now need to work in sport

## A QUESTION OF SPORT

In the past 20 years, sports courses, particularly those branded as Sports Science (i.e. BSc rather than BA) have gained more academic credence both within institutions but also within the HE sector. This is not least because research into sports science has grown almost exponentially. The commercialisation of sport and the celebrity status enjoyed by the modern elite athlete has also meant that sport has become an increasingly sexy subject. The popularity of GCSE PE sports and A-level sport studies are direct results of this. According to government figures, sport has become one of the most popular courses at both GCSE and A-Level during the past 20 years.

Further up the ladder, employers and stakeholders increasingly recognise the multidisciplinary training that sports-related courses offer as they often comment that students are trained to problem solve from many different viewpoints and considering different disciplines. As a result, the opportunities for academic research into – and teaching of – sports has increased rapidly. This 'coming of age' of sports science

as an academic subject means that lecturers and researchers in the field are no longer seen as glorified PE teachers. In fact, sport now attracts some of the top academic talent available. The evidence for this is clear when one looks at the results of the government's Research Assessment Exercises (RAE).

"The sports-related sector within HE has performed very well in government audits of research productivity and the social impact of this research," said director of the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences at Liverpool John Moores University (LJM).

"Indeed at the last RAE in 2008 (see [www.hefce.ac.uk/research](http://www.hefce.ac.uk/research)), much of the activity in sports science departments was ranked as internationally recognised. The consequence of success in such audits allied with increasing popularity means that universities have made significant infrastructure investments to really improve the capacity to deliver high quality teaching and research."

### STATE OF PLAY

The UK now boasts a plethora of universities and colleges of higher education which deliver degree qualifications. While universities validate their own qualifications, and deliver them by right, the qualifications at colleges of HE rely on their qualifications being validated by universities – usually ones that are geographically close.

One of these colleges is Loughborough College, which has its qualifications validated by the Nottingham Trent University's Business School.

Dr Angela Edwards, head of sport and leisure courses at Loughborough College, said that, while the proliferation of sports-related courses has meant that even the most traditional universities offer degrees in sport, the diversity of leisure-related studies means that there is space for everyone.

"The higher education landscape in the UK now includes a number of leading universi-

***The reality is that teaching is the 'bread and butter' of most HE institutions offering sport programmes***





ties which deliver sports and leisure management qualifications. These institutions are, however, supported by colleges such as ours that deliver degree qualifications for leisure management which possible have a slightly stronger, vocational, more practical bases.

"We marry the vocational with the academic on a much more practical basis. In a college, the degree qualifications tend to be related more closely to the professional requirements of the awarding bodies and the professional bodies."

As an example of these links, Edwards describes the links that the college has formed with the Institute of Sport and Recreation Management (ISRM). Many of the courses, including the Level 4 and 5 higher professional diplomas (HPD) in sport and recreation management are endorsed by the ISRM. What more, when candidates achieve the qualification, they are able to become members of ISRM.

"ISRM also does some joint delivery with us on the HPD", she adds. "We also attend ISRM-organised conferences and have a

Many leading universities now include sports-related programmes in their offering

## CASE STUDY CRAIG TWIST



### *What is your current role?*

My role is senior lecturer in Exercise Physiology at the University of Chester.

### *How long have you worked in academia?*

Ten years (three years in further education and seven in HE)

### *What did you study and where, prior to becoming a lecturer?*

I studied for a BA (Hons) in Physical Education and an MSc in Sport Science at Leeds Metropolitan University and then studied for my PhD part-time, which was from the University of Exeter.

### *Describe your typical day.*

I don't think there's such a thing as a typical day. I'm normally in between 7.45 and 8 am. Thereafter, depending on the time of year it can be a mixture of teaching, student appointments, research-related work (i.e. writing papers, dealing with PhD students' work), consultancy-related work (i.e. I co-ordinate and manage several applied sport science support projects the department are involved in), administration and/or marking. I think the variety within the job is one of the things that I really like.

### *How much research do you conduct/get involved with?*

Research is a really important part of the job in terms of informing my own teaching and applied practice, so I see it as very important to get involved with research as much as possible. While I don't do as much hands on data collection at the moment, I'm obviously still involved in research via my own PhD students, while we also look to publish high quality dissertations from undergraduate and postgraduate (MSc) students where possible. Finally, some of the consultancy that the department does requires applied research to inform the work we do, so wherever I can I like to get involved in that either in terms of data collection or writing up.

### *Given the chance, would you spend more time teaching (lecturing) or researching?*

While the natural response might be researching, the reality is that teaching is the 'bread and butter' of most Higher Education institutions offering sport and exercise science-related programmes. Therefore, if graduates are looking to come into lecturing as a career, you need to

look to develop both attributes. I enjoy immensely delivering to students, be it lectures, seminars or laboratory-related sessions. Likewise, involvement in research informs my teaching in so many ways, which I think is very important. So in answer to your question, I enjoy a good balance of both.

### *Have you had any of your work published?*

My PhD focused on the effects of exercise-induced muscle damage on exercise performance, from which I published all of the empirical studies in various peer-reviewed journals. I've continued to publish in the area either through collaborations with others academics or my own students. My other interest is in the applied physiology of rugby league, where we're currently investigating the movement and physiological demands of both training and competition and the subsequent impact on player recovery.

### *What are your personal career ambitions?*

I know that the management route of academia is not for me, so I haven't got any desires to follow that path in the immediate future. I suppose my ambition is to continue developing my research interests within the sport of rugby league with a view to this work eventually informing applied practice within the sport. I'd also like to continue developing different ways of educating and engaging students in sport and exercise science in an attempt to make them more prepared for work beyond academic study.

### *What would your advice be for graduates looking to secure their first job in academia?*

Apart from the obvious of demonstrating a hard work ethic, the ability to deliver and engage students, there a few things that I feel are important. While many of us have specific teaching and research interests, you need to demonstrate to potential employers an ability and willingness to be able to contribute across a broad range of topics and sometimes areas. Also demonstrate a willingness to continue (or develop) your own research-related activity. This not only is important in informing your teaching, but with markers such as the REF2013, universities will want to employ individuals who show potential to enhance the institution's research profile.



**Sports programmes now produce some of the leading research into physiology**



- number of companies that we work with as a result of recommendations made by the institution. We encourage our lecturers to become members and attend conferences, so it's a great link with the industry."

## TWO STRANDS

Despite the vast amount of choice currently available at universities and colleges, programmes in sport science can be broken into two main strands. There is the 'hard', more science-based courses which include the study of physiology, psychology and bio-mechanics. The other, referred at times as 'softer', concentrate more on coaching and the sociological side of sport.

Professor Ken Green, head of department of Applied Sociology of Sport at University of Chester, said: "The 'hard' strands include sports science degrees at places such as Loughborough University and University of Brighton. Their programmes cover all of the five sub-disciplines (physiology, psychology, bio-mechanics, performance analysis and pedagogy) and then give you the opportunity to specialise at the end of the programmes. They do not really do the social science, they do not do sociology and they may even do less pedagogy and coaching – there is certainly a concentration on bio-mechanics, physiology and psychology."

One of the institutions that Professor Green mentions in Liverpool John Moores. LJM's Tim Cable agrees with the categorisation, but has reservations about the terminology.

***The real trick is combining the two approaches to gain insight into problems that afflict society***

"I'm not sure about 'hard' and 'soft', since soft may infer 'easier'," he said. "However, it is certainly true that exercise physiology, biomechanics and psychology represent more quantitative and empirically-based assessments of human performance in its broadest context (i.e. from sedentary to elite). This is juxtaposed by more social and management-orientated studies which may be more qualitatively informed and community-focused."

Cable adds that both strands of sports science play an important role in modern society and solving problems within it – such as obesity. "The real trick is combining these approaches to gain insight into problems that afflict society. For example, much is known about the beneficial effects of activity on the health of the population but little is known about how best to provide behaviour changes in people. This problem requires a multifaceted approach that includes social policy, transport policy and funding policies in order to identify solutions."

## A LIFE OF LECTURING

So how are the two strands delivered? What skills and attributes do prospective lecturers – looking to get involved in sports programmes – need? And do the necessary skills to secure a position differ depending on whether a university is considered as delivering 'hard' or 'soft' programmes?

An acting subject group leader at a midlands-based university has a clear view on the matter. "To be a lecturer in a good university you need a PhD – go get one!", he said. "It's good training intellectually but will also enhance your career prospects within the university sector."

Professor Green concurs, but adds that despite the increase in the theoretical content of sport programmes, some institutions will still look for a teaching background – or at least the willingness to pick up teaching skills.

He said: "Teaching experience is desirable, but not essential. However, if you are working in sports science at one of those universities that are not intensely research





**The technological revolution has brought with it the need for new skills**

active – such as we are here at the University of Chester – then you have got to be, irrespective of your background, prepared to teach because it is a major part of the job.”

At Loughborough College, the links with the industry mean that there even more emphasis is being placed on a prospective lecturers’ professional credentials.

“When we appoint HE lecturing staff in leisure management, one of the pre-requisites is that the candidate has to have worked to a senior level in the leisure industry,” Angela Edwards said.

## CASE STUDY DAVID ROYAL



### *What is your current role?*

I am the course leader of the City & Guilds (ISRM) Higher Professional Diploma (HPD) in Sport & Recreation Management at Loughborough College.

### *How long have you worked as an academic?*

A total of 12 years, 7 of them at Loughborough College.

### *What did you study and where, prior to becoming a lecturer?*

My first job was as a PTI in the Royal Air Force, which provided me with a sound grounding for my future career path. I then went on to become a leisure centre manager with nearly 20 years operational management experience. I completed the ILAM (now ISPAL) Certificate in Leisure Management as well as the ISRM Diploma in Sports and Recreation Management, I went on to complete an MBA at Nottingham Trent University and then gained a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) at the same institution.

### *Describe your typical day.*

I perhaps spend a lot of time (more than I think) communicating online with students on the HPD distant learning course. The distance learning programme has grown significantly in recent years and we currently have two large contracts with major operators, namely – Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) and Centre Parcs. This has provided us with approximately 40 managers and trainee managers. Additionally we have a further 12 distance learning students located throughout the UK and one guy located in South Africa who is heavily involved with the FIFA World Cup organisational plans this coming summer. Distance learning students can fall into

different categories. Some need little guidance others require continual support, so my daily emails from this group of students can vary from a quick hello to asking me to look over piece of work that they may be unclear about. In between catching up with emails I have teaching commitments on a range of HE Leisure/Travel & Tourism courses we provide. Wednesdays can be a busy day for me. The HPD day release programme currently has 28 students who attend weekly (on Wednesday) and travel from throughout the East and West Midlands, North Derbyshire and Cheshire. This is challenging but highly rewarding, working with students from industry.

### *How much research do you conduct/get involved with?*

The amount of research throughout the academic (timetabled) year I get involved is limited owing to the teaching commitments my colleagues and I have. However research and industrial updating is a key element in other parts of the year to ensure we maintain our standards of excellence. Furthermore, my PhD studies also provide me with continued professional development.

### *What would your advice be for graduates looking to get into academia?*

I believe that to become a successful lecturer you increasingly need to have ‘real-life’ experience from industry. I would advise prospective lecturers to undertake a teaching qualification (PGCE or similar). Reflect and consider what you could offer students and be honest to yourself. Also strive to achieve a masters degree in your chosen area as standards are continually improving and prospective employers are raising their employment criteria.

“This is because we feel that it is very important for our graduates to be taught by people who have got a very sound understanding and background in industry.

“So the profile is of lecturers who worked in industry but also have the correct academic qualifications. In our case, this means candidates having at least a masters and preferably a PhD.”

Cable concludes by adding that the sheer diversity in sport-related programmes means – coupled with the advances in technology – means that whether working on ‘soft’ or

‘hard’ sport science programmes, academic staff can look forward to a challenging yet rewarding career.

Describing his own day-to-day role, he says that no two days are the same. “Some days involve giving lectures and meeting with students, some meeting with staff to discuss various initiatives. Some days may be spent researching in the laboratory and others having meetings with individuals from elite sport or health agencies to help them problem solve or discuss joint research. Life is therefore very varied and enjoyable.” ●

## Reading the Runestones

What can the 2009 tourism figures tell us about 2010?



**KURT JANSON** is policy director of Tourism Alliance

The final figures for tourism in 2009 are out – and they are interesting.

Overall domestic visitor numbers were up by 7 per cent to 126m, while spend was up just 4 per cent to £21.8bn.

It seems that due to the recession, more people stayed at home and spent less on their holidays. The overall figure, however, masks what happened in the various market segments. There were an additional 8.7m holidays taken in the UK last year which provided almost £1.3bn in additional revenue to seaside and rural destinations. However, this large increase in holiday travel was dragged back by business tourism which suffered a poor year with trips down 1 per cent and expenditure down 3 per cent.

So that's what happened but what does it tell us going into 2010? Firstly, expenditure on business tourism increased by 21 per cent in November and by 28 per cent in December, indicating that business confidence is on the increase and the economy is starting to recover. Secondly, overseas travel, which decreased by 15 per cent in 2009, remained at that level over the last few months of 2009. This indicates that the confidence in the business sector has not yet flowed through to employees.

So while there had been concerns expressed that the boom in domestic holidays in 2009 would be a one-off and that people would resume their overseas holidays in 2010, there appears little prospect of this happening.

It seems, then, that the chances of another increase in domestic tourism of at least 10 per cent are high.

## New culture aim for Manchester

City council unveils vision to provide year-long opportunities for residents

By **Pete Hayman**

Manchester City Council (MCC) has outlined its new plan to ensure the city continues to provide a year-round cultural offer that will attract more overseas visitors and create more opportunities for local residents.

The Cultural Ambition plan aims to build on the city's Cultural Strategy, which was first published in 2002 and set out objectives to develop the tourism destination potential of Manchester.

MCC's new vision is centred around five themes to enhance the city's cultural provision, such as increasing access in local communities, offering more employment opportunities and the expansion of the digital and creative economy in Manchester.

A Cultural Commissioning Fund will help to deliver the Cultural Ambition and is set to be funded through both the private and public sectors after being approved by the



The Urbis centre is set to house the National Football Museum from next year

council. MCC's executive member for culture and leisure, Mike Amesbury, said: "We have a responsibility to ensure that the exceptional talent in the city is both discovered and nurtured and is encouraged to stay in Manchester."

## VB to provide marketing platform for 2012

By **Tom Walker**



The new website for UK tourism businesses

UK-based tourism businesses looking to benefit from the London 2012 Games are being offered a free marketing tool to help with their efforts.

VisitBritain, in partnership with London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, has launched a new website ([www.tourism2012games.org](http://www.tourism2012games.org)) as a platform for businesses to stay up to date with campaigns relating to the Games.

The site will also act as a source of information for tourism businesses.

## €9m funding for Waterford tourism development

Irish tourism minister Mary Hanafin has announced that nearly €9m (£8.1m) has been earmarked for the Viking Triangle scheme in Waterford.

Funding has been provisionally allocated under Fáilte Ireland's Tourism Capital Investment Programme, which will go towards the development of museums and other ticketed attractions.

Plans for the The Viking Triangle - A Thousand Years of History in a Thousand Paces heritage-based attraction forms part of a wider project to boost the city's tourism appeal.

The Viking Triangle – bordered by the River Suir, the Mall and Cathedral Square – contains examples of architecture from each historic period since 914 AD.





Sally Gunnell OBE, a founding patron of the GLL Sport Foundation

## GLL earmarks £400k for talent

Athletes from a number of disciplines set to benefit

By **Tom Walker**

Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) has awarded financial and training grants worth £400,000 to young athletes.

More than 800 youngsters in the south of England are likely to benefit from the funding.

The sponsored athletes represent a broad range of Olympic, Paralympic, Deaf Olympic and Special Olympic sporting disciplines ranging from swimming and athletics through to boxing, kayaking and wheelchair basketball. Each will benefit from funding

of up to £1,500 to be spent on training, travel and equipment during the next 12 months.

The successful applicants had to demonstrate that they live or train within a London or South East borough in which charitable social enterprise, GLL and partners operate sports and leisure facilities.

They were also required to show long-term potential to succeed at International level.

Peter Bunday GLL Sport Foundation's chair said: "The aim of the Foundation is to provide practical and tangible support for talented youngsters."

## 2012 employment scheme unveiled

A new employment scheme, which is aimed at young people across England and Wales between the ages of 14 and 19 years, has been launched by the government.

Inspired by the London 2012 Olympics, Opportunity is aimed at those who find other projects hard to engage with, such as young carers or individuals with crime or behavioural issues. A total of 500 people will be given the

chance to embark on the initiative, which will provide successful graduates with 2012 'rewards', such as watching Olympic athletes train, or shadowing international fitness coaches and team physios.

Participants are set to come from existing schemes, including the Home Office's Positive Futures programme and the Youth Community Action initiative.

## Mentoring schemes are an invaluable asset

Mentors can act as role models and offer access to networks that can inspire protégés

In the face of a looming management skills shortage that has been triggered by worrying drop-out rates in higher education, the cream of the hospitality industry decided to take matters into their own hands. They set up their own mentoring scheme.

Now a year on, The Savoy Society Mentoring Scheme has celebrated its first Alumni Dinner at Brown's Hotel in Mayfair, toasting the fifteen hospitality management students from some of the UK's top hospitality-centred colleges and universities who form the scheme's initial clutch of protégés. The evening also struck a note of gratitude towards the fifteen Savoy Society members who have pledged up to two years' commitment to act as mentors.

Each protégé has been paired with a mentor following a highly competitive process of interviews and written assignments. Mentors will provide the invaluable guidance, influence and access to networks that can inspire promising talent to stay the course, complete their degrees and join the industry. To help ensure the scheme's success, The Savoy Society chose Springboard UK to co-ordinate the programme, banking on its profile and track record for encouraging new entrants to the industry.



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Promoting Careers in  
Hospitality Tourism and Leisure

**SAM COULSTOCK is customer relationship director for The Springboard Charity. Leisure Opportunities is the official recruitment magazine for Springboard UK**

## NE sports creating jobs



One of the job seekers who found work through the course

By **Tom Walker**

An initiative designed to develop the employment skills and boost job prospects of job seekers across the Tyne and Wear City Region through sport has resulted in a number of youngster gaining full-time work after the first course.

The initiative has been commissioned by the City Region's Employment and Skills Partnership, and was organised by Creative Training.

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[www.lymphomas.org.uk](http://www.lymphomas.org.uk)



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## Chronic Respiratory Disease Exercise Instructor Course

**BLF bursaries are now available for the May 2010 intake of this innovative distance learning course.**

Developed by Loughborough College, the University Hospitals of Leicester and the British Lung Foundation (BLF), with funding and input from Rotherham PCT, the course has been submitted for endorsement at level 4 on the Register of Exercise Professionals. It covers:

- Physiology and pathology of respiratory disease
- Management of chronic respiratory disease
- Responses to exercise and exercise prescription
- Managing breathlessness
- Referral pathways

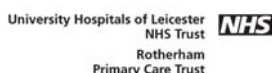
The BLF bursary, funded by Air Products, is available to exercise professionals who meet the following entry requirements:

- Level 3 or equivalent qualification as recognised by REP's
- A current valid first aid certificate
- Endorsement from a local pulmonary rehabilitation team
- 100 hours practical exercise instruction over the past year, with some experience of working with clients with COPD/respiratory disease
- Current CRB disclosure form

Instructors taking up a bursary will be expected to work with local Breathe Easy support groups to set up exercise classes within the community.

**For more details or an application pack please log on to  
[www.lunguk.org/supporting-you/blf\\_active](http://www.lunguk.org/supporting-you/blf_active) or contact  
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Gulliver's 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 3 rare and exciting opportunities have become available to join our team.

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£30 - 40k PA (Warrington)

Warrington is a 60 acre site with 37 rides, 11 catering and 5 retail units. You will take full operational control of all aspects of the site and the development of its team.

### Theme Park Duty Manager

£20 - 30k PA (Milton Keynes)

Milton Keynes is a 40 acre site with 30 rides, 10 catering and 3 retail units it encompasses 1 Splash Zone and a Farm and Dinosaur park. You will assist the General Manager in the smooth running of the park.

### Theme Park Duty Manager

£20 - 30k PA (Matlock)

Matlock is a 20 acre site with 22 rides, 5 catering and 2 retail units. You will assist the General Manager in the smooth running of the park.

In the first instance please send your CV with current salary package to: Ian Gardner (Operations Director)  
Gulliver's World, Warrington, Cheshire, WA5 9YZ  
or e - mail: darren@gulliversfun.co.uk

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A job description and application pack is available from [www.wwt.org.uk](http://www.wwt.org.uk)

Alternatively you can email [recruitment@wwt.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@wwt.org.uk) or write to HR Department, WWT Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, GL2 7BT

Closing date for applications is Tuesday May 4th 2010  
First interviews will be held on Monday May 10th 2010



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Ref: SDO/BEX/3004/1

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### Portsmouth Contract

Ref: SDO/POR/1904/1

Salary Circa £16,500 – £22,000

The Portsmouth Contract has been subject to substantial renovation work, in particular the new Mountbatten Centre. London 2012 have recognised the potential and the new centre will be included in the Pre-games training camp guide for the 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games.

Working in partnership with the ASA and the local Council, we are introducing these exciting new posts. Reporting to the Centre/General Manager, the successful candidates will be responsible for the overall swimming programmes for the Contract and for increasing general participation and attendance on the Aquazone "learn to swim scheme", currently accommodating over 3,500 children per week.

The ASA level 2 Swimming Teacher qualification is essential and a supervisory or management qualification would be desirable. The successful candidate should have extensive knowledge of the Leisure & Aquatics industry, good leadership & communication skills, flexibility and a commitment to customer service.

**If you believe you have the knowledge and skills required for the above positions, please send your C.V. stating current salary and which post you are applying for, to: [recruit@parkwood-leisure.co.uk](mailto:recruit@parkwood-leisure.co.uk) Alternatively post to: Sarah Moseley, HR Administrator, Little Bowbrook, Walton Road, Hartlebury, Worcestershire, DY10 4JA or apply on-line now at [www.leisurecentre.com](http://www.leisurecentre.com). A Job Description is available upon request.**

**Applications by: 30th April 2010**

All positions require a CRB disclosure. Parkwood Leisure is an equal opportunities employer

## Sport Development Advisor

£31,500 - £34,500 Loughborough



The English Federation of Disability Sport's mission is to increase and sustain the participation of disabled people in grass roots, mainstream and elite sport. It does this by working with Sport England, National Governing Bodies of Sport and other partners, and with the 2012 Paralympics and Olympics around the corner what better time to be getting people passionate about sport.

The organisation is relocating to Sportpark at Loughborough University and is in the process of recruiting a new management team to lead the EFDS and deliver the Board's vision.

This role, within the partnership team, is core to the success of the organisation; working closely with National Governing Bodies of Sport building really effective partnerships and delivering high quality customer focused advice, support and consultancy that helps them to increase the range and scope of opportunities for disabled people.

Candidates will have an outstanding track record in sports development, understand the way sport operates at a national, regional and local level, and have experience of creating effective partnerships and an understanding of the current issues in the promotion and development of sport for disabled people.

For further information on this role and for details on how to apply please visit our advisors website, [www.attenti.co.uk/efds](http://www.attenti.co.uk/efds) or contact our consultants, Neville Wilkinson on 020 7422 0621 or Jen Knight on 020 7422 0623. Closing date for applications Tuesday 27th April 2010.





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You'll support the Manager of this prestigious venue. You'll have operations management experience and be flexible in your approach as this centre will demand the highest level of 'hands on' management.

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**Closing date: By Noon on 7 May 2010**

**Interview dates: 19 May 2010 (Manager) and 10 June 2010 (Assistant Manager)**

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## Leisure Centre Manager

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37 hours per week. Permanent. Required a.s.a.p. Salary range £27,052-£30,851 p.a.



An experienced manager is required to lead our team at Huish Leisure during this exciting stage in the centre's development. The leisure centre has recently transferred to the school's management and we are looking to recruit a dynamic individual who can successfully deliver both community and educational sport and leisure provision. The key focus for the successful candidate will be the continuous improvement in the management and operation of the centre's leisure facilities, and the delivery of a high standard of service to all customers on a day to day basis.

Application packs are available from our website at [www.huishepiscopi.net](http://www.huishepiscopi.net) or from Mrs Bates from 19 April. Closing date for applications – Noon on Friday 30th April 2010 Telephone 01458 250501 Fax 01458 250262 Email: [office@huishepiscopi.somerset.sch.uk](mailto:office@huishepiscopi.somerset.sch.uk)

*Huish Episcopi School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts require a criminal background check to be completed.*

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**We welcome your application and ask for a detailed CV, with two references, quoting your current salary to: [john@almmsport.co.uk](mailto:john@almmsport.co.uk) Closing date: 28th April 2010.**

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An application pack can be downloaded by following the link to [jobs@ipc](mailto:jobs@ipc) from [www.ipswich.gov.uk](http://www.ipswich.gov.uk) or by contacting Human Resources, Ipswich Borough Council, Grafton House, 15-17 Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2DE. Tel: (01473) 432766. Email: [recruitment@ipswich.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment@ipswich.gov.uk) Closing date: 27 April 2010. Interview date: 11 May 2010.

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## London Borough of Redbridge



We are looking for an experienced Officer who shares our creativity, energy, and passion for developing sport and physical activity.

With our progressive and forward-thinking approach we have successfully delivered some excellent, innovative projects. The Council has been highly successful in working with a range of partners to implement a range of sport, physical activity and health programmes for the local community.

The 2012 Olympics and Paralympics will act as a catalyst for the development and delivery of opportunities to participate, improve health and well being, volunteer or be employed in sport.

## Sports Development Officer (Projects)

£26,400 - £28,032

Ref: CL000339

Full-time 2 years fixed-term

You will be responsible for developing and delivering a number of projects with the community including the Active 4 Life projects, Walk to Health programme and increasing participation within our open spaces. In addition you will be responsible for managing and co-ordinating community events, including recruiting volunteers and promoting the event and taking responsibility for key issues such as child protection and health and safety.

We are looking for an individual who has experience of staff leadership and development, as well as budget management. You should be an innovative and adaptable leader, with a good understanding of developing programmes and projects and the ability to motivate schools, the community and individuals to participate in sport and physical activity.

For an informal discussion, please contact Kevin Wackett, Head of Delivery and Development on 020 8708 3223.

Completed application forms must be received by **14 May 2010**.

Interviews will be held **week commencing 24 May 2010**.

To apply please visit **[www.redbridge.gov.uk](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk)**

*Redbridge is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. Such posts will require a CRB Disclosure check and references will be taken up prior to interview.*

*Embracing diversity and promoting equalities for all.*



## GENERAL MANAGER

### Salary package up to £55K per annum

We are looking to recruit a General Manager to develop the potential of Bushey Country Club, Hertfordshire, which provides excellent golf, health, leisure and banqueting facilities.

Hertsmere Borough Council own the facility, which is managed through a private limited company. The council, as sole shareholder believes the business has tremendous potential to develop its services further, increasing return on investment. If you are looking for an exciting career opportunity, then you can help Bushey Country Club realise its full potential.

Accountable directly to the Board of Directors, you will be responsible for developing and delivering business plans and achieving performance targets, quality standards and financial targets through a team of staff; ensuring that each of the component parts of the business work cohesively for the mutual benefit of the business overall.

To be successful you should have a good facility management background in the health and fitness, golf, or hospitality sectors, and be able to boast excellent commercial achievements. You must demonstrate experience in financial planning/budgetary control, sales and marketing, staff training and operational management. Ideally you will have managed a similar sized facility.

For more information about our facilities and services please visit our website at [www.busheycountryclub.com](http://www.busheycountryclub.com)

**CV's and applications by email to [glen@busheycountryclub.com](mailto:glen@busheycountryclub.com) or by post to Glen Wooldrige, Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood, Herts, WD6 1WA.**

**Telephone enquiries to Glen Wooldrige on 0208 207 7498.**

**Closing date for applicants will be 4th May 2010 with interviews taking place 24th and 25th May 2010.**

*Bushey*  
COUNTRY CLUB

## Project Manager

Sports Solutions GB is a sports development consultancy which helps sports clubs, schools and local authorities to relocate and redevelop sport and leisure facilities, delivering a sustainable future for clubs and associations.

We are seeking to appoint a Project Manager / Consultant to join our busy team, with responsibility for developing, managing and delivering new projects and ensuring the continued success of existing schemes. An important part of the role will be the responsibility for identifying and developing new business opportunities, working as part of the team to grow the client base.

Ideal candidates will have at least four years experience in a project management role within the sport and leisure industry together with an interest in sport and strong commercial acumen. The successful candidate will be responsible for managing relationships with clients, partners and suppliers, therefore excellent communication skills are required.

The ability to manage a variety of challenging sports facility development projects is essential and candidates must have experience in the following areas:

- Scheme development
- Club operational requirements
- Funding & Grant Aid bids
- Partnership liaison
- Feasibility studies

Salary and benefits commensurate with experience.

## Graduate

We are looking for an enthusiastic Graduate to support the team, assisting our project managers in delivering high quality sport and leisure facility developments.

A qualification in Leisure Management or Sports Science is desirable, together with an interest in sport. The successful candidate will be a team player with excellent attention to detail and the ability to manage a variety of tasks.

**For both positions please email your CV to Chris Bevan at [chris.bevan@sportsolutionsgb.co.uk](mailto:chris.bevan@sportsolutionsgb.co.uk). Please note that only candidates shortlisted for interview will be contacted.**

Sports Solutions GB Ltd  
Tel: 01793 833456  
Web: [www.sportsolutionsgb.co.uk](http://www.sportsolutionsgb.co.uk)  
Suite One, Copse Farm, South Marston Park, Swindon, SN3 4UQ

**sports**  
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## HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Parks Development Manager

Scale 9 £38,042 - £41,616 pa Ref: LC9431

It's an exciting time for Parks & Open Spaces in Watford, where the Council is investing significant capital resources into further improving the quality of our Green Spaces.

Having achieved Green Flag status for three of our Parks, we are now striving to ensure these standards are achieved across the Borough to provide a network of high quality open spaces.

We are seeking to appoint a Parks Development Manager who will manage all aspects of the service within South area. You will be responsible for coordinating and then managing the work with our partners, the community and contractors to ensure high quality standards; and maintaining our high public satisfaction levels. Managing an in house operations team, you will have direct control of operational resources to enable you to respond quickly and efficiently to opportunities and challenges.

As part of the parks management team, you will work with the Parks & Open Spaces Section Head, the other Parks Development Manager, Cemetery Manager and our Head Ranger to drive and sustain high standards and achieve the objectives of our Green Spaces Strategy.

Experience of managing and developing operational teams, as well as managing capital projects and achieving green flag awards are important aspects of this post and we are looking to appoint a suitably experienced manager who can bring fresh ideas, innovation and enthusiasm.

For an informal discussion about the requirements of the job and our plans in Watford, please contact Dave Cobb, Parks & Open Spaces Section Head on 01923 278250.

To apply, please visit [www.watford.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.watford.gov.uk/jobs)

Alternatively, you can email [recruitment@watford.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment@watford.gov.uk) or call our recruitment hotline on 01923 278307 (24 hours).

All candidates will need to complete a Watford Borough Council application form as it ensures that skills and experience are judged equally against our role specification.

Closing date: Noon on Monday 17 May 2010.

Interview date: Friday 28 May 2010.

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Department of Community Services

## Coaching Development Manager

Grade: 7 Salary: £22,221 - £23,708 • Post No: LL88  
Hours: 37 per week

Fixed term contract to 31 March 2011 (may be extended subject to continued Sport England funding)

Working within a small team you will manage the development of the local coaching support network within North Yorkshire.

You will focus on designing, implementing and co-ordinating a coaching strategy that will support coaches, increase participation and improve the quality of sport and physical activity in North Yorkshire.

You will be working closely with Sports Coach UK, National Governing Bodies for Sport and the eight Community Sport Networks within North Yorkshire, therefore a sound knowledge of Partnership working and the issues faced by rural activity deliverers would be an advantage.

As the postholder will have access to children they will need a Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau, the Council will issue the application form and pay the fee.

To apply, please visit [www.harrogate.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/jobs)

Alternatively, call the DCS vacancy line on 01423 556903.

Closing date for applications: 25 April 2010

Interviews: w/c 17 May 2010



## GO Active Co-ordinator

£24,646 - £28,636 pa  
(Fixed term to 29.01.2012)

Plus an Essential Car User Allowance

37 hours per week

We are looking for an individual who can inspire people to be more active through sport and active recreation and improve the health and well being of West Oxfordshire residents.

The GO Active project (Get Oxfordshire Active) is a £1.5 million project which involves the five District Councils, Primary Care Trust, Sport England, Nexus Leisure and Parkwood, working within the Oxfordshire Sports Partnership to deliver and increase participation in sport and active recreation throughout Oxfordshire. For more information on GO Active visit [www.getoxfordshireactive.org](http://www.getoxfordshireactive.org)

Benefits include a minimum of 24 days annual leave; generous final salary pension scheme; subsidised car loan scheme; childcare vouchers; discounted membership of the Council's leisure facilities and private medical insurance (dependent on grade).

For an application form and further details, please contact the Human Resources recruitment line on 01993 861515 (24 hours). Alternatively, email us at [human.resources@westoxon.gov.uk](mailto:human.resources@westoxon.gov.uk)

Full details of our vacancies can be found on our website at [www.westoxon.gov.uk/vacancies](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk/vacancies)

All successful applicants will need to provide evidence of their eligibility to work in the UK. West Oxfordshire District Council is committed to equality of opportunity and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.



Visit us at  
[www.westoxon.gov.uk](http://www.westoxon.gov.uk)



## Duty Officer

22-24hpw, shift rota basis including some weekends.

Salary £14,519-£15,003 pa, pro rata.

Responsible for the day to day safe running of the centre, managing a team of Leisure Assistants.

Closing Date: Friday 16 April 2010

To apply please email a cover letter and your CV to Chris O'Neill, at email [coneill@tandridgeleisure.co.uk](mailto:coneill@tandridgeleisure.co.uk).

Recruitment subject to satisfactory enhanced CRB check.

## Sports Co-ordinator/Officer

16hpw. Salary circa £15,000 pa pro rata.

We are looking for an individual to join our cultural development team who can take the lead in developing our sports-based programmes and become an advocate and initiator for sports opportunities throughout the Tandridge district.

We are looking for a highly motivated person with a genuine passion for sport and developing sports opportunities for children and young people. You should be able to demonstrate good organisation and co-ordination skills and be an excellent communicator. Candidates with experience of coaching and sports co-ordination are desirable but this post may be ideal for a graduate or someone looking to start a career in sports development.

Tandridge Leisure hosts a coaching programme of sports courses for children and young people and regularly organises special partnership events such as badminton tournaments, swimathons, youth triathlon and organising the Tandridge team for the Surrey Youth Games.

Closing date: Monday 26 April 2010, interviews 6,7 May.

To apply please email a cover letter and your CV to Karen Hurrell, at [khurrell@tandridgeleisure.co.uk](mailto:khurrell@tandridgeleisure.co.uk).



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University of Essex

## Health and Fitness Co-ordinator

**(Ref. SO053)** An exciting new position has arisen for a motivated person to join an enthusiastic and hard working team at the University's Sports Centre. You will be responsible for the teaching and promotion of safe and effective exercise including fitness inductions and writing fitness programmes. You will also be responsible for the organisation of various fitness activities and events. You will be a strong team player with an enthusiasm and all round interest in sport. A recognised qualification in Sport, Recreation, Physical Education, or Fitness and Health is essential.

**Salary: £17,111-£19,743 per annum (plus 10% shift allowance)**

**Closing date: 2 May 2010**

**Apply online. If you have a disability and would like information in a different format telephone (01206) 873521/874588.**



<http://jobs.essex.ac.uk>



building a healthier future



SUMMER OPENING

### prestigious £4.3m fitness club

Pulse in partnership with Carshalton College, are creating a new purpose built health and fitness club, incorporating a state-of-the-art fitness suite, dance studios, sports hall, steam room and swimming pool. Scheduled to open during summer 2010, we are currently looking for dynamic, energetic, self-motivated and committed team players for the following roles:

#### MANAGER £25-30k plus bonus

Must be able to build and lead a team of like-minded individuals, dedicated to achieving sales and financial targets, whilst providing excellent levels of customer care, maintaining high quality standards and delivering fitness and lifestyle instruction. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 4 yrs proven operational experience, sales experience, hold a level 3 fitness instructor qualification and REPS accreditation, along with a PPO, NPLQ and first aid qualification.

#### DUTY MANAGERS £18K

Able to deliver personal programmes, lifestyle advice, inductions and coach various classes. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 2 yrs proven operational experience, have some sales experience, hold a level 3 fitness instructor qualification and REPS accreditation, along with a PPO, NPLQ and first aid qualification.

#### MEMBERSHIP SALES ADVISORS £22k OTE

The ideal candidate will have a friendly personality with excellent communication skills and a passion to generate enquiries, achieve targets and to be part of a winning team. Previous sales and customer care skills essential. Must be able to work under pressure and own initiative. Uncapped commission.

This is an outstanding opportunity to join an ambitious and highly motivated team of fitness professionals, working in an excellent environment and providing the ultimate in quality leisure facilities.



#### Interested?

Contact Pulse for an application pack, stating your preferred position:  
Operations Director, Pulse, The Bromley Centre, Bromley Road, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1PT

t: 01260 294600 e: [info@pulsefitness.com](mailto:info@pulsefitness.com)

[www.pulsefitness.com](http://www.pulsefitness.com)

Closing date for completed applications is 7th May 2010.  
Pulse is an equal opportunities employer.

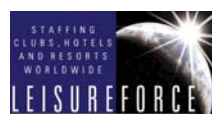
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### Making a difference where it counts

We're determined to make South Somerset a great place to live and work. If you're ambitious and self-motivated, make a real difference to your community and your future by joining us.

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLES OFFICER (2 year fixed term post)

**Salary £20,198 - £22,958, Job Ref: LP/1222**

Working within South Somerset and in partnership with NHS Somerset, you will engage with local communities and workplaces to reduce barriers and increase physical activity participation using innovative and creative methods to encourage healthy lifestyles. The successful candidate will also need the following attributes and experience: -

- Able to establish and develop partnerships in order to provide the advice, guidance and support necessary in order to raise levels of physical activity.
- At least two years experience of working in the fields of physical activity, sport development and/or health promotion and have a good understanding of the barriers preventing people from participating in physical activity.
- Have a sport and exercise science degree.
- The ability to engage with a wide range of people and have experience of planning and delivering activity sessions within a range of different environments, age groups and abilities.
- You will have excellent communication, inter-personal skills and have the ability to work as part of a small dynamic team.

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Jake Hannis 01935 462544 or Lynda Pincombe 01935 462614 (Community Health and Leisure Team).

Application forms and information packs are available from the Human Resources Team, South Somerset District Council, The Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2HT. Tel: (01935) 462462. For all roles, we offer further development and flexible working, plus the opportunity to develop your career the way you want. Find out more by visiting our website, [www.southsomerset.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/jobs)

Closing Date: 7th May 2010 at 10am

Interview Date: 21st May 2010

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## Link4Life

4Arts&Heritage | 4Entertainment | 4Fitness & Health | 4Sport&Leisure

Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust trading as Link4Life, an independent company limited by guarantee (a registered charity) with a trading subsidiary company was set up on 1 April 2007 to provide Sport and Leisure and Cultural Services including Arts and Heritage, on behalf of Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council under a 15 year Partnership Agreement.

The purpose of the trust is to plan and manage the delivery of high quality, enjoyable, affordable, accessible cultural provision in Rochdale Borough that gives residents and visitors the opportunity to lead the healthy, creative, active lifestyle of their choice.

We are now embarking upon further service improvements within our Sports and Leisure Division which operates ten sports and leisure venues across the borough. We are currently seeking to recruit highly motivated individuals with a proven track record within a sales environment and can demonstrate the highest standard of customer service at all times.

### Membership Consultant (3 posts)

Job Ref: L1010

Scale 1 £12,145-14,733pa + OTE

- Responsibility for generating external sales of fitness memberships to prospective members.
- To increase the revenue of the business through achievement of preset membership targets.
- To provide cover and support for the Sales and Retention Manager & Group Fitness Manager.

### Sales and Retention Manager

Job Ref: L1011

SO1/2 £24,646-£28,636

Duties will include:

- Responsibility for the sales and membership management team and to play a key role in the development of membership sales and retention within the organisation.
- To increase and maintain the fitness membership base of the centre.

All posts are 36¼ hours per week (shifts, days, evenings and weekend working required according to the needs of the service) **on an 18 month contract**. Subject to a pay and grading review the grade of these posts may change. Appointment to all posts is subject to Criminal Record and background checks.

**Further details available from Chris Coleman- Group Fitness Manager on 0161 923 174.**

**Closing date for the above posts: 29 April 2010. Interview date: 6 & 7 May 2010**

Help us to provide high quality leisure and cultural services in the borough of Rochdale

Link4Life is the trading name of Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered Office: Floor 6, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1ZZ. Registered in England, No: 6052980. Registered Charity No: 1118610

[www.link4life.org](http://www.link4life.org)



For an application pack, please phone (01706 926221/926217 (24 hours), email [jobs@link4life.org](mailto:jobs@link4life.org), visit [www.link4life.org](http://www.link4life.org) (quoting job reference). CVs are not accepted and applications must be received by the closing date.

## Love sport? Love sales?

### Senior Account Manager Hitchin Herts (30mins Kings X)

We're looking for an energetic, dynamic media sales professional to take responsibility for the sale of advertising and marketing services on **Sports Management** magazine, as well as its website and ezine.

Our ideal candidate will have a great track record in media sales, be passionate about sport and will enjoy taking the lead in developing business and building on our successes to date.

We offer a great package with a basic salary, commission and bonus, as well as subsidised health club membership and bonus holiday plan.

Sports Management is published by The Leisure Media Company, the leading business to business magazine, web and directory publisher. The company, which celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, publishes a range of titles for professionals working in all areas of the leisure industry. See our website for more details.

Apply on email, enclosing your cv to [lizterry@leisuremedia.com](mailto:lizterry@leisuremedia.com)  
Please include the words 'job application' in your subject line.

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for more details on the following jobs

### **Sports Leaders Coach**

**Company:** Warrington Wolves The Foundation

**Salary:** £20,000 per annum

**Location:** Warrington, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 23 Apr 2010

### **Kickz and Community Engagement Officer**

**Company:** Wolves Community Trust

**Salary:** £16,500 - £18,500 depending on experience

**Location:** Wolverhampton, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 23 Apr 2010

### **Sales Advisor**

**Company:** Fitness Superstore

**Salary:** £22k - £25k pa including bonuses

**Location:** Gloucester, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 26 Apr 2010

### **Partnership Development Manager**

**Company:** Woodcote High School

**Salary:** See details

**Location:** Coulsdon, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 29 Apr 2010

### **Centre Manager**

**Company:** Parkwood Leisure

**Salary:** c£26,000

**Location:** Buckinghamshire, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 30 Apr 2010

### **Sailing Instructor**

**Company:** Camp America

**Location:** United States

### **Active Communities Development Officer**

**Company:** Nottingham City Council

**Salary:** £24,646 - £26,276 per annum

**Location:** Nottingham, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 14 May 2010

### **Fitness Instructor / Lifeguards**

**Company:** The Waterside Hotel and Galleon Leisure Club

**Location:** Manchester, United Kingdom

### **Community Walking Coordinator**

**Company:** NB Leisure Trust

**Salary:** £17,161 - £19,126 p.a.

**Location:** Nuneaton, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 30 Apr 2010

### **Full Time Personal Instructor**

**Company:** Movers & Shapers

**Location:** London, United Kingdom

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### **Personal Trainer/Corporate Wellness Coach**

**Company:** Profile Health & Fitness

**Salary:** £35-£40 per hour

**Location:** London, United Kingdom

### **Fitness instructor / personal trainer**

**Company:** Oakhill Academy

**Salary:** Competitive basic salary + PT income

**Location:** Ribbles Valley, United Kingdom

### **Leisure Centre Manager**

**Company:** Trafford Community Leisure

**Salary:** scale up to £26,765

**Location:** Manchester, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 07 May 2010

### **Healthy Lifestyles Officer**

**Company:** South Somerset District Council

**Salary:** £20,198 - £22,958

**Location:** Somerset, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 07 May 2010

### **Area Spa Manager**

**Company:** AAA Hotels and Resorts

**Salary:** attractive package

**Location:** Male, Maldives

### **Spa Therapists**

**Company:** The Balmoral Edinburgh

**Location:** Edinburgh, United Kingdom

### **Deputy Head of Visitor Services**

**Company:** Museum of London

**Salary:** Circa £45,000 p.a

**Location:** London, United Kingdom

**Closing date:** 26 Apr 2010

# news & jobs at [www.leisureopportunities.co.uk](http://www.leisureopportunities.co.uk)

## Olympic Park set for major new £19.1m attraction

Anish Kapoor-designed sculpture set to include purpose-built viewing platform overlooking London's East End

By **Pete Hayman**

A new £19.1m tourist attraction is set to be created at the Olympic Park in London after plans for the 115m (377ft)-tall sculpture – the ArcelorMittal Orbit – were commissioned.

London-based artist Anish Kapoor was selected by mayor Boris Johnson, Olympics minister Tessa Jowell and ArcelorMittal chair and chief executive officer Lakshmi Mittal for the scheme.

The sculpture – set to be the largest in the UK – will be 22m

(72ft) taller than the Statue of Liberty in New York, US, and will contribute towards a lasting legacy from the 2012 Games.

ArcelorMittal Orbit, which will consist of a "continuous looping lattice of tubular steel", will offer views over the 250-acre (101-hectare) Olympic Park from a purpose-built viewing platform.

Up to £16m will be provided by ArcelorMittal, the international steel company, towards the scheme, with the remaining £3.1m coming from the London Development Agency.



The sculpture is due to open ahead of the 2012 London Olympics

## Wales unveils new major sporting events strategy

By **Pete Hayman**

The Welsh Assembly Government has unveiled its new strategy to ensure that Wales continues to host major international sporting events.

Heritage minister Alun Ffred Jones said the Major Events Strategy will provide a chance to build on the success in staging events in recent years.

Cardiff's SWALEC Stadium hosted its first Ashes Test match



The Ashes at SWALEC Stadium

between England and Australia last year. The Ryder Cup will take place at Newport's Celtic Manor Resort later this year.

According to the new strategy, hosting major events can contribute towards fulfilling the Assembly Government's One Wales objectives relating to promoting participation and stimulating economic growth.

A new fund will be established to develop events outside of Cardiff; major events will be identified for Wales to bid for and a free consultancy service will advise on the use of Welsh language at events.

## HLF funding for Wigan meadows

Community Forests Northwest has received £539,300 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to help fund the acquisition of Lightshaw Meadows, near Wigan.

The organisation aims to preserve the wetland landscape along with the Red Rose Forest, the Environment Agency and Lancashire Wildlife Trust.

## CONTACTS BOOK

**Arts & Business** +44 (0)20 7378 8143  
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[www.ispal.org.uk](http://www.ispal.org.uk)

**LPF** +44 (0)1462 471932  
[www.leisureprop.com](http://www.leisureprop.com)

**LMCA** +44 (0)1278 436910  
[www.lmca.info](http://www.lmca.info)

**MLA** +44 (0)20 7273 1444  
[www.mla.gov.uk](http://www.mla.gov.uk)

**NPFA** +44 (0)20 7833 5360  
[www.playing-fields.com](http://www.playing-fields.com)

**People 1st** +44 (0)870 060 2550  
[www.people1st.co.uk](http://www.people1st.co.uk)

**REPs** +44 (0)20 8686 6464  
[www.exerciseregister.org](http://www.exerciseregister.org)

**SAPCA** +44 (0)24 7641 6316  
[www.sapca.org.uk](http://www.sapca.org.uk)

**Sports Aid** +44 (0)20 7273 1975  
[www.sportsaid.org.uk](http://www.sportsaid.org.uk)

**Sport England** +44 (0)8458 508 508  
[www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)

**Springboard** +44 (0)20 7497 8654  
[www.springboarduk.org.uk](http://www.springboarduk.org.uk)

**SkillsActive** +44 (0)20 7632 2000  
[www.skillsactive.com](http://www.skillsactive.com)

**Tourism Management Institute**  
+44 (0)1926 641506  
[www.tmi.org.uk](http://www.tmi.org.uk)

**Tourism Society** +44 (0)20 8661 4636  
[www.tourismsociety.org](http://www.tourismsociety.org)

**VisitBritain** +44 (0)20 8563 3000  
[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)

**World Leisure** +1 250 497 6578  
[www.worldleisure.org](http://www.worldleisure.org)