

leisureopportunities

6 AUGUST - 19 AUGUST 2013 ISSUE 612

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

Your Leisure opens new Ramsgate Swim Centre

Thanet District Council (TDC) and leisure trust, Your Leisure, have opened a £4.1m swim centre as part of the development of the Ramsgate Sports Centre in Kent.

The Ramsgate Swim Centre will be operated by Your Leisure and includes a 25-metre pool, spa and a Feel Good Factory toning studio.

Your Leisure acquired development funds for the scheme through private sector partner Alliance Leisure. It plans to repay the money over time through increased commercial opportunities brought about by the new spa, while also making savings in other operating departments – ensuring there will be no additional cost to TDC.

The new centre is connected to the existing Your Leisure-operated Ramsgate Leisure Centre, to create one joint facility.



Steve Backley, the Alliance Leisure and Your Leisure teams celebrate the opening

The development sees the introduction of a 25-metre swimming pool, as well as a smaller pool for children and swim lesson programme.

Your Spa is a purpose-built luxury wellness environment which includes thermal

experiences, a hydro spa pool and four treatment rooms. The toning suite has 12 stations, while updates have been made to the existing fitness suite, a new cafe added and changing rooms modernised.

Paul Cluett, commercial director of Alliance Leisure says: "Our approach in Ramsgate was to replace a non-viable facility, while redeveloping the council's leisure and sports building stock with a focus on creating new revenue streams and lowering running costs."

"This project shows how services can be improved, without increasing revenue demands on councils."

"There are 100 pools in the UK near the end of their useful life. Many are near dry sports centres and in such cases, councils could rejuvenate their portfolio using this approach."

Six heritage sites receive a combined

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has announced grants of £47m for six tourist attractions across the UK.

Flax Mill Maltings in Shropshire has received the largest, with a grant of £12.8m. Winchester Cathedral has been given £10.5m, Windermere Steamboat Museum in Cumbria £9.4m, while Knole – a medieval palace in Kent that includes the former hunting lodge of Henry VIII – will be refurbished.

The investment is a boost to tourism, as research conducted by the Fund reveals the heritage sector generates £26.4bn annually for the UK economy.

DCMS committee launches inquiry

The Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee has announced it will undertake an inquiry into women and sport in the UK to investigate remaining barriers to women's participation and how these can be overcome.

The inquiry comes on the first anniversary of the London 2012 Games and in a statement, the committee said: "It was hoped the successes of Team GB's female athletes in the Olympics would result in greater prominence for women's sporting achievements and encourage more to participate in sport."

"However, it appears that women and girl's sport still faces a number of disadvantages compared with sport for men."



Women's sport to get more support from the DCMS

The committee is inviting written evidence here: www.parliament.uk/cmscom.

• The announcement follows the launch of the Women's Sport Trust (WST), a grant-giving body dedicated to raising the profile of women's sport. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G7Vow>

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Annual subscription rates are UK £31,
Europe £41, Rest of world £62, students UK £16.

Leisure Opportunities is published fortnightly by The Leisure Media Company Limited, Portmill House, Portmill Lane, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1DJ, UK and is distributed in the USA by SPP, 75 Aberdeen Road, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. Periodicals postage paid @ Manchester, PA POSTMASTER Send US address changes to Leisure Opportunities, c/o PO Box 437, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. The views expressed in print are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher The Leisure Media Company Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recorded or otherwise without the prior permission of the copyright holder. Printed by Warners Midland plc. ©The Leisure Media Company Limited 2013 ISSN 0952/8210

SPORT

Exercise could prevent Alzheimer's

Exercise could be the best way of preventing the development of Alzheimer's disease in elderly people, according to researchers at the University of Maryland School of Public Health who have published a report in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.

The findings suggest exercise stimulates parts of the brain associated with memory and helps reduce the progression of mild cognitive impairment (MCI).

The study focused on adults between the ages of 60 and 88 who were physically inactive and placed them on a 12-week exercise programme.

Of the two groups studied – including those with and without MCI – both showed an increased ability in memory recall and an increase of over 10 per cent in cardiovascular fitness.



Participants showed improved levels of neural efficiency after exercise

The scientists also identified that after exercise, both groups of older people used less brain power to recall the correct answers, showing improvement in cognitive efficiency.

The researcher group is planning a larger-scale study to compare healthy individuals with those more prone to the development of Alzheimer's. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=305c9>

Majority say Olympic budget was money well spent

More than two thirds of the UK public feel that the £8.77bn cost of hosting the London 2012 Olympics was worth it, according to a survey of 3,218 adults conducted by research consultancy firm ComRes for the BBC.

The findings also suggest that 74 per cent

would support the event coming back to Britain, while participation figures suggest 11 per cent of people are exercising more than they did a year ago. This figure then increases to 24 per cent for those aged between 18 and 24 years old. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=D2y6L>

Sportivate enables 250,000 young adults

Sportivate, one of Sport England's flagship London 2012 legacy programmes, has reached more than 250,000 young adults in the country.

Figures published by Sport England show that a total of 256,000 teenagers and young adults have so far benefited from free or discounted courses in 70 different sports.

Each course runs for six to eight weeks and an encouraging number of participants taking part in the scheme – 215,000 out of the 256,000 – completed their courses without missing more than one session.

Backed by National Lottery funding, Sportivate will run until 2017 and has been designed to help 14- to 25-year-olds to get involved in sports by offering discounted and



Wakeboarding is one of the sports on offer for free or at a discount

free sessions in sports ranging from judo and tennis to wakeboarding.

The scheme is delivered by a network of 49 county sports partnerships, working with clubs and providers. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=a5b5I>

Sports club memberships rising

Sports clubs in the UK have seen membership levels and income increase by an average of 20 per cent in the past two years.

Results from the Sport and Recreation Alliance's (SRA) biennial Sports Club Survey, show that the average sports club's income has risen by 19.9 per cent to £42,845 - compared to £35,736 in 2010.

The increase is closely mirrored by a rise in membership numbers. Over the period from 2011 to 2013, adult participating membership levels have risen by a total of 20.6 per cent.

Perhaps surprisingly, many clubs do not attribute the increases to the London 2012 Olympic Games, with only 13 per cent of clubs saying their membership increased as a direct result of the Games.



Sports clubs have seen a significant rise in membership numbers

More than a third (38 per cent) of clubs who experienced increasing numbers of adult participants between 2012 and 2013, said that there wasn't a noticeable increase after the Games - suggesting that in many cases membership levels were already on the increase.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=e3U4a>

SkillsActive: Olympic Legacy must continue

SkillsActive has welcomed positive results shown in a recent government report on sport and regeneration but also calls for more to be done to continue the Olympic legacy.

A sports participation report from Sport England says that 15.3m adults now play sport at least once a week; 1.4m more than in 2005/6, when London won the Olympic bid.

Ian Taylor, SkillsActive CEO and Olympic gold medallist, said: "We're delighted the report finds that London 2012 not only boosted the economy, but also has continued to inspire more people to participate in sports."

The Sport England report also found that 52.3 per cent of adults still play no sport at all, and a recent large-scale UK survey showed 25 per cent of boys and 33 per cent of girls aged



SkillsActive say more must be done to continue the Olympic legacy

between two and 19 years are overweight.

Taylor added: "Inspiring not only future Olympic sporting champions, but an active, healthy population will take concerted, ongoing investment and people development in the sports sector. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=K9u5f>

Man City signs up Jamie Oliver for new catering partnership

Manchester City Football Club (MCFC) has agreed a catering deal with Jamie Oliver.

The deal, between Jamie's Fabulous Feasts and Legends Hospitality - believed to be worth £6m - will see Oliver's Fabulous Fanfare-branded food served at the Etihad stadium.

Oliver said: "This is probably the most epic food job I've ever taken on in my life, but with my partners from Legends - who already cater for Dallas Cowboys and New York Yankees - we are all so excited to kick it off!" Details: <http://lei.sr?a=i3e6j>

Sheffield University to run Don Valley Stadium

Sheffield Hallam University has been appointed to manage the city's Woodbourn Road stadium - the replacement site planned for Don Valley Stadium.

The Woodbourn Road site was closed in 2011 but Sheffield City Council plans to redevelop it for it to become the new home for athletics in the city.

As part of the plans, The Woodbourn Road athletics site would eventually be redeveloped into a 60-80 metre indoor facility to provide all-weather training facilities. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n1Z4g>



IMAGE: S FINN/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

London will host of the 2016 championships

London and Baku win bids for major sporting events

London has been chosen to host the 2016 European Swimming Championships while Azerbaijani capital Baku has been awarded the rights to host the fourth Islamic Solidarity Games (ISG) in 2017.

The London event will be the first international competition at the Aquatics Centre since the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Baku has strengthened its reputation as a venue for major events with its winning bid for the ISG - the second major sporting competition the city has secured, after securing the 2015 European Games. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=A8w6s>

Aveley FC planning new community stadium in Essex

Essex-based Aveley Football Club has revealed plans to build a new community stadium.

Plans for the stadium to be located at the town's Belhus Park, include a 3G all-weather pitch, a new pavilion and spectator areas in addition to a full-size, floodlit training pitch and two junior pitches.

The club hopes to submit plans to Thurrock Council later this month with the view of relocating to the new venue for the start of the 2015-16 season. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=K2H7C>

New look gym for Branston Golf and Country Club

Branston Golf Club in Burton, Staffordshire has reopened its health club following a comprehensive redevelopment.

The 225sq m gym has been re-equipped with Precor equipment and includes 25 cv stations, 16 pieces of strength equipment and three resistance machines.

Facilities include a 17m swimming pool, sauna, steamroom, aroma rooms and an outdoor hot tub. The club also offers a 1.5km (0.93m) outdoor jogging route.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=c1s6T>



DC Leisure has been appointed to run the facility

£12.5m West Brom centre on track for 2014 opening

Construction work on the new £12.5m West Bromwich Leisure Centre is on track and the facility is expected to open to the public by September 2014.

The steel structure is now in place and the pool tanks have been cast and tested for the new centre, which will include a 25m pool, learner pool, sauna and steamroom and a four-court sports hall.

A 100-station fitness suite, two dance studios/activity rooms, indoor children's adventure play area and café are also planned.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=8A5l4>

The case for and against barefoot running

The case for and against barefoot running is examined in the latest issue of *Health Club Management* magazine.

Although barefoot running shoes only make up 10-15 per cent of sports shoe sales, it's a fast growing sector and experts claim many people turn to barefoot running as a result of injury due to heel striking in conventional running shoes.

Those against it claim it leads to runners developing a different set of injuries.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H1l8l>

New kids' concept for David Lloyd

Health club operator David Lloyd Leisure is to invest £1.35m in rolling out its DL Kids concept for families, with a new facility in Dublin being the latest major investment in this area of the business.

The £750,000 purpose-built DL Kids facility at David Lloyd Dublin Riverview, Clonskeagh, will open to both members and non-members in September.

DL Kids Dublin will feature three multi-purpose activity rooms, a sports hall, play frame, soft play zone, outdoor area, DL Kids 'cafe-bar' and lounge, providing children aged 0-11 years with a range of programmes running throughout the year specifically designed to complement the way they learn.

It's part of an expansion of the successful model, with an additional £600,000



The first purpose-built David Lloyd Kids facility opened in 2010

earmarked for DL Kids upgrade initiatives at UK clubs this year – including Derby, Knowsley, Nottingham and Warrington.

The David Lloyd Leisure Group operates 81 clubs in the UK and a further 10 clubs across Europe. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=e7s2C>

GLL will operate new Rugby leisure centre

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Centre, Rugby's new leisure centre, is on track to open its doors on 31 August.

The new centre replaces the Ken Marriott Leisure Centre, which has been demolished after serving the town for 40 years.

The new centre has been designed by B3 Architects and has been built on the site of the leisure centre's car park.

Facilities include two swimming pools, a 100-station gym, a climbing wall, six-court sports hall, space for dance classes and martial arts, a coffee shop and space for future expansion.

Charitable social enterprise GLL will operate the site under the brand "Better".

The decision to close the Ken Marriott



IMAGE: ROBBIE DALE

It will be on of the best equipped disability sport centres in the region

Leisure Centre followed studies which showed the building had reached the end of its useful life and needed substantial investment and refurbishment – or replacement.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=d3e6L>

New model predicts effect of diet and activity on kids

Researchers at the National Institutes of Health have developed a mathematical model that predicts how weight and body fat in kids respond to changes in diet and physical activity.

To create the model, data was analysed from children between ages 5-18 and compared their

predictions against actual changes in children as measured in other studies.

In their findings, the NIH observed that children could be eating more calories for each pound gained when compared to adults.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=y9u9R>

Obesity tackled using psychology

Independent mental health hospital Capho Nightingale in London has launched a dedicated weight management and obesity service.

The psychological treatment programme will aim to offer a non-surgical, sustainable treatment to address the root causes of overeating.

It will be aimed at both obese people as well as those individuals who are classed as "pre-obese" – those who need to change their lifestyle in order to maintain their long-term health.

The service is also being offered to those who've tried, but repeatedly failed, to achieve or maintain weight loss and those that have emotional issues with food. It includes a free initial consultation.

Dr Bijal Chheda Varma, joint-lead of the Capho Nightingale Hospital obesity therapy



Capho Nightingale is offering a free consultation to overweight people

team said: "The UK is at risk of entering an obesity crisis, with the incidence of overweight patient numbers soaring.

"By carefully tailoring our programme to the individual needs of the patient, we can address the underlying psychological triggers for overeating. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=f712j>*

New exercise advice needed for children

New exercise advice is needed to protect children from developing heart problems in adulthood, according to research conducted as part of a European Commission-sponsored project.

Published in the *BMC Medicine journal*, the research, which studied 3,000 children, found those under 10 should get between 60 and 85 minutes' exercise each day.

The research observed links between exercise in young children and the risk of developing cardiovascular disease when they reach adulthood.

Of those studied, 15 per cent had high blood pressure and cholesterol levels, which suggested they could be at risk.

The study also found that younger boys may



Research is looking into the epidemic of obesity affecting young people

need to be more active than the 60 minutes per day currently advised by NHS guidelines in order to keep in shape.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P9F6M>

More than 80 Olympic Truce events delivered globally

The UK government has delivered more than 80 Olympic Truce events around the world as part of the global legacy plans for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Led by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the events have been organised

in partnership with the United Nations (UN), National Olympic Committees, parliamentarians, and other public and private partners across five continents. The projects have ranged from a youth football tournament in Lesotho to a sports day in Sri Lanka.



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Right policies needed to remove the barriers



PETE DUCKER

is chief executive officer of the Institute of Hospitality

Yo! Sushi, QMH, Salt Yard Group, One Aldwych, Harbour & Jones, Jamie Oliver's Fifteen Cornwall, Peach Pub Company and Young & Co's Brewery know what it takes to be the best employers in hospitality. These companies and 42 more have been short-listed for the Best Employers in Hospitality Awards 2013 England & Wales.

Run by online job-board Caterer.com, these industry awards showcase the very best hospitality employers, celebrating the efforts they have made to become truly great places to work.

The Best Employers in Hospitality Awards have grown organically over the three years since launch. The awards are not judged by a panel but independently by the employees of the companies who enter, via an online employee engagement survey provided by Purple Cubed. The Best Employers in Hospitality Awards are unique in this approach within the hospitality industry.

The 15 category awards will go to employers from all sectors and of all sizes, from huge national brands through to small independently owned properties. The most coveted award will go to the employer in the number one spot who will be named as the best employer in hospitality.

The winners will be announced, along with the Top 50 Best Employers in Hospitality, at a black-tie awards dinner on 30th September at the Lancaster Hotel, in London. The event sees hundreds of HR professionals, hospitality employers and their teams come together for an evening of fine food, wine and entertainment. Table and ticket bookings are now being taken via the event website.

Director of Caterer.com, Ian Burke says: "What makes these awards significant is that they uniquely recognise the best employers in the hospitality industry based only on the opinion of their employees. The most talented candidates naturally want to work for the best employers and these awards allow hospitality companies to showcase what sets them apart. Entries this year have come from businesses of all sizes, from all sectors and from right across England."

HOTELS

Laura Ashley enters hotel market

English lifestyle brand, Laura Ashley, has opened the doors to its first luxury boutique hotel. The new venture comes as the company celebrates its 60th anniversary.

Located in the Hertfordshire countryside, Laura Ashley The Manor, Elstree is set in a Tudor revival property, surrounded by 10-acres of woodland.

The hotel features 49 guestrooms and suites, each individually designed using the current Laura Ashley Home collections.

The Cavendish Restaurant & Terrace Bar offers a selection of English and Malaysian dishes made from locally sourced ingredients. The menu will change every three months to reflect the season. In addition, guests can enjoy afternoon tea at the Terrace Bar.



The Tudor revival property is located just 11 miles from London

Other facilities include five conference suites, which can be used for events, special occasions and weddings. The suites can accommodate up to 84 people. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Lou6W>

Scotland's hotel sector outperforms rest of UK

Scottish hotels had the highest income and occupancy levels compared to the rest of the UK during May according to the latest report by accountants and business advisers, BDO.

The firm's monthly hotel survey found that Scottish Rev Par rose by 10.6 per cent in

May compared to an increase of 3.9 per cent in regional UK; up 2.5 per cent in England; and up 7.6 per cent in Wales.

The report also found that revenue in Scotland was at £58.94 compared to £46.81 in regional UK. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=q8s4m>

InterContinental to build sustainable hotel

InterContinental Hotels Group will open its third London property as part of Quintain Estates and Knight Dragon's Greenwich Peninsula regeneration project.

Due to open in summer 2015, the InterContinental London The O2 will be operated by Arora Hotels.

The 19-storey building will house 452 guestrooms, as well as a spa, restaurants and a Sky Bar with views of Canary Wharf and the River Thames. In addition, more than 51,666sq ft (4,800sq m) of space for conferences and events, and a large ballroom will be included.

The multi-million pound development, which will be funded by the Queensgate Investment Fund, will also include The



Ground has broken on the 19-storey property, which will open in 2015

Peninsula Tower – a 23-storey development of 100 apartments. When complete, it will provide 190 acres of new business, leisure and living space. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=M3w2T>

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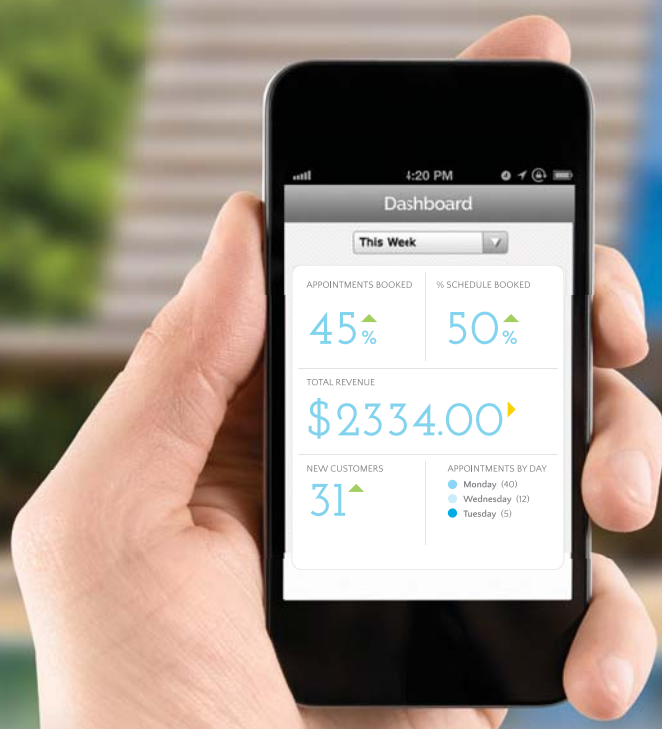
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Maternity wellness retreat opens

A non-medical wellness centre – Mermaid Maternity Retreat – has launched in London, UK, offering services designed to help guests through pregnancy and the months that follow.

Located on the King's Road in Chelsea, the specialist retreat is aiming to become the go-to-address for those wanting ante and postnatal care.

Accommodation includes 14 maternity-friendly bedrooms. The centre is designed to support guests during the first few days after birth or at any time within the first three months. Wellness offerings include osteopathy, acupuncture, reflexology and massage.

Skincare specialists QMS Medicosmetics has created a selection of skincare treatments for the new retreat which are suited for antenatal and postnatal services.



Mermaid's Mother and the Baby Team will provide specialised assistance

Featured in this collection are four treatments, including a revitalising Recover Your Skin Facial, designed to provide a boost to moisture levels. There's also a 24-hour supervised Baby Zone where babies are looked after if mothers need to catch up on sleep.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=05I7y>

Spa Business launches Spa Foresight™

Spa Business magazine has announced its Spa Foresight™ 2013/14 report which highlights trends and influences in the spa industry and identifies opportunities for growth in terms of market sectors, world regions, management protocols and treatment types.

The report highlights new industry allies, saying operators must look to governments, corporations and individuals for collaboration.

It predicts spas will tackle death, sex, childhood obesity and self-care, as well as adding services such as gluteal massage, new cellulite treatments and hand and arm massage. It predicts Africa will become a major market.

Wearable-tech – such as Google Glass – is identified as an important emerging trend.



Wearable tech, such as Google Glass, is identified as a major trend

Other key findings include the impact of online reviews on profitability and the opportunity for spas to increase business by encouraging and managing them tactically.

Read the report at www.spaforesight.com

UK Spa Association announce Awareness Week

The UK Spa Association has announced National Spa Awareness Week 2013, which will run from the 4th to 8th November.

The week, entitled Stop Stress Before It Stops You, is sponsored by Germaine de Capuccini. The UK spa association has teamed up with the

International Stress Management Association (ISMA) to help raise awareness of the stress relieving treatments the spa industry can offer. Participating spas and salons need to run an event during the week which includes stress management advice.



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3D print replicas to give close up view of exhibits

A set of artefacts going on display at the Museum of London have been replicated so visitors can get a hands-on look at them.

Researchers from Birmingham City University have scanned selected items from the 400-year-old hoard of jewellery discovered in a London cellar in 1912.

Included in the collection is a 17th century watch, which has been replicated using a 3D printer. Visitors will be able to handle copies of the copied items, something that will be of great benefit, particularly for the visually impaired.



Visitors were treated to snowing ice cream

Ice cream snow falls at Thorpe Park

Visitors at Thorpe Park were treated to a unique experience recently, when the heavens opened and it started snowing ice cream.

The ice cream snow, created by Miss Cakehead - who has previously made an edible hotel out of cake, among various other edible PR stunts - contained real strawberry and vanilla ice cream, which fell Thursday morning in the shadow of the park's Stealth roller coaster.

Guests were alerted to an imminent shower by a classic ice cream van jingle. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=E1d5e>

Radical new museum policy planned for Maidstone

Maidstone Council plans to commercialise its museums, while setting up a business team to cut the cost of the culture and leisure services that it operates.

The town has three museums - The Tyrwhitt Drake Museum of Carriages, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regimental Museum and Maidstone Museum & Bantley Art Gallery - all of which will be affected when the new policy comes into action.

The business team will adapt the current museum business plan to generate additional revenue.

Work to begin on Chester Zoo

Construction work will begin in August on Chester Zoo's £30m Islands project.

The contract to build the development was awarded to engineering company Laing O'Rourke following a nationwide tender process.

Set to open in 2015, Islands will be located in a previously unoccupied area of the zoo's estate and will feature flora and fauna from the exotic islands of the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Bali, Sumatra, Sumba and Sulawesi.

There will also be a new Indonesian jungle house - one of the largest indoor zoo exhibits in the UK - which will act as the new home to Sumatran orang-utans, Sulawesi macaques and a new species for the zoo, the Sunda gaviel crocodile.

Islands will be the first phase of the Zoo's ambitious, £225m Natural Vision scheme that has been in planning for several years.

First announced in January 2009, the original plans for Natural Vision included a £90m biodome - entitled Heart of Africa - as the first phase, but the project was put on hold indefinitely due to government cuts in 2011.



An artist's impression of the exotic boat journey at the Islands project

Simon Mann, Chester Zoo's development director, said: "Islands is a complex project that includes the creation of landscaping themed to each island, an exotic boat journey and world-class animal exhibits which marry the exact needs of our animals with the best experience for visitors.

"We're bringing these islands to life, right here in the heart of leafy Cheshire, making the opportunity to visit these far-flung places a reality." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=r0G8B>

Bristol's new family attraction opens

The Wild Place Project, Bristol's new family attraction, that displays eco-systems from around the world, has opened to the public.

The new attraction, located just off junction 17 of the M5, invites guests to visit some of the animals from Madagascar, east Africa and the Congo.

The Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society was given planning consent for the National Wildlife Conservation Park in 2010 and the opening of the Wild Place Project is the society's first step towards what it hopes will become a "world-class visitor attraction".

Among the first exhibits to open is Discover Madagascar, a home to three different lemur species: Mongoose lemur; Ring-tailed lemur; and Red-bellied lemur. It also features guinea fowl and African pygmy goats.



The Wild Place Project displays eco-systems from around the world

Elsewhere, the Edge of Africa exhibit allows visitors to see zebras and eland roaming within the attraction's grasslands.

The final exhibit is the Secret Congo, which was given its name because it features Okapi, one of the last large mammals to be discovered. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=i3R9V>



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KURT JANSON
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It's obvious to even the casual observer that the government's position on visitors to the UK is nothing short of schizophrenic.

It has correctly identified that two of the key ways we're going to get the economy growing again is through increasing the UK's exports to growing economies in Asia and South America and by getting companies in these economies to invest in the UK. The spearhead of this initiative is the GREAT campaign, which has seen the Government commit almost £70m to promoting the benefits of trade with the UK. This investment has been supported by the Prime Minister and senior cabinet members undertaking regular trade-related visits to countries such as India and China.

The success of this initiative is evidenced by the double-digit increases in the UK's exports to Russia, China, India and Brazil achieved over the past year (albeit, from a low base).

However this message of "we are open for business and value your investment" is being critically undermined by cack-handed steps by the Home Office to achieve the dual aims of delivering on the Government's target of reducing net immigration to tens of thousands by 2015 and to win back voters lured away by UKIP.

Driving billboards around areas with high ethnic populations stating that over-stayers should give "themselves up or they will be arrested" is clumsy and embarrassing at best. At worst it is disturbingly similar to the efforts of various dictatorships to root-out "subversives".

Then there is the initiative to trial the introduction of £3,000 bonds for supposed high-risk visitors from countries such as India. When this was mooted a month ago the clear message both UK and Indian businesses gave to the Government was that this was detrimental to developing tourism, trade and investment between the two countries. As a result, the Prime Minister quickly back-tracking on the idea. But now, in a second u-turn, the trial is going ahead.

TOURISM

English parks contribute £6.3bn

England's national parks contribute between £4.1bn and £6.3bn to the economy each year, according to a report published by National Parks England.

According to *Valuing England's National Parks*, the total economic activity taking place within the boundaries of England's parks is the equivalent to the UK's aerospace industry.

The report shows that there are currently around 22,500 businesses in the national parks, which have a combined turnover of £10.4bn, employing 140,000 people. The parks receive more than 90 million visitors each year.

John Dyke, chair of National Parks England, said: "This report really shows the great value of national parks to the economy and national park authorities' role in supporting rural



There are 140,000 people employed in England's national parks

communities and businesses. It also reminds us of the other benefits national parks provide – clean water, stunning landscapes, wildlife habitats, a place to relax or to be active, to name but a few. These are hard to put a figure on but immensely important to us all."

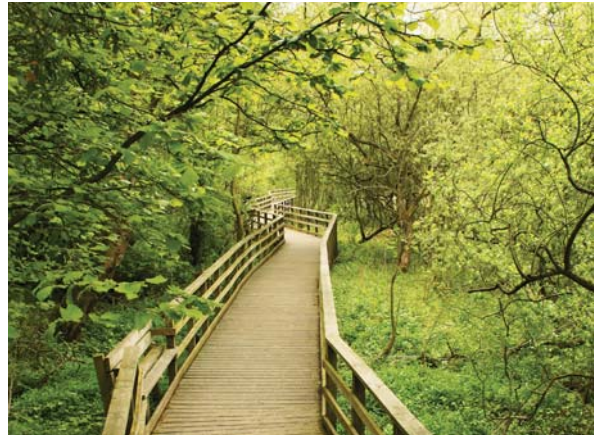
Details: <http://lei.sr?a=O4w3E>

Scottish parks revenues up by 25 per cent

Revenue generated by Scotland's national parks has increased by 25 per cent over the past year, according to research conducted by VisitScotland.

A total of £243m was spent within Scotland's national parks in 2012 by domestic visitors. The Cairngorms and Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Parks combined, attracted more than one million visitors from the UK and Ireland, with 570,000 domestic visits to Cairngorms, while Loch Lomond had a further 482,000 visitors.

The research also suggests that The Cairngorms – which is more than twice the size of Loch Lomond and includes five of Scotland's six tallest mountains – is more



Scotland's natural beauty is drawing visitors from far afield

suited to larger parties and younger consumers. Both parks have been heavily involved in the Year of Natural Scotland 2013 campaign, which is working to promote Scotland's beauty.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=r7E9a>

Forest tourism campaign launched for England

VisitEngland, the national tourist board, and the Forestry Commission have launched a campaign to promote summer holidays in and around England's woods and forests.

Entitled 'More in the forest', the organisations are working with a number of private

sector companies to highlight the breadth of activities available in England's forests.

According to Forestry Commission figures, there are more than 40 million visits to England's forests each year.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=j8J2c>



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UBM



Gaelic games are becoming popular in London

Gaelic Athletic Association behind £4m Ruislip revamp

The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) is to provide grant aid to help the London County Board carry out a £4.2m revamp of its headquarters in Ruislip, London.

Though planning permission is yet to be granted, the GAA has given the go-ahead by approving plans for the redevelopment.

"The total project will cost over £4m and will result in a ground they can be proud of," said GAA president Liam O'Neill. "The plans will be revealed when planning permission comes through but we have given it the go-ahead." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=v401H>

Northwich excited about new £13.7m leisure centre

Plans for the £13.7m Memorial Court Leisure Centre in Northwich, Cheshire, UK have moved forward, with the demolition of its Memorial Hall set to get underway to clear the site for development. Wates construction has been appointed to handle the project.

The new facility will feature a swimming pool with flume, learner pool, spa, dance studio and an 80-station gym, in addition to a commemorative garden honouring the dead of World War I and World War II. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=O4n6X>

MUST secures the future of Old Trafford

The Manchester United Supporters Trust now has the power to safeguard Old Trafford if the club's owners ever put the stadium up for sale.

The ground will be labelled as an Asset of Community Value, meaning the possibility it could be sold by club owners the Glazer family will be reduced.

If the owners decide to sell the ground, the supporters' group would now have a six-month window in which to halt the sale, to offer the community the chance to make a bid. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=F8HoD>

Bournemouth flagship complex goes ahead

A new £45m leisure complex, to be built in the centre of Bournemouth, has been earmarked as better than "any other on the south coast", according to the developer.

Work on the mixed-use development, which is being developed and managed by the Osborne Group, will start in February next year.

The complex, which will create around 300 jobs, will include a nine-screen, 2,000-seat cinema, a linear rooftop garden with terrace, 14 restaurants, a selection of retail outlets and a three-level underground car park.

Designed by Piers Gough of CZWG Architects, the leisure facilities aim to complement the restoration of the listed Pavilion



The complex will be developed and managed by the Osborne Group

Theatre and Ballroom. Once completed, the new development is expected to attract more than one million people annually. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Doa2V>

£1bn Ram Brewery gets consent

London Borough of Wandsworth's planning committee has given its consent for the development of the £1bn Ram Brewery project in Wandsworth, London.

The development will have a heavy emphasis on the heritage of the historic brewing site and will include nearly 10,000sq m (107,600sq ft) of leisure space.

There will also be a micro-brewery and a brewing museum and 661 new homes - some of which will be located in a 36-storey landmark residential tower designed by EPR architects.

Wandsworth Council's decision to grant planning permission to Minerva, the developer which submitted the plans, follows improvements and refinements to the initial scheme after consultation meetings between the Council, English Heritage and the local community.



The development will have an emphasis on the heritage of the site

Tim Garnham, joint chief executive of Minerva, said: "As well as regenerating a significant area at the heart of Wandsworth town centre, the plans will act as a catalyst for further local investment including the Council's plans to redesign the gyratory." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=L7x2b>

Circuit of Wales racetrack plans put on hold

Development of a £280m motor racing circuit in south Wales has been put on hold while the Welsh government determines its future.

The council-backed Circuit of Wales race-track development is set to be constructed in Blaenau Gwent, near Ebbw Vale, but the

Welsh government has issued a holding direction, meaning that ministers now have more time to decide whether or not they should call in the plans. The development has received opposition from Gwent Wildlife Trust. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=E2c1e>

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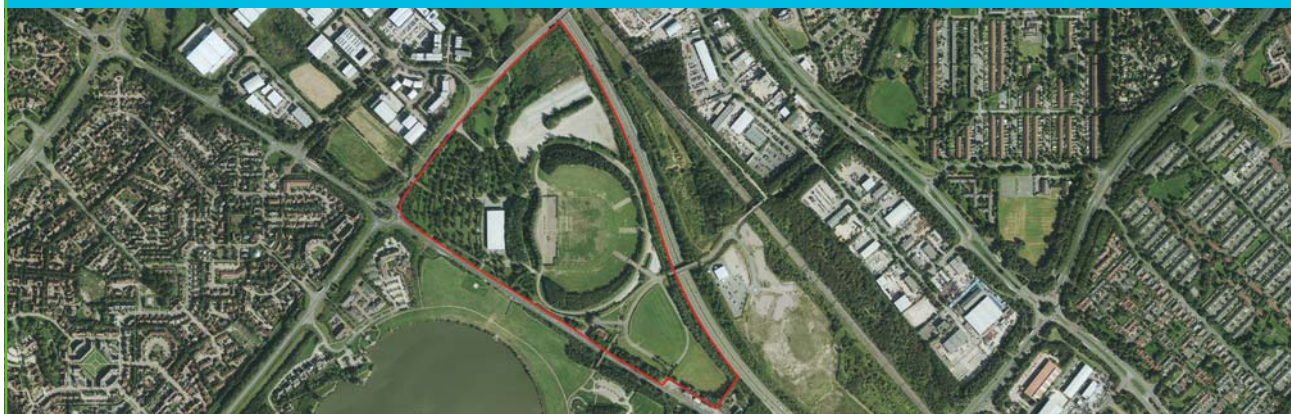
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Apprenticeship funding is under review

The government has revealed radical new proposals in a shake-up of the way apprenticeships are funded.

The new scheme would see employers funded directly in order to purchase the apprenticeship training they want, as part of proposals to give businesses more control.

The plans, announced by business secretary Vince Cable, will give employers the freedom to choose the training that's most relevant to the needs of their apprentices and businesses and which represents the best value for money.

Three options have been suggested; the first of which is a direct payment model, which would involve businesses registering apprentices and reporting claims for government funding through a new online system. Funds would then be paid from the government directly to employers.

The second option would see the use of a PAYE payment model. Businesses would register apprentices through a new online system



Changes to apprenticeships could hit training providers' cashflow

and then recover government funding for their training through their PAYE return.

The final option would see government funding continuing to be paid to training providers, but they would only be able to draw it down when they receive the employer's financial contribution towards the training. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=u9F4s>

Ensuring the industry is filled with professionals



IAN TAYLOR
is chief executive
of SkillsActive

In the 12 months since London 2012, two key questions are often raised when the topic of Olympic legacy is thrown up: how has sports and physical activity participation changed and how has the London 2012 Olympic Games impacted on employment in our sector?

SkillsActive can answer these questions in relation to its role as the National Workforce Partner to Sport England.

In addressing the question of sports participation – through working with National Governing Bodies and grassroots deliverers, as well as offering expert coaching advice and professional development, we see more and more people commit to sport, and there's no doubt London 2012 played a part.

This change is confirmed by Sport England's latest participation figures, which have shown a 1.4 million rise in sports participation since the Olympic bid was won in 2005, with over 15 million people currently taking part in sport each week.

Providing structured, insightful and enjoyable sports and physical activity is the only way to ensure sustainable engagement, and this is what has been happening across the country in a range of sports.

When it comes to the matter of London 2012 and employment, we've seen it acting as a catalyst to raise awareness of careers in sport and physical activity and change attitudes towards these jobs.

We're working with industry stakeholders to ensure young people have a route into employment, and that there is a system in place to maximise their career potential.

We've developed a career pathway for individuals, from learner through to CEO: traineeships offer work experience to 16 year olds. These are followed by apprenticeships, which in turn can lead to the uptake of accredited training courses. Finally, this can lead to qualified professionals joining one of the SkillsActive registers.

There's been a drive and focus on the registers because professionalisation is a must in these industries and will assure credibility for employers, employees and the public.

RLSS adds new first aid qualifications

The Royal LifeSaving Society UK (RLSS UK) and IQL have announced four additions to the RLSS UK qualifications portfolio, following a consultation with operators in the leisure sector.

The qualifications have been developed to cater for all first aid staff training needs, both on and off the poolside, while supporting the needs of the leisure industry and meeting the requirements of the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

Tara Dillon, executive director at IQL, believes there

are many staff in sport and leisure centres and health clubs who could benefit from first aid training, such as receptionists, gym instructors and duty managers.

"Employees in these roles don't necessarily need to complete a full NPLQ, but they could benefit from our standalone three-day, Level 3, First Aid at Work course," said Dillon.

Existing RLSS UK Pool Lifeguard Trainer Assessors who meet the prerequisite requirements can apply to deliver the First Aid at



There are 90,000 RLSS UK Pool Lifeguards

Work qualification to other employees on site.

From October 2013, the team at RLSS UK and IQL UK will be one of 13 awarding organisations in the UK which are certified to deliver these new Ofqual-accredited First Aid qualifications for leisure.

Qualifications include: combined NPLQ / First Aid at Work; Level 2 First Aid at Work (one day); Level 3 First Aid at Work (three day); and Level 3 First Aid at Work renewal (two day). Details: <http://lei.sr?a=O1Y6j>

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Legal cases and the lessons learned

A workshop for pool lifeguards, pool trainer assessors and pool supervisors is just one of a number of training courses and seminars that is being offered by QLM this year. The workshop will explore recent criminal and personal injury cases, including a recent case that led to a fine of £200,000 and how they impact on lifeguards and customers.

QLM are experts in pool management and their expert consultants have been engaged as expert witnesses on this and a number of other recent cases.

The 2013 programme includes:

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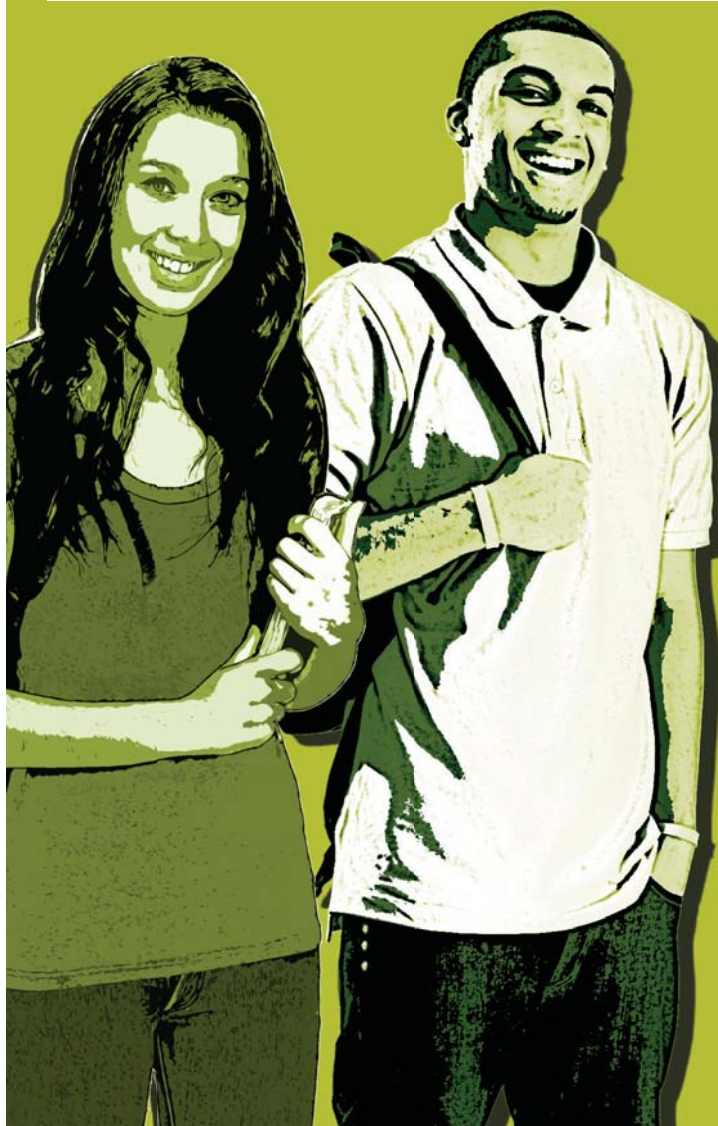
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General Managers, *The Gym Group*, Nationwide, Reading and London Ilford, UK
Audio Visual Engineer, *Simworx*, West Midlands, UK
Health Club and Spa Manager, *Livingwell*, London, UK
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited*, Self Employed Location: Sheffield Millhouses, UK
Catering Supervisor, *GLL*, South Oxfordshire, UK
Senior Library Assistant, *GLL*, Thamesmead, UK
Spa Therapist, *GLL*, Camden, UK
Library Assistant, *GLL*, Thamesmead, UK
Sales Manager - full time, *ukactive*, London, UK
Compliance and standards manager, *Skills Active Group*, Central London, UK
Membership Sales, *Reebok Sports Club*, Canary Wharf, London, UK, UK
Personal Trainer, *Matt Roberts Personal Training Company*, Location: Hampstead, UK
Membership Sales Consultant, *Énergie Group*, Wilmslow, UK
Membership Sales Advisor, *Impact Fitness*, Portsmouth, UK
Systems Engineer, *Simworx*, West Midlands, UK
Club Promotional Staff, *énergie group*, St Albans, UK
Leisure Assistant, *Aston University*, Birmingham, UK
Student Activities Co-ordinator (Give Sport a Go, University of Salford Students' Union, Salford
General Managers, *truGym*, Various, UK
STA Swim Academy Co-ordinator, *The Swimming Teachers' Association*, Cornwall (base tbc), UK
General Manager, *Ribblesdale Park*, Clitheroe, Lancashire, UK
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited*, Various locations, UK
Assistant Gym Manager, *Pure Gym Limited*, Aberdeen, UK
Trainee Personal Trainer, *The Training Room*, Nationwide, UK
Recreation Assistant, Norfolk, *Parkwood Leisure*, Dereham / Norfolk / East, UK
Tenders Manager, Worcester, *Parkwood Leisure*, Worcester, UK
Fitness Manager, *Parkwood Leisure*, London / Bexleyheath, UK
Sports Receptionists/Assistants, *Leyton 6th Form College*, London, UK
Skills Tutors, *ICON TRAINING*, London, Oxfordshire, Cambridge, Berkshire, Bristol, Essex, UK
Head of Business Development, *ICON TRAINING*, Nationwide, UK
Foundation Learning Manager, *ICON TRAINING*, Nationwide, UK
Training Co-ordinator, *ICON TRAINING*, Nationwide, UK
Assistant Manager - Operations, *Finesse Leisure Partnership*, Hatfield, UK
Aerobics Coach, *Erewash Borough Council*, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, UK
Personal Trainer, *DW Sports Fitness*, Leicester, UK
Sales and Retention Manager Opportunities, *DW Sports Fitness*, North West Region, UK
General Manager, *DW Sports Fitness*, Nottingham, UK
Duty Manager, *DW Sports Fitness*, Northampton, UK
Business Development Executive, *Clubwise Software Ltd*, Princes Risborough Buckinghamshire, UK
Public Health Interventions Manager, *Camden Council*, London, UK

Personal Trainers, *The Gym Group*, Norwich, UK
Sales and Retention Manager, *DW Sports Fitness*, Various locations, UK
Customer Service Advisor, *GLL*, Rivermead, UK
Contract Maintenance Engineer, *Everyone Active*, Epping, UK
Sales Supervisor, *GLL*, Buckinghamshire, UK
Club Manager, *Holmes Place*, Switzerland
Regional Account Manager, *Star Trac Europe*, Various Locations, UK
Club General Manager, *The Bourne Club Ltd*, Farnham, Surrey, UK
Sports Centre Duty Manager, *St Aubyn's*, Essex, UK
Audio Visual Engineer, *Simworx*, West Midlands, UK
Membership Sales Advisor, *Impact Fitness*, Portsmouth, UK
Partnership Manager, *Pro-Active East London*, East London, UK
Centre Operations Manager, *Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)*, Nottingham City, UK
General Managers, *The Gym Group*, Nationwide, Reading and London Ilford, UK
Health Club and Spa Manager, *Livingwell*, London, UK
General Manager Designate, *Namco Operations Europe Ltd*, Central London, UK
Fitness Consultant, *Impington Village College*, Cambridge, UK
Beauty Therapist, *Royal Automobile Club*, Epsom
Life guard/recreation assistant, *Royal Automobile Club*, Epsom Downs
Chief Operating Officer, *Themed Entertainment Association (TEA)*, United States
Duty Manager, *DC Leisure*, Winchester, UK
Duty Manager - Maternity Cover, *DW Sports Fitness*, Glasgow Fort, UK
Sales and Retention Manager, *DW Sports Fitness*, Preston, UK
Female Hair Stylist, *Marquee*, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Leisure Account Manager, *Brenntag UK and Ireland*, Home Based – Covering South/South West, UK
Systems Engineer, *Simworx*, West Midlands, UK
Full Time Fitness Instructor, *Ladies of Leisure*, Canterbury, UK
Front of House Manager (Operations), *YMCA Club*, Central London, UK
Personal Trainers, *The Gym Group*, Colchester
Duty Manager, *DW Sports Fitness*, Gloucester, UK
Gym Manager, *Pure Gym Limited*, Belfast, UK
ASA Level 2 Swimming Teacher, *Everyone Active*, Warwickshire, UK
Healthwise Facilitator (with Co-ordinator tasks), *GLL*, London, UK
Sales Manager, *Valley Leisure Ltd*, Andover, UK
Personal Trainers, *Everyone Active*, Aylesbury, UK
Personal Trainer and Nutrition Coach, *G14*, Chiswick, West London
Qualifications Manager, *Central YMCA*, Central London, UK
Self employed Personal Trainers, *Soho Gyms*, London/Manchester, UK
Assistant General Manager, *The Gym Group*, Bournemouth, UK
Deputy Sports Facilities Manager, *New Hall School*, Chelmsford, UK
Assistant Aquadome Manager, *Merton Hotel*, Jersey, UK
Freelance Aqua Instructors, *Everyone Active*, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, UK
Freelance Pilates Instructors, *Everyone Active*, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, UK

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MEMBERSHIP SALES ADVISOR

Portsmouth, United Kingdom
Salary: OTE £25k - £30k
Full Time, 40 hours per week

Impact Fitness
www.impactfitnessltd.co.uk

Impact Fitness are a leading Impact Sales company operating across the UK who increase membership sales, provide marketing strategies, sales systems and the people to fully implement a successful sales solution.

ARE YOU TARGET DRIVEN, CUSTOMER FOCUSED AND HAVE A FLAIR FOR SALES?

DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE A REALISTIC SALARY OF OTE £25-30K PER ANNUM?

We are looking for a dynamic and talented individual with a passion for sales to promote and maximise enquiries at a large multi-functional Leisure Centre.

You will need to have proven sales experience, ideally face-to-face and over the telephone, be able to work under your own initiative and have the right customer service skills and drive. You must be a team player wanting to succeed with excellent interpersonal skills, have a high level of enthusiasm and be self-motivated.

Duties include promoting and selling memberships, touring of the facility, generating prospects, promoting the facility at a local level and to achieve monthly sales targets.

Benefits: Great Bonus scheme, Complimentary Membership, Significant training and career development program.

This role will give you a great opportunity to build on your managerial, coaching and leadership skills in the absence of the Sales Director.

IF YOUR ANSWERS ARE "YES!" THEN WE MAY HAVE THE ROLE FOR YOU.

Email your cv and cover letter to neil@impactfitnessltd.co.uk

Ladies of Leisure, Canterbury - ladies only health club

FULL TIME FITNESS INSTRUCTOR REQUIRED

Working on a shift basis, 5 days a week.
Salary £13,500pa, 4 weeks paid holiday plus bank holidays

Duties include:

- Opening/closing the club
- Writing out fitness programs
- Carrying out consultations.
- General reception attendance.
- General cleaning

Please send CV with a cover letter to Karl Grant, Ladies of Leisure, 33 St. Dunstan Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8BZ Or email them to ksleisure2@hotmail.co.uk

We are looking for 5 highly motivated, experienced and enthusiastic staff to join our expanding education and training programme for 14-19 year olds.



JOB ON OFFER INCLUDE:

(BTEC SPORT AND LEISURE)

Course Leader (Full Time) (Waltham Forest College) £24,000-£27,000

Level One Course Tutor (20 hours - £260 per week)

Level Two Course Tutor (16 hours - £224 per week)

Level Three Course Tutor (24 hours - £332 per week)

Level Three Futsal Head Coach (6 hours - £90 per week)

All candidates will need to have at least a PTTLs qualification and preferably a DTLLS or QTS qualification.

Closing date for applications: 5pm on Friday 16th August 2013

For an application form and information pack please contact: enquiries@locsp.org or Andree.selter@locsp.org 020 8556 5973

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TO ADVERTISE Contact the Leisure Opportunities team on
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SHOWCASE

Operations Manager

Competitive salary + Bonus opportunity, Car, Healthcare

Showcase Cinema, a part of National Amusements Inc, is a leading movie exhibitor with a significant presence in the UK market. Through heavy investments in digital technology, state-of-the-art sound and the Cinema de Lux concept, we continue to set the benchmark for the cinema industry within the UK and beyond.

ROLE: Reporting to the Director UK Theatre Operations, this position demands a "hands on" approach to developing opportunities across all areas of the multiplex cinema business. This includes oversight and management of the day to day operations, budget performance and control, customer service, bars, restaurants and main concession sales. You will assist in the development of business plans, budgets, strategies and sales initiatives as well as P&L management and accountability for results. You will build and develop strong cinema management teams, and partner with other cross functional contacts to achieve exceptional results.

EXPERIENCE: A minimum of 5 years senior management experience, ideally in a multi-site capacity. Previous experience in the leisure, hospitality, or retail sector will be considered an advantage. A clean, current driving licence is essential.

LOCATION: Predominantly southern UK / M4 corridor

APPLICANTS SHOULD FORWARD A CV ALONG WITH A BRIEF LETTER OF APPLICATION TO:
mbarlow@national-amusements.com
or by post to

Mark Barlow, Director UK Theatre Operations, NATL. Amusements (UK) Ltd, Redfield Way, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 2UW

Westfield plans indoor ski facility

Australian retail developer Westfield is to submit plans for the UK's biggest indoor ski facility in Stratford, London, UK which is double the size of anything existing in the UK. Its expected size is being compared to the giant Ski Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

Westfield Stratford City will submit a planning application to the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) by the end of the summer. The project could cost up to £200m and will be ready for 2015.

The site will provide around 20,000sq m of piste for customers to enjoy, with skiing areas covered in thousands of tonnes of real snow. The site, already being labelled the Stratford dome, will be double the



The planned development will include runs of varying difficulty

size of other British snow centres such as those in Hemel Hempstead and Milton Keynes. It will feature snowboard facilities and an ice-skating rink. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H9I5w>

Culture Programme ahead of 2014 Commonwealth Games

The countdown to the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow is to be marked by a 12-month cultural programme one year before the games kick-off.

Culture 2014, which begins later this month, will see theatre, dance, music

and comedy events held around Scotland in celebration of the Games.

The 2014 cultural programme is a collaboration between the games' organising committee, Creative Scotland and Glasgow Life. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=loK8V>

Ancestral tourism – worth £2.4bn

Scottish tourism businesses are being encouraged to take advantage of the ancestral tourism market in the run up to 2014, when Scotland will host several major events including the Ryder Cup, the Commonwealth Games and Homecoming Scotland 2014 – a year of celebration for those with Scottish roots.

The ancestral tourism market has the potential to grow from 800,000 visitors a year to 4.3m in five years' time, according to tourism agency, VisitScotland.

An estimated 50m people living outside Scotland were either born in the country or have Scottish ancestry, with the ancestral market estimated to be worth £2.4bn over the next five years. A new guide, published by Tourism Intelligence Scotland (TIS) - Ancestral Tourism in Scotland - has been made available to any business that registers



New events are being created to showcase Scottish culture

on the Tourism Intelligence website and will provide tourism operators with the latest intelligence on the nation's ancestral markets.

The guide also offers suggestions on how to help businesses gather information on ancestral landmarks. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=I6a8b>

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