

# leisureopportunities

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## Liverpool FC kicks off £75m stadium expansion

The expansion of Liverpool Football Club's Anfield Stadium got underway this week after construction firm Carillion signed a £75m contract to carry out work on the Main Stand.

The two parties finalised the deal on 8 December that will see designs by architecture practice KSS brought to fruition, increasing the capacity of the stadium to 54,000.

A Carillion spokesperson confirmed to *Leisure Opportunities* that the team is now working on site at Anfield, with construction to begin early in the new year.

Work to add 8,500 seats to the Main Stand – part of a larger £260m plan to transform the area around Anfield into a mixed-use leisure hub – is scheduled for completion during the 2016/2017 football season. The expanded Main Stand, which will



Work to add 8,500 seats to the Main Stand is set for completion in the 2016/2017 season

become one of the largest all-seater stands in Europe's top divisions, will comprise three tiers, with the existing lower tier re-profiled to accommodate a widened player tunnel, new team benches, media platform and wheelchair

viewing. The club also has outline planning permission to boost the number of seats in the Anfield Road Stand by 4,800, a move which would lift overall stadium capacity to almost 59,000.

Proposals for the Anfield leisure hub feature the creation of a wide avenue through the adjacent Stanley Park and a new public square area with a memorial to the 96 Liverpool fans who died in the 1989 Hillsborough disaster. Also included is a new school, health centre, 250 new homes and a 100-bedroom hotel.

Liverpool mayor Joe Anderson said: "The start of work will mark the beginning of a project which will deliver huge benefit to the city. I'm delighted we've reached this decisive turning point in the history of Anfield." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g6W3k>

EXECUTIVE  
APPOINTMENTS

the  
gym

Property Project  
Manager

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## Paramount London strikes BBC IP deal

The BBC is the latest brand to be incorporated into the Paramount London theme park, opening up a host of new IPs which could potentially be included in the development, such as Doctor Who, Top Gear and Sherlock.

Earlier this year, the BBC made its first step into the theme park world with the launch of CBeebies Land at Alton Towers. The new deal would see games and rides, based on the corporation's most popular shows, come to life at the new £2bn theme park and resort development, scheduled to open in 2020.

"We're always looking for opportunities to extend fans' enjoyment of their favourite shows and the idea behind this



Dr Who is one of the most likely IPs to be featured

resort is a really exciting way of celebrating the very special place the BBC has in British culture," said Stephen Davies, director of Live Events at BBC Worldwide. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=z3v6T>

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# Clegg backs major cycling spending

The government is to invest £214m into making cycling safer as part of plans to double the number of UK journeys made on bikes by 2020.

Deputy prime minister Nick Clegg – who made the announcement at a recent cycling summit in Bristol – said it was the largest single investment in cycling ever made. He added that it brought the total invested in cycling by the coalition government to £588m.

“I want to bring cycling from the Alps and onto British streets,” he said. “The inspiration of the 2012 Olympics and 2014 Tour de France starting in Yorkshire has started a revolution in cycling for everyone, not just in velodromes, not necessarily in lycra, but for going to school or to work.”

The £214m will be divided into two separate funds. A total of £114m will be invested to support the Cycling Ambition Cities Programme for the next three years (Bristol, Birmingham, Cambridge, Leeds, Manchester, Newcastle, Norwich and Oxford) to accelerate their development of local cycling networks.



London 2012 and Le Tour de France have increased interest in cycling

The remaining £100m will be used to improve the conditions for cyclists and walkers travelling alongside and crossing the Strategic Road Network – which comprises Britain's most important and busiest roads.

Olympic gold medal winning cyclist Chris Boardman welcomed the plans.

“This is a great stepping stone on the road to creating a safer environment and enabling more Brits to choose cycling as their preferred mode of transport,” he said.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=6x3g8>

# Mystery surrounds Spurs stadium site fire

The cause of a fire that gutted a business involved in a bitter dispute with English Premier League football club Tottenham Hotspur FC still remains unclear.

The fire at the Archway Sheet Metal factory – situated in north London – was detected in the early hours of Tuesday 25 November.

The blaze destroyed most of the building before it was brought under control.

Located just yards from Tottenham's White Hart Lane stadium, the family-owned company was the last remaining business that was standing in the way of Spurs' plans to build a new £400m ground on the site.

The owners, the Josif family, challenged Tottenham Hotspur's plans at the High Court in September because of a compulsory purchase order of land being approved for the site in July. The challenge caused further delay to the stadium plans – and means that Tottenham will likely be forced to play an entire season without a home stadium.

It is understood that the fire and the demise of the building could delay the plans even further – unless the owners of the destroyed factory agree to sell the land to Tottenham. In a statement to the media however, the Josif



The Archway Sheet Metal factory – before the fire

family vowed to return and rebuild the business at the site. Prior to the fire, the Josif family had publicly revealed that they'd been the subject of threats “for months” – including ones that had suggested the building would be razed to the ground in a threatened arson attack.

Fire officials continue to investigate the site but have declined to speculate the cause – other than saying it is being treated as “suspicious”.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H4c9R>



## Man City: New £200m academy

Manchester City Football Club this month opened the doors to its brand new City Football Academy (CFA) – reported to have cost £200m – after a four-year project.

The new facility situated in east Manchester – a stone's throw from the club's Etihad Stadium – forms a key part of plans to regenerate the former industrial wasteland which surrounds it. The two-year building phase was led by BAM Construction, which was working to designs by Rafael Vinoly Architects.

The English Premier League champions will use the facility to train its current stars – as well as future prospects in the club's youth teams – and has also worked to ensure parts of the facility will be available for use by the local community, particularly schoolchildren.

In addition to 17 pitches and three gyms, the site boasts a 7,000-capacity stadium for Elite Development squad teams, Manchester City Women's FC and community use.



The site boasts a 7,000 capacity stadium for the women's and youth teams

Manchester City star Pablo Zabaleta believes the investment will help the club produce a steady stream of talent from its youth ranks and also help to lure established stars.

"For City to become a top club not just in England but also in the world, you need this – a good training ground," he told reporters ahead of the CFA launch. "Top players always want to train at good facilities."

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k4d3h>*

## Man United groundsteam among IOG award winners

Manchester United Football Club's (MUFC) groundskeeping team has been named among the winners of the annual Institute of Groundsmanship's (IOG) annual awards.

The awards ceremony, held at stadiumMK in Milton Keynes earlier this month (4 December), recognised winners in 19 different categories, with the MUFC team receiving the professional football grounds team of the year award.

It was a double sweep for MUFC on the night, as the club's grounds manager, Tony Sinclair, was also given the groundsman of the year award. For the full list of winners, follow the link below to our website.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=q3z4q>*



John Steele will take up his new role in January

## Steele joins Loughborough Uni as executive director

John Steele will leave his role as CEO of Youth Sport Trust (YST) to become executive director of sport at Loughborough University at the end of the year.

Speaking of his appointment, Steele – who has been at YST since February 2012 – said: "It's a great privilege to take on the role at Loughborough, at a time when the university has some unprecedented ambition around student and high performance sport.

"It's been an absolute honour to have led YST and to have been part of an organisation that is positively impacting on the lives of millions of young people."

Baroness Sue Campbell, chair of YST, added: "This is a tremendous opportunity for John and will place him at the heart of new and exciting developments in student and high performance sport at the university. This is also good news for the YST, which is developing a long term partnership with Loughborough University."

The move comes a year after Steele took over from Steve Cram as chair of the English Institute of Sport (in October 2013).

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=q2C8y>*

## Glasgow 2014 running track repurposed

The running track that was built on a system of stilts at Hampden Park stadium in Glasgow for the 2014 Commonwealth Games has been relaid and opened for community use at the Grangemouth Stadium in the East End of Glasgow.

Grangemouth's bid for the track at Hampden Park – and the auxiliary track at Lesser Hampden Park – was supported by Falkirk Council, which provided more than

£500,000 for the project. As part of the overall bid, Grangemouth also managed to secure £50,000 worth of weights equipment and a further £90,000 worth of athletics equipment.

Jamie Hepburn, minister designate for sport and health improvement, said: "The opening of this fantastic track is a demonstration of the continuing legacy of the Commonwealth Games that will help build a more active and healthier Scotland. It's great that young people can now train and compete on the very same track where Eilidh Child, Usain Bolt and many others won medals." Reusing the track is part of the Glasgow 2014 legacy plan, which



The track was used during the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games

looks to distribute sports equipment and infrastructure used at the Games to clubs and local authorities across the country.

So far, sportscotland has invested £600,000 to ensure all 32 local authorities in Scotland and sports clubs benefit from Games equipment. Scottish sport governing bodies will receive more than £200,000 of equipment, with another £200,000 going to the clubs and facilities. Separately, £200,000 of weightlifting and powerlifting equipment will go to the sportscotland Institute of Sport to upgrade and replace existing items.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=R7A7R>*

### Matrix triumphs in battle for £25m Gym Group contract

Matrix Fitness has beaten off fierce competition from rivals to retain its supplier agreement with The Gym Group in a new deal worth £25m over the next three years.

Having provided fitness kit to The Gym Group since 2008, Matrix was one of five leading suppliers to receive a request-for-proposal (RFP) as the growing gym chain sought to evaluate its equipment contract.

Life Fitness, Technogym, Precor, Cybex were also invited to tender for the supply of over 200 pieces of new equipment to the 51 existing gyms, the four new openings due before the end of 2014 and the pipeline of new openings, as well as refurbishments. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Z7R5D>*



KSL already owns the Belfry golf complex

### KSL Capital Partners buys Village Urban Resorts

US private equity firm KSL Capital Partners has acquired the UK-based Village Urban Resorts from De Vere Group for a figure reported to be around £480m.

The 25-strong Village Urban chain features a mid-market Velocity Health and Fitness Club in each of its locations. Velocity clubs feature extensive fitness facilities, a pool, spa, MyZone heart rate tracking technology and free group exercise classes.

KSL has committed to growing the Village Urban business by both reinvigorating the existing portfolio and expanding into new markets. Three new locations are scheduled to open shortly in Aberdeen, Glasgow and Edinburgh, with each set to feature a Velocity health club.

Gary Davis, former CEO of Malmaison and Hotel du Vin – which KSL also owns along with the Belfry golf complex – will head up Village Urban as part of the new deal. *Leisure Opportunities* understands that Village Urban Resorts employees have been asked to refrain from commenting on the deal at this early stage. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=v3N3C>*

## Les Mills: No workout, no meeting

Les Mills UK is calling on people in the health and fitness industry to put their pulse where their mouth is and commit to taking part in a workout if they're having a meeting at the company's London headquarters.

CEO Keith Burnet believes that it's time for the industry to lead by example as it bids to turn the tide on inactivity. As such, all guests attending the Aldgate office for a meeting with members of the team will be asked to participate in a Les Mills class before or after the meeting.

"It still stuns me that so many people who work in the health and fitness don't exercise or have a go at the classes and programmes their members enjoy day in, day out," said Burnet. "So in a bid to inspire and motivate people to experience the power of group exercise, anyone who has a meeting here in our offices in Aldgate, London will be asked participate in a Les Mills class."

"We have a range of classes for beginners to hardened fitness fans so there's something for



CEO Keith Burnet wants Les Mills UK guests to work up a sweat

everyone; and coupled with a fantastic studio in our office, there's really no excuse."

For people who really can't commit on the day, there will be a 48 hour 'gentleman's agreement' to participate in a Les Mills class. And anyone who can't do this will be encouraged to make a £10 donation to the Les Mills Fund for Children, a charitable trust set up earlier this year to support children's charities.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=9t9A8>*

## David Lloyd turns to tech for gym upgrades

David Lloyd Leisure (DLL) has launched a gym transformation programme, which will see innovative design, technology and 'best-in-class' equipment installed at a number of clubs in its 91-strong network.

The TDR Capital-owned gym chain has incorporated the concept at its flagship Chigwell club, which recently received a £3.4m facilities upgrade. The revamped gym is piloting tablets and iMacs for members to access tailor-made exercise programmes, helping them keep on track with their fitness goals either in club, at home or on the go. Other features include touch-screens demonstrating instructional exercise videos to boost workout efficiency.

Chigwell gym also boasts a remodelled layout, designed to activate members' senses and featuring designated exercise zones covering functional training; sports performance; strength; cardio; stretch and a community zone.

The range of equipment in the gym is devised based on scientific evaluation of member demand for certain products and actual usage of equipment during peak and non-peak periods. Life Fitness is the lead supplier for the gym as part of its four-year supply contract



The flagship Chigwell club had a £3.4m facilities upgrade

with DLL worth £12m. The new suite of machines also includes kit from Precor, Octane, eSpinner Max Rack, Power Plate, SYNRGY360, Star Trac, Trixter and WaterRower.

The ongoing gym innovation project so far encompasses 13 gym sites – at an investment of £6m – and will continue across the group's portfolio of 81 UK clubs and 10 in Europe. In addition, DLL is ploughing £50 million into its estate to upgrade clubs and general facilities."

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=A4g4y>*



## NHS: Lose weight before surgery

NHS patients in Devon are to be required to undergo weight management courses before they are eligible to receive routine surgical procedures.

The Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group (NEW Devon CCG) announced the measures as it battles an annual budget deficit of £14.5m. Patients with a body mass index (BMI) of more than 35 (classed as morbidly obese) will be required to bring their BMI below this threshold or lose five per cent of their weight before planned surgery, whichever is the lesser weight loss.

The move will apply to routine surgical procedures, however, surgery that is deemed urgent or immediately necessary, such as to treat cancer, will not be delayed.

Patients will also be required to stop smoking eight weeks prior to surgery and all surgery candidates will be offered weight management or quit smoking support.

Dr Tim Burke, chair of NEW Devon CCG said: "(These) measures encourage patients to



The move throws up clear opportunities for leisure providers

take steps themselves to reduce their risks from surgery and to improve their outcomes, such as losing weight and stopping smoking.

"If they are able to do this it will also have long term health benefits for them."

The move, which the CCG described as 'urgent and necessary,' throws up clear opportunities for leisure providers to assist with exercise programmes and advice as part of the weight management schemes.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=z6r5Z>*

## Shock stats show obesity costs as much as smoking

The worldwide cost of obesity is about the same as smoking or the war on terror and more than both alcoholism and climate change, according to new research.

The McKinsey Global Institute has calculated that, in the UK, the cost of obesity is £47bn, when taking into account health care costs and working days lost.

The researchers found that if the right measures were taken, there could be long term savings of up to £760m a year for the UK's National Health Service. Otherwise almost half of world's population will be overweight or obese by 2030 – this currently stands at 30 per cent.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=8R5S9>*



Sandra Dodd has spent 20 years at the company

## Dodd to replace Philpott at Places for People Leisure

Places for People Leisure Management (PPLM) CEO Steve Philpott is to retire next year after 11 years at the helm, with finance director Sandra Dodd to take up the reins.

Philpott has led the company, which changed to its current name from DC Leisure earlier this year, through substantial growth during his time in charge. PPLM – which won Leisure Centre Operator of the Year at the 2014 Flame Awards – currently partners with 36 local authorities, managing 112 leisure centres across England and employing over 7,000 staff.

Philpott is thought to be stepping down to spend more time with his family and was thanked by the board for his dedication and "excellent leadership of the business."

Places for People Group CEO David Cowans said: "Following a competitive recruitment process we are delighted to have appointed Sandra Dodd who has an impressive track record and in depth knowledge of the business." Dodd has 20 years' experience in the company including 12 years as finance director.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k4a4Y>*

## Virgin Active sparks fresh IPO rumours

Speculation is once again rife of a high-profile IPO for Virgin Active, although this time the business is said to be eyeing a float in South Africa.

Virgin Active chair Richard Baker – who recently became chair of Costa coffee chain owner Whitbread – has been replaced by South African retail veteran Simon Susman, prompting several reports suggesting the firm is eyeing a Johannesburg stock exchange listing next year.

The gym chain, part-owned by Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Group and private equity firm CVC – which

also has a stake in attractions giant Merlin Entertainments – has around 260 health clubs worldwide, of which 112 are in South Africa. These clubs are reported to generate around 60 per cent of the company's earnings.

This is the latest in a long line of reports that Virgin Active will go public. The most recent flurry came in May, when it was reported the



New Virgin Active chair Simon Susman has significant retail experience

firm was lining up an IPO or sale in the UK, although sources at the time suggested a secondary listing could take place in South Africa.

Incoming chair Susman was quoted in *The Telegraph*: "I am looking forward to joining the board as the company continues its growth, both in its existing territories and in new markets." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P3N2e>*

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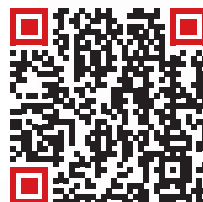
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# MATRIX





## Over-reliance on youth could lead to future headaches



**PETER DUCKER**

is chief executive of the Institute of Hospitality

Our sector employs a much younger workforce than the average – with 33 per cent of employees under 25 compared to 12 per cent for the UK economy as a whole. This number jumps to 66 per cent for waiting staff and 60 per cent for bar staff.

Demographic changes to UK society mean that there will be a significant decline in the number of younger workers. By 2021 the 15-24 age group will have fallen by 16 per cent. There will be a decline in the number of workers aged 35-44 too – the main ‘management’ cohort – and there will be a large increase (25 per cent) in the number of 50 to 60+ year olds, both as potential customers and employees.

Recently, the need to employ a higher proportion of older workers has been difficult to get across because so much emphasis has been on tackling youth unemployment. Now that youth unemployment has fallen to its lowest level in six years, arguably the case for age diversity is back on the agenda.

Some evidence suggests age diversity can result in higher profit margins. McDonalds’ found that its restaurants with the broadest age profile were the most profitable.

There are a number of ‘natural’ barriers which are often cited to employing a better mix of age groups. The need to keep wage costs down is one. Historically, ours is a minimum wage industry and so its business model is skewed towards younger workers as employing older workers is more expensive.

Secondly, the long hours and often physically demanding nature of many hospitality and leisure roles make them unsuitable for older employees.

Thirdly, the UK is not culturally very good at communicating across generations. Heads of department may feel uncomfortable interviewing or managing someone older and with more experience than them.

It is easy to see some truth in all of the above, but the demographic changes now underway mean managers should be looking to overcome and challenge these assumptions. As our population gets gradually older, the hope must be that ageism, in all its forms, becomes more unacceptable.

## HOTELS

### Harry Potter-themed hotel aims to enchant

Harry Potter fans retracing the steps of the boy wizard can now retire to their Hogwarts-inspired wizarding chambers at the Georgian House – an independent hotel situated in central London’s Victoria.

The four star boutique property – which has been run by the same family for 163 years – is the first London hotel to cash in on its proximity to the Leavesden Warner Bros Studios Tour, home of the Harry Potter film set.

It is offering guests the chance to sleep in gothic-style four poster beds surrounded by spell books, potions bottles and even a portrait of the Mona Lisa complete with wand. “I had heard about the popularity of the Harry Potter Studio Tour,” said hotel partner and manager, Serena von der Heyde, “but the fact the bus left from Victoria station, only a few minutes walk from the hotel, meant we were the perfect location for attracting tourists who had come to see the studio.” Flickering candles and the Harry Potter theme tune guide



The hotel offers a complete experience for Harry Potter fans

guests to the rooms through a portrait-hung passageway reminiscent of the dormitories at Hogwarts. The architectural features of each room have been offset with additions such as gothic arches, faux stone walls and stained glass windows. The hotel promotes a package which includes London’s Muggle Tours – a walking tour which takes in film locations and places that inspired JK Rowling, and a visit to Warner Bros Studios. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=7x2R5>

## Wyndham to expand Ramada UK

Hospitality giant Wyndham Hotel Group (WHG) has signed a development agreement with operator Lester Hotels Group, which will see 20 new Ramada hotels launched across the UK over the next ten years.

The rollout will begin in earnest with the first two hotels – Ramada Resort Cwrt Bleddyn and Ramada Leicester Stage – expected to begin welcoming guests from the beginning of 2015. These launches will take the number of Ramada properties open across the country to 40.

All of the properties to be rolled out will be managed by Lester Hotels, which has become a preferred management partner for Wyndham Hotel Group in the country.

“We look forward to working with Lester Hotels to aggressively accelerate the growth of the iconic Ramada brand in the UK,” said Nima Davoodzadeh, VP of development, UK and Europe for WHG. “Ramada offers guests a welcoming environment for work or rest, as well as significant development potential for



The Ramada Resort Cwrt Bleddyn in Wales launches in early 2015

owners looking for a renowned brand and an extensive global distribution system.”

Nestled in the picturesque Monmouthshire countryside, the 45-bedroom Ramada Resort Cwrt Bleddyn, in Usk, Wales, offers complementary Wi-Fi, a fitness centre, indoor pool, luxury spa and treatment rooms as well as function rooms. Ramada Leicester Stage offers 79 bedrooms, five meeting rooms, indoor pool, sauna and a fitness centre. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=e6D5N>



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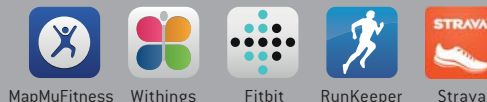
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## Buxton Crescent Spa lands £11.3m

The Heritage Lottery Fund has pledged a further £11.3m towards the scheme to redevelop Buxton Crescent and Thermal Spa, in addition to the £12.5m that it previously awarded the project in 2006.

The project to repair and restore the Grade I-listed building into a five-star thermal spa and 79-bedroom hotel is jointly owned by Derbyshire County Council and High Peak Borough Council. It is expected to open at some point in 2016, according to the *Buxton Advertiser*. The extra funding is anticipated



The Crescent was originally built by the fifth Duke of Devonshire

to secure the long-term future of the flagship £46m development, which has previously undergone a number of delays due to legal difficulties and funding problems.

Before work can begin on the project early in 2015, developers must secure the final sum of £2m from the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership – a regional growth fund.

The spa will include thermal and wet treatment areas such as a sauna, saunarium, infrared sauna, ice room, aroma room,

steamroom and salt grotto. The two basement pools – one for each sex – will be refurbished.

Carbon dioxide and peat-infused baths will also be on offer, in addition to hydro massage and a hydrotherapy bath for couples. Dalesauna, supplier of thermal and wet experience zones, is operating as specialist consultants for the spa. Danubius Hotels will operate the new spa, bringing medical expertise and traditional therapies to guests.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C5G2g>*

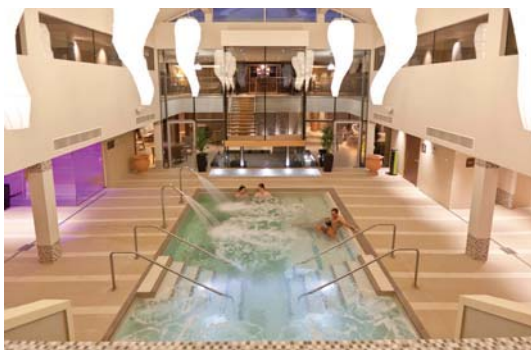
## The spa at Ribby Hall set for expansion

The wellness facilities in the Spa Hotel at Ribby Hall Village in Lancashire, are set to undergo expansion – with plans afoot for a brand new wellness centre.

Planning permission was granted by Fylde Borough Council for the £500,000 revamp, to include improved spa and relaxation areas plus a new range of wellness therapies. The spa hotel, which initially opened in 2011, originally cost £6m – but the reinvestment is expected to transform the existing offering.

The existing spa features a thermal zone with an aroma room, aroma steamroom, saunarium, balinese salt inhalation room, herbal sauna and pedidarium – foot spa. There is also an outdoor rustic sauna, tepidarium, ice fountain, plunge bucket, rope shower and monsoon experience showers, in addition to a hydrotherapy pool and outdoor whirlpool. The facility also has a Rasul mud chamber.

The treatments are by British skincare brand Elemis, and other brands at the spa include NEOM, OPI, LDN Skins, Mii and Lets Go Lashes. The hotel, staffed by 105 employees,



The hotel will remain open throughout the renovation

will remain open throughout the renovation. “This year, we’re expecting visitor numbers to the spa alone to reach 60,000,” commented Carole Pilling, senior accommodation manager for Spa Hotel at Ribby Hall.

Currently enjoying occupancy rates of 86 per cent, the hotel will see other additions to its offerings including a gourmet restaurant called The Orangery – which will be open to diners, day visitors and also overnight guests. It will be able to seat up to 60 diners and will have views across the property’s landscaped grounds.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=R6R4G>*

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## Budget cuts forcing UK museums to sell exhibits

A new survey from the Museums Association has shown that around one in every 10 UK museums are being forced to consider selling off parts of their collections to balance the books due to funding cuts.

The annual *Cuts Survey* revealed that because of dwindling budgets, more than a third of museums have seen a decrease in school visits, while a quarter of museums reported reducing the number of free events and temporary exhibitions. In some cases, hard-pressed museums have had to close their doors to the public altogether.

The survey also discovered that 52 per cent of museums experienced a drop in income over the last year – the highest rate since 2011 – with public sector museums the worst hit. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=b6r7h>



VR headsets are becoming popular in attractions

## Virtual reality has significant effect on brain function: study

Neurophysicists have discovered that the space-mapping neurons in the brain react differently when exposed to virtual reality (VR), with a recent study on rats showing that VR makes a significant impact on the brain, though it is not yet known what effects this will have in future.

Published in the journal *Nature Neuroscience*, scientists studied the hippocampus – a region of the brain linked with diseases such as Alzheimer's, stroke, depression, schizophrenia, epilepsy and post-traumatic stress disorder – and discovered that the same scene presented in both virtual reality and real life, produced completely different sets of neurological data.

For the study, researchers placed a small harness around rats and put them on a treadmill surrounded by a "virtual world" on large video screens – a virtual environment they described as "even more immersive than IMAX". The rats were then introduced to a real room designed to look exactly like the virtual reality room with data for both circumstances measured. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n5X9g>

## SNP urges U-turn on £30m project

The Scottish National Party (SNP) is urging Aberdeen City Council leaders to abandon a £30m renovation project to completely revamp Aberdeen Art Gallery amid claims of spiralling costs and widespread public objection.

The SNP tabled a motion to be considered at a council meeting in December, calling for the tender process for the renovation to be "halted immediately."

The refurbishment scheme already has the majority of funding in place and has gained planning permission, though some parties have described the gallery's design as "cultural vandalism", while many have been unhappy with the planned removal of the facility's marble staircase.

SNP councillor John Corall has suggested that costs have soared for the project, particularly storage of the gallery's collection, which is said to total around double the £3m estimate. Corall also said the gallery needed work to make it "wind and watertight," adding: "I've



The gallery renovation is expected to take around two years to complete

not met a single Aberdonian with a good word to say about the art gallery redevelopment."

Work on the £30m refurbishment of the 130-year-old building is due to start in Q1 of 2015, with a £10m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), while the council has committed a further £10m. The approved plans include construction of a new rooftop gallery and extension of the gallery's iconic war memorial, as well as stripping the interiors. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=J6Q8a>

## Concorde site lands slice of £21m HLF purse

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has green-lighted more than £21m in funding for a variety of heritage projects across the UK, including the renovation of a World War One social club, construction of Scotland's first building conservation centre and the creation of an aerospace centre. Among the projects that have received HLF funding, some of the most notable include:

- Bristol Aerospace Centre gained the largest slice of the funding pie, with the HLF donating £4.7m to create an Aerospace Centre at Filton airfield, one of the birthplaces of the British aviation industry. It will create a permanent home where people can access Concorde 216, the last British Concorde assembled at the Filton site which led the design, testing and production of the airliner.
- Weald and Downland Museum near Chichester also received significant HLF funding, gaining £4m for its Gateway Project,



£4.7m was given to create Bristol Aerospace Centre – home of the Concorde

which aims to transform the way in which visitors experience the open air museum from the moment that they enter the site.

The new "gateway" will be built around the museum's millpond, providing new orientation and interpretation galleries alongside ticketing, retail and catering facilities, as well as the construction of an annexe for use as a classroom and venue for community events and functions. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w4k7Y>



# Autumn Statement: No VAT cut

George Osborne's last Autumn Statement before the 2015 General Election brought good news for small businesses and the aviation industry, but calls for a VAT reduction for the tourism industry fell on deaf ears.

The Cut Tourism VAT campaign – which wants to see VAT cut from 20 per cent to five per cent for tourism businesses to place the UK on a level playing field against rival European destinations – last week urged Osborne to embrace a move it says would create more than 100,000 jobs in regions outside of London.

A spokesperson for the VAT campaign told *Leisure Opportunities* that Osborne's refusal to budge was "disappointing" and amounted to a "missed opportunity" to boost inbound tourism and create jobs in regions outside of London. Merlin Entertainments chair Nick Varney has been announced as chair of the British Hospitality Association (BHA) from next month and has outlined gaining traction on the VAT issue ahead of the May General Election as one of his key priorities.



Chancellor George Osborne ignored tourism VAT cut pleas

Another campaign member – B&B Association CEO David Weston – said: "Despite considerable support from MPs for a tourism VAT cut, the chancellor has refused to introduce a policy that would allow B&B owners to expand, hire and invest, bringing immense benefits to their local communities."

Elsewhere, there was some cheer for tour operators as Osborne gave further ground on Air Passenger Duty (APD), announcing that it would be scrapped for children aged under 12 from May 2015. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Q6U6k>*

## Tourism contest for VIP London experience

London tourism chiefs have created a two-week long lifestyle package fit for any A-list celebrity as part of a prize which will be offered to the city's most enthusiastic visitor.

Following hot on the furry heels of its Paddington Bear tourism campaign, VisitLondon has teamed up with VisitBritain for a competition to find London's Guest of Honour.

The winner, and their plus one, will get to raise Tower Bridge; fire the guns from HMS Belfast; be a keeper for the day at ZSL London Zoo; have tea at Lord's cricket ground with Downton Abbey's butler; tour the Science Museum with Professor Stephen Hawking; ace Wimbledon with Tim Henman; and see behind the scenes at the Royal Opera House with Plácido Domingo and Darcey Bussell as guides. These, among other unique experiences, will happen over two weeks in February 2015.

"We're looking for someone to discover the city as never before," said a spokesperson from VisitLondon. "They will get to meet



VisitLondon is looking for the city's most enthusiastic tourist

our most famous residents, enjoy behind the scenes access to iconic locations and experience a series of amazing magic moments."

The guest of honour will be required to report on their experiences in a fly-on-the-wall style documentary which will then be used to promote London worldwide through the GREAT Britain campaign.

*Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n6q4R>*

## Is the recovery bad news for tourism?



**KURT JANSON**

is policy director of the Tourism Alliance

The latest domestic tourism figures have been released by VisitEngland and span from the start of the year to the end of August. As they cover the main summer period, they give a strong indication of the final 2014 results. And the news is not good.

The year to date figures show that UK residents took 5.3m fewer overnight trips to the end of August compared to the same period in 2013 – which, it should be remembered, was down 3 per cent on 2012. So it would be fair to say that over the last two years, the number of domestic trips will be down by 7 per cent and that expenditure will be down by about the same amount.

This means that the domestic tourism industry will generate about £1.4bn less in 2014 than it did in 2012, meaning that it is able to sustain around 26,000 fewer jobs.

This is in considerable contrast to the period from 2010 to 2013 when the domestic tourism industry was booming as a result of the "staycation" effect. So the question is, with the economy recovering, why is domestic tourism on the wane?

The answer to this is two-fold. On the one hand, people who can least afford to take a holiday have not seen their wages increase and are therefore spending less and less on holidays. Separately, those with more discretionary expenditure are finding that with the recovery, the value of the pound is increasing again and that this makes holidays overseas more affordable than they were a couple of years ago. This is clear from the data which shows that UK residents took 1.4m more overseas trips so far this year than they did in 2013.

With Europe heading back into recession, and the value of the euro decreasing as a result, the prospects for the domestic tourism industry during 2015 look bleak. The competitive disadvantages businesses face, such as paying full-rate VAT on accommodation and attractions compared to other European destinations will re-emerge and encourage those that can afford to take holidays to go for the cheaper option on the continent. Something the abolition of Air Passenger Duty for children (see story top left) will exacerbate.



Caruso St. John masterplanned the project

## Liverpool Philharmonic Hall reopens after refurbishment

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, welcomed back members of the public on 13 November following the completion of part of its £13.8m refurbishment.

An ongoing project to completely refurbish the interior of the 1939 concert hall is being headed up by architects Caruso St. John, which has previously worked on sites including the Tate Britain and the Barbican.

Originally designed by Herbert Rowse, the project at the Grade II-listed hall is split across two phases, both of which will hopefully be complete by Q3 of 2015.

Phase one is focused on the main hall, including work on the auditorium, all front of house spaces and backstage dressing rooms. Phase two will see construction of a new space – a smaller performance venue. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P2u8a>

## Exeter bidding to become major retail and leisure hub

Crown Estate and TH Real Estate are set to invest £70m in Exeter city centre, adding a leisure extension to their jointly-owned existing Princesshay retail development.

Princesshay Leisure will redevelop the bus and coach station, creating 180,000sq ft of new leisure space including a new cinema, restaurants and cafes. The site will be adjacent to a proposed council-led swimming pool and sports facility.

The £20m leisure facility will boast a 25m, eight lane competition pool with seating for 250 spectators, a 20m four-lane training pool and a small leisure pool. The pool will have a moveable floor to be fully accessible.

Also included in the plan is a fitness suite, three studios, sauna, steam and relaxation area, a climbing wall, soft play, a creche, seminar rooms, and coffee bar.

Exeter city council is currently looking into pools and leisure facilities around Europe to get ideas for the most cost effective, environmentally-friendly pool.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g4T3v>

## London's Garden Bridge gets approval

Thomas Heatherwick and Joanna Lumley's controversial Garden Bridge over the Thames has won planning permission from Westminster Council.

Planning permission for the £175m bridge was granted in early December at Westminster City Hall in a meeting attended by more than 120 people.

The Garden Bridge plan will connect the South Bank and Temple areas of London. Westminster Council is the second body to grant planning permission for the build, after Lambeth Council did so on 11 November.

Funding for the bridge will come from several sources. Transport for London (TfL) has agreed to pay £30m, which will be matched by the Treasury and the rest will met by private donors. The Garden Bridge Trust has reportedly raised £120m towards the costs.

Westminster Council has also suggested TfL act as a guarantor for the yearly running costs of the bridge – expected to total £3.4m.

Controversy has surrounded the Garden Bridge, with concerns repeatedly raised about the bridge's impact on sight lines of St Paul's Cathedral and Monument. Despite this,



Thomas Heatherwick's controversial Garden Bridge proposal

Westminster Council granted permission, with a spokesperson saying the bridge was given planning based on the "significant public benefits, iconic design, increased connectivity and creation of a large open space in London."

City Hall still has to ratify the proposal in January 2015 as the project is a major infrastructure development. Mayor Boris Johnson will have the final say on the bridge, which if approved, would break ground at the end of 2015 for an opening in 2018.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n5x4W>

## Iconic TV studios to become event hotel

Allied London has revealed plans to redevelop Manchester's Granada Studios, the former home of *Coronation Street*, into an event hotel.

Studios, rehearsal and production rooms – including the studio where The Beatles played their first ever live TV performance – will be brought to life with a programme of live entertainment, for which guests will be able to buy packages.

Development of The Manchester Grande is expected

to begin in 2016, following a formal planning process. The hotel will incorporate four restaurants and a number of different bars. It will form a key part of the development of the St Johns neighbourhood.

Inspired by hotels in New York, Miami and the Far East, the focus will be on music, film, theatre and arts and club events.

Michael Ingall, CEO of Allied London, said: "We're creating a new neighbourhood in the heart of Manchester. A place that distinguishes itself by its unique cultural history, diverse mix of inhabitants, rich context and its position at the crossroads of Manchester's network."



The famous Quay Street studios hosted many historic events

Levitt Bernstein Associates has been appointed as architects. The firm has collaborated with Allied London on a number of projects including nearby No 1. Hardman Street.

Gary Tidmarsh, chair at Levitt Bernstein, added: "The creation of St Johns, with the exciting concept for the Manchester Grande at its heart, will preserve the studios as a key part of Manchester's heritage and cultural destination." A rooftop lounge bar is being created on the ninth story, which will look like a glowing box on the Manchester skyline and replace the iconic Granada sign.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=K9G4p>



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## Pugneys Country Park, Wakefield

### Opportunities for licences/leases for leisure activities

Wakefield Council is seeking applications from businesses/organisations that would be interested in a short term lease/licence to provide activities suitable for a country park during the summer period commencing in April.  
Pugneys Country Park, Denby Dale Road, Wakefield, WF2 7EQ

Pugneys Country Park is located south of Wakefield city centre, close to Junction 39 of the M1. It is a 250 acre site which comprises two lakes one for water sports and the second a nature reserve, both surrounded by green space. Current activities/facilities on the site include; non-powered water sports, fishing, fitness trail, miniature railway, ice-cream vendor and coming soon a lake beach, bike hire, picnic tables and bbq stations. A indoor watersports center on site also incorporates toilets, changing facilities, conference rooms and a café, and is adjacent to the car park which has spaces for between 250-500 cars (depending on whether the overflow car park is used).

It is estimated that currently 750,000 people visit the park each year, but it is hoped to increase this substantially through new activities being delivered.

#### Here's a snapshot of the new activities we hope to have at Pugneys in 2015:

- Child/Family fun activities, such as trampolining, juvenile rides, inflatables, donkey rides, temporary mazes, pedal-carts that don't require tracks.
- Sporting activities, such as a mobile climbing wall, fitness or activity camps, rowing, zorbs, temporary assault course.
- Countryside activities, such as archery; trails (nature; geocache, podcast); forest school type activities like bushcraft or identification activities, temporary camping.
- Bespoke activities, such as outdoor cinema, theatre performance.
- One off activities, such as events, regattas; bi/tri-athalons; running events; Dragon Boat racing, Kite flying festivals, craft fairs, country-side festivals, food festivals.
- Food related licences, will be considered at Zone 1 and Zone 7 only. Ice cream sales will not be considered.

If your business can help us transform Pugneys into a unique, desirable tourist attraction for the people that live, work and visit the Wakefield district then we'd love to hear from you.

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NO LATER THAN MONDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2015.**

Visit [www.wakefield.gov.uk/property](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk/property) to find out more or request an application form from [sal@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:sal@wakefield.gov.uk)

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**Property Project Manager**

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## Young personal trainers 'lacking soft skills'

Physical activity employers are concerned by the lack of soft skills possessed by young personal trainers (PT) and believe these qualities require greater prominence within industry qualifications.

That was one of the key findings from a new survey commissioned by Premier Training International (PTI) as the provider bids to highlight key areas of improvement for PT training, tuition and qualifications.

Employers said they find the quality of graduates emerging from training providers varies greatly, with only half of those surveyed happy with the standard of PTs they recruit. Firms generally perceive younger PT graduates to be lacking in both interpersonal (soft) skills and business aptitude.

Employers added that they find that more mature graduates (aged 30 and upwards) bring better life skills into their role and generally perform better. As well as older graduates, employers also said that more females and generally greater diversity amongst the PT graduate population "would be welcomed."

"Employers have universally requested the need for more interpersonal and business skills amongst the PT community and this is



Debra Stuart, CEO of Premier Training International

something we're actively looking to address," Debra Stuart, CEO of PTI. "It's also clear from the survey that the industry needs to move away from a 'one size fits all' approach. People of different age groups and life circumstances have different training needs – very often, people with wider life experiences can bring incredible strengths to their role as a PT."

The UK survey, conducted between August and September 2014, interviewed over 450 individuals. These included employers, qualified PTs and students currently studying for PT qualifications. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=b2E8Q>*

## CIMSPA-backed skills courses to start

Leisure-net Solutions will soon kick off its physical activity management training scheme, having become – along with Right Directions – the first accredited CIMSPA Skills Development Partners for Endorsed Training.

CIMSPA is working with partners such as Leisure-net and Right Directions to foster a culture of development in the management of sport and the physical activity sector. A wide range of endorsed training courses will be developed as part of the effort to ensure the skills of professionals are kept up to date in a changing industry.

Customer insight solutions provider Leisure-net will deliver training based on the professional development framework that CIMSPA has devised, starting with a Managing the Customer Experience course. The first course takes place on 14 January 2015 at Braunstone Leisure Centre in Leicester.



Leisure-net directors Mike Hill (left) and David Monkhouse

Interim CIMSPA COO Tara Dillon said: "We're delighted to announce Leisure-net and Right Directions as the first Skills Development Partners for Endorsed Training. These forward-thinking organisations have supported the new vision for CIMSPA and the training they offer will play a key role in developing sector professionals." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=f6y6h>*



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# PROPERTY PROJECT MANAGER

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To support its growth strategy, the Gym Group is seeking to appoint a Project Manager to take ownership of the management and delivery of a programme of building fitting out and improvement across The Gym Group estate

The Gym Group has over 750,000 sq ft of Gym space across 55 locations, serving 300,000+ members and 14 million users a year. There are plans to open between 15 - 20 sites per year over the next few years, and over £50m of funding secured to aid the continued growth of this ambitious and exciting company.

The 13th fastest growing company in the Sunday Times Fast Track 100 and a top 15 Sunday Times Best Companies to Work For – the Gym Group increased revenues from £1 million in 2009 to £36 million last year: a result of opening 39 Gyms in the same period, delivering high quality facilities and a model that is fit for purpose for today's economic climate.

Likely to be home-based or at a Gym local to home, this new role has been created to ensure high levels of service continue to be delivered to the operations of the business as the estate continues to grow and mature.

## THE ROLE

- Ensure The Gym's property portfolio is developed, refurbished and improved to meet the needs of the business.
- To project manage a diverse range of property based projects including fitting out of new developments, general refurbishment, extensions, structural works and capital maintenance works.
- Programme works including managing external professional teams and consultants, building works, building services, security, IT and equipment installations and signage
- Complete detailed surveys and schedule of works and produce cost plans for evaluation

- Responsible for the financial controls of projects, ensuring proper scrutiny of appointments and contracts and for delivering value for money.
- Manage external resource providers and ensure best practices are in place and the highest professional standards are maintained.
- Responsible for ensuring that all projects comply with all relevant statutory requirements, including health and safety.
- Ensure all works are completed on time, to budget and meet the required standards and that all stakeholders are appropriately engaged and communicated with.

## THE CANDIDATE

- Significant experience of property project management within a similar multi-site, multi-project environment.
- Very likely to have operational experience in a property development environment.
- Experienced in managing outsourced professional teams across a multi-site estate.
- Experienced in developing and managing budgets with strong financial, contract management and purchasing skills.
- Able to demonstrate a strong understanding and knowledge of industry trends and direction with an excellent knowledge of property management, building maintenance, leases and construction terms and practices.
- Able to demonstrate a highly collaborative work style with excellent customer service and people skills.
- Highly effective communication skills, especially in written format and oral presentations as well as proficiency in the use of common business and project management software.
- Proven record of effecting strategic change and of implementing change initiatives
- Relevant degree or equivalent and membership of associated professional organisation.

For a confidential discussion and to find out more about this exciting opportunity, please call our retained advisor Michael Emmerson on 07796 066158 or please apply in confidence by submitting your CV and a covering letter via our recruitment website:  
[www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/GymGroup/PjMan](http://www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/GymGroup/PjMan)







**HURLSTON HALL**

## Leisure Club Duty Manager (full time)

Previous experience of the fitness industry and fitness qualifications are essential for this role  
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Please send your cv to: [ian.sheppard@hurlstonhall.co.uk](mailto:ian.sheppard@hurlstonhall.co.uk)



## Leisure Club Manager - Chester, £25k+ Benefits

**Spa Manager - West Midlands, £20k+ Bonus**  
**Spa Therapists - TEMP Positions, Berkshire - £8-£10ph**  
**Beauty Manager - Staffordshire, £18k**  
**Spa Therapist - London, £20K + Bonus**  
**Spa Attendant - London, £16,500.00 + benefits**

Please contact Erika Visentin Bonomo  
Senior Consultant at Renard Resources  
Email: [Erika@renardresources.com](mailto:Erika@renardresources.com) Tel: Tel: 020 7240 5900



## SPORTS CENTRE SUPERVISORS

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**1 x Wednesday, Thursday (11 hours per week), plus Friday term time only (3.5 hours per week) Job no.002**  
**1 x Saturday & Sunday 8:30am-5:30pm (18 hours per week) Job no.003**

We require experienced, professional, customer focused Sports Centre Supervisors to join our busy team. You will be responsible for the out-of-school hours operation of the Sports Centre open all year round. Duties will include, liaising with customers, delivering Sports activities for children, dealing with enquiries, setting up sports equipment, cash handling and general cleaning tasks. A NGB Level 1 or 2 in Sports Coaching is desirable and a keen interest in Sports and Leisure industry essential.

For a job description and application form, please visit our website [www.staubyns.com](http://www.staubyns.com) (CV's alone not accepted).  
Please quote Job no.

**Closing Date: Friday 2nd January 2014**

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**Your responsibilities include:**

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- Create and drive Instructor Recruitment initiatives, tactically plan monthly recruitment campaigns, work with the Customer Experience and Marketing teams to drive events, roadshows etc. to improve instructor engagement and increase potential for instructor recruitment.
- Promote the current partnerships with Lifetime and Premier Training for level 2 qualifications, and Fit for Sport for level 2 Children's qualification along with other child relevant qualifications
- Manage occupancy of training courses generate new partnerships to promote and support instructor recruitment

Les Mills believes the people working in this business are the most inspiring group on the planet. We are looking for a sales warrior to help grow the tribe with a passion for instructors along with an in-depth understanding of the fitness industry. We love innovative thinking, commerciality and flexibility and you'll be really successful here if you are self-motivated, proactive and get the job done!

Please send your CV and cover letter to [lmuk.jointhetribe@lesmills.com](mailto:lmuk.jointhetribe@lesmills.com)



## FACILITY & HOSPITALITY MANAGER

Applications are invited for the position of Facility & Hospitality Manager at this prestigious Hertfordshire Sports Club.

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In addition you must possess the ability and experience to improve financial performance by taking a strong approach to enhancing business levels, profitability and cost control.

This position provides an excellent opportunity to manage a busy well-established quality facility within an excellent environment.

A salary package in the region of £40k plus negotiable benefits per annum is expected to attract the successful applicant who must be able to demonstrate a proven track record in Club and Hospitality Management.

Applications which must include a current CV and a copy of a full driving license should be marked 'Private & Confidential Addressee Only' and sent to Mr. M. Fisher 32 Beech Way Wheathampstead, St Albans, Herts AL4 8LY  
or Email to [mikefisher@hotmail.com](mailto:mikefisher@hotmail.com)

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### Property Project Manager

Company: The Gym Group  
Location: Nationwide, UK

### Membership Sales Consultant and Duty Manager

Company: Énergie Group  
Location: London - Fulham, UK

### Personal Trainers

Company: The Gym Group  
Location: Various locations, UK

### Fitness Motivator

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Ealing, London, UK

### Lifeguard (Recreation Assistant)

Company: GLL  
Location: Various locations, UK

### Swimming instructor

Company: Énergie Group  
Location: Wilmslow, UK

### Personal Trainer

Company: énergie group  
Location: Various locations, UK

### Property Administrator

Company: The Gym Group  
Location: Guildford, UK

### Casual Sports Coach / Instructor - Trampoline

Company: London Borough of Richmond upon Thames  
Location: Teddington/Hampton, UK

### Casual Leisure Assistants

Company: London Borough of Richmond upon Thames  
Location: London, UK

### Senior Recreation Assistant

Company: GLL  
Location: Hackney, UK

### Casual Duty Managers (Sport and Fitness Centres)

Company: London Borough of Richmond upon Thames  
Location: London, UK

### Recreation Assistant

Company: Achieve Lifestyle  
Location: Surrey, UK

### Gym Instructor

Company: Achieve Lifestyle  
Location: Surrey, UK

### Tours Manager

Company: Marylebone Cricket Club  
Location: St John's Wood, London, UK

### Personal Trainer

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Various locations, UK

### Fitness Instructor / Personal Trainer

Company: Malvern St James School  
Location: Worcestershire, UK

### Duty Manager

Company: Parkwood Leisure  
Location: Bexleyheath, UK

### Fitness Motivator

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Gloucestershire, UK

### Membership Sales Consultant

Company: Énergie Group  
Location: Wilmslow, UK

### General Manager

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: Essex, England

### Personal Trainer

Company: Pure Gym Limited  
Location: Various locations, UK

### Membership Sales Consultant

Company: Énergie Group  
Location: Forest Hill, UK

### Personal Trainer and Nutrition Coach

Company: G14  
Location: Chiswick, West London

### Receptionist (Full Time)

Company: Hertfordshire Sports Village  
Location: Hertfordshire, UK

### Health and Fitness Coach (f/t)

Company: Hertfordshire Sports Village  
Location: Hertfordshire, UK

### Senior Recreation Assistant

Company: GLL  
Location: London, UK

### Senior Recreation Assistant

Company: GLL  
Location: London, UK

### Swimming Teacher

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Warwickshire, UK

### Team Leader

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Waltham Abbey, Essex, UK

### Fitness Coach

Company: King's College London  
Location: London, UK

### Sports Co-ordinator

Company: Elite Sports Development  
Location: West Midlands, UK

### Trainee Duty Manager

Company: Parkwood Leisure  
Location: Portsmouth, UK

### Duty Manager

Company: Castle Point Borough Council  
Location: Essex, UK

### Sports Administrator / Duty Officer x 2

Company: The Royal Parks  
Location: Regents Park, London, UK

### Duty Officer

Company: University of West England  
Location: Bristol, UK

### Swimming Teacher

Company: Edge Hill University  
Location: Lancashire, UK

### Fitness Motivator

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: North Wembley, London, UK

### Duty Officer

Company: Redditch Borough Council  
Location: Redditch, UK

### Promotional Staff

Company: énergie group  
Location: Greater London, UK

### Leisure Assistant

Company: South Norfolk Council  
Location: Wymondham, UK

### Assistant Manager

Company: énergie group  
Location: Maidstone, UK

### Area Managers

Company: Club Training  
Location: Regional positions in Central London, North London, North East and the Midlands, UK

### Personal Trainers - self employed

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: , England

### Assistant Manager

Company: énergie group  
Location: Preston, UK

### Team Leader - lifeguard qualified

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: Various locations, England

### Group Health and Fitness Manager

Company: Trafford Community Leisure  
Location: South Manchester, UK

### Lifeguard

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Hertford, Herts, UK

### Recreation Assistant

Company: YMCA Club  
Location: Central London, UK

### Recreation Attendant/ Relief Duty Officer

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Gloucestershire, UK

### Lifeguard x2

Company: Scarborough Borough Council  
Location: Whitby and Scarborough, UK

### Fitness Instructor

Company: énergie group  
Location: Various locations, UK

### Customer Relations/ Sales Manager

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: London, England

### Sports Activity Apprentice

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Melton Mowbray, UK

### Customer Relationship Manager

Company: British Military Fitness  
Location: West London, UK

### Regional Merchandiser/ Account Manager

Company: Zoggs  
Location: Central/South West, UK

### Fitness Apprenticeship

Company: énergie group  
Location: Croydon, UK

### Fitness Apprenticeship

Company: énergie group  
Location: Preston, UK

### Fitness Apprenticeship

Company: énergie group  
Location: Wallington, UK

### CrossFit coach position

Company: CrossFit Flare  
Location: Kuwait

### Fitness Apprentice

Company: énergie group  
Location: Fit4Less Cheadle, UK

### Principal Consultant

Company: Max Associates  
Location: Nationwide, UK

### Membership Consultant

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Watford, UK

### Aztec Manager

Company: TLH Leisure Resort  
Location: Torquay



**Club Manager of  
Premier London Site**

Company: The Gym Way  
Location: Kensington, London, UK

**Fitness Motivator - Part Time**

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Malvern, UK

**Swim Teachers**

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: Nuneaton, UK

**Member Services Advisor (p/t)**

Company: Pure Gym Limited  
Location: Leeds, UK

**Member Services Advisor**

Company: Pure Gym Limited  
Location: Leeds, UK

**General Manager**

Company: The Gym Group  
Location: Various locations, UK

**General Manager**

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: London, England

**Sports and Community  
Development Manager**

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: London, England

**Duty Manager**

Company: Legacy Leisure  
Location: West Berkshire, UK

**Sports Centre Supervisors  
3 x part time**

Company: St Aubyn's  
Location: Essex, UK

**Customer Relations/  
Sales Manager**

Company: Fusion Lifestyle  
Location: London, England

**Membership Manager**

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: SUTTON, UK

**Leisure Club Manager**

Company: Renard Resources  
Location: Chester, UK

**Club Manager**

Company: energie group  
Location: Wellingborough, UK

**Crew Member /  
Fitness Instructor**

Company: energie group  
Location: Wellingborough, UK

**Receptionist**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Nationwide, UK

**Housekeeper**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Nationwide, UK

**Assistant General Manager**

Company: The Gym Group  
Location: Sheffield City, UK

**Membership Consultant**

Company: Everyone Active  
Location: St Pauls, Bristol, UK

**Fitness Development  
Coordinator**

Company: Wakefield Council  
Location: Wakefield, UK

**Programme Manager  
(Sports & Leisure)**

Company: Warwick District Council  
Location: Warwick, UK

**General Manager - Bristol**

Company: Parkwood Leisure  
Location: Bristol, UK

**Assistant Manager x2 posts**

Company: Gedling Borough Council  
Location: Carlton, Nottingham, UK

**Assistant Health and  
Fitness Manager**

Company: University of Nottingham  
Location: Nottingham, UK

**Duty Manager**

Company: Hurlston Hall Golf &  
Country Club  
Location: Lancashire, UK

**Fitness First Middle East**

Company: Premier Training  
Location: Middle East

**Personal Trainer**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Nationwide, UK

**Impact Sales Consultant**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Various - Field based, UK

**Membership Consultant**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Nationwide, UK

**Sales and Marketing Manager**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Nationwide, UK

**General Manager**

Company: Xercise 4 Less  
Location: Nationwide, UK

**Spa Manager**

Company: Thanos Hotels Ltd  
Location: Polis, Paphos, Cyprus

**Spa Manager**

Company: Gomersal Park Hotel  
Location: West Yorkshire, UK

**Spa Manager**

Company: Sopwell House  
Location: St Albans, UK

**Spa Manager**

Company: Renard Resources  
Location: West Midlands, UK

**Spa /Beauty Therapists**

Company: Renard Resources  
Location: Berkshire, UK

**Beauty Manager**

Company: Renard Resources  
Location: Staffordshire, UK

**Spa Therapist**

Company: Renard Resources  
Location: Central London, UK

**Spa Attendant**

Company: Renard Resources  
Location: Central London, UK

**Visitor Welcome and  
Sales Manager**

Company: National Trust  
Location: Sevenoaks, Kent, UK

**Technical and  
Maintenance Manager**

Company: The Dreamland Trust  
Location: Margate, UK

**UK sales agent**

Company: ROCAS & DESIGN  
Location: Nationwide

**Visitor Reception Assistant**

Company: National Trust  
Location: Galmpton, near Brixham, UK

**Internal Sales Representative**

Company: Gardaland Resort  
Location: Castelnovo del Garda, Italy

**Attractions Supervisor**

Company: Legoland Malaysia  
Location: Johor, Malaysia

**Intership - Marketing**

Company: Legoland Malaysia  
Location: Johor, Malaysia

**E-Commerce Executive**

Company: Legoland Malaysia  
Location: Johor, Malaysia

**Trade Sales and  
Marketing Coordinator**

Company: LEGOLAND  
Location: Ontario, Canada

**Hotel Operations Manager**

Company: Merlin Entertainments  
Location: Florida-Winter Haven, US

**Studio Wax Assistant**

Company: Madame Tussauds Orlando  
Location: Florida-Orlando, UK

**Guest Service Liaison**

Company: LEGOLAND Florida  
Location: Florida-Winter Haven, US

**Addetti Front Office,**

Company: Gardaland Resort  
Location: Castelnovo del Garda,, Italy

**Visitor Centre Manager**

Company: The Royal Mint  
Location: Pontyclun, South Wales, UK

**Senior Team Member**

Company: Mecca Bingo  
Location: York, UK

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## Triple strike for Haworth Tompkins

The Architect of the Year Awards were announced in London in early December, with practice Haworth Tompkins picking up a hat-trick of prizes for its work.

Haworth Tompkins was awarded The Schuco Gold Award, as well as winning two other categories: 'Refurbishment Architect of the year' and 'Public Building Architect of the year'. 2014 has clearly been an excellent twelve months for the London-based firm, which was also awarded the



Haworth Tompkins' 'Everyman Theatre' has been a standout structure

RIBA Stirling Prize back in October for its 'Everyman Theatre' (pictured) in Liverpool.

The award for the Sports & Leisure Architect of the year went to Arup Associates, which had showcased excellence in this field – particularly with its Singapore National Stadium. Arup fended off stiff competition from global sports-architecture giants Populous, which has also done well this year, with senior advisor Geraint John recently being awarded the illustrious Pierre de Coubertin medal for outstanding services to the Olympic Movement (See LO 647).

Meanwhile, Interior Architect of the year went to London-based Spacelab, which aims to apply innovative thinking to architecture and design. It is working in close partnership with UCL, to bring complex spatial planning into all elements of its designs.

2014 was noted as a fantastic year for architecture, with several projects coming to fruition that would never have been possible during the financial crisis. 2015 is expected to see key themes such as sustainability and functional design remain at the top of the agenda.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=W8c3x>

## UK 'fourth worst' for obesity cancers

The UK is the fourth worst country in the world for rates of cancer caused by obesity in men, a recent study has discovered.

The research published in *The Lancet Oncology*, which compared 176 countries, found that only men in Argentina, Jordan and the Czech Republic were worse off, with Britain reporting 4.4 per cent of cancers being linked to obesity each year, a total of 7,217 cases. In the USA – which is renowned for its obesity issues – the figure stood at 3.5 per cent, while the global average is 1.9 per cent.

British women are even worse off, with 13,000 cases a year (8.2 per cent) being obesity linked – the global average is 5.4 per cent – but it is lower down the overall table, with only 38 countries faring worse.

The figures are thought to be high in women due to the fact that breast cancer, the most common female cancer, is intrinsically linked to obesity. Currently, 12 per cent of breast



UK figures show 67% of men are overweight or obese

cancer cases are directly linked to excess weight, which amounts to 5,000 cases a year.

"These figures show we are killing ourselves," said Tam Fry of the National Obesity Forum. "Despite warnings for years that obesity causes a whole host of health problems, the public is paying no attention." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=a7n3H>

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- CPRE +44 (0)20 7981 2800  
[www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk)
- English Heritage +44 (0)870 333 1181  
[www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)
- FSPA +44 (0)2476 414999  
[www.sportsandplay.com](http://www.sportsandplay.com)
- Fields in Trust +44 (0)20 7833 5360  
[www.fieldsintrust.org](http://www.fieldsintrust.org)
- HHA +44 (0)20 7259 5688  
[www.hha.org.uk](http://www.hha.org.uk)
- IAAPA +1 703 836 4800  
[www.iaapa.org](http://www.iaapa.org)
- IEAP +44 (0)1403 265 988  
[www.ieap.co.uk](http://www.ieap.co.uk)
- Institute of Hospitality +44 (0)20 8661 4900  
[www.instituteofhospitality.org.uk](http://www.instituteofhospitality.org.uk)
- LPF +44 (0)1462 471932  
[www.leisurepropertyforum.org](http://www.leisurepropertyforum.org)
- Natural England +44 (0)845 600 3078  
[www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)
- 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 and Recreation Alliance  
+44 (0)20 7976 3900  
[www.sportandrecreation.org.uk](http://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk)
- Sport England +44 (0)8458 508 508  
[www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)
- Springboard +44 (0)20 7529 8610  
[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)
- ukactive +44 (0)20 7420 8560  
[www.ukactive.org.uk](http://www.ukactive.org.uk)
- VisitBritain +44 (0)20 7578 1000  
[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)
- World Leisure +1 250 497 6578  
[www.worldleisure.org](http://www.worldleisure.org)