

## Hogwarts Express coming to Harry Potter tour

The Warner Brothers Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter, has announced a planned 20,000sq ft (1,858sq m) expansion to include the original Hogwarts Express steam engine along with an enchanting recreation of Platform 9 ¾.

Opening on 19 March, the new permanent addition to the studio tour will offer fans of the Potter franchise a glimpse into how some of the films' most iconic scenes were created, as well as allowing visitors to climb aboard and explore the train's carriage.

The Hogwarts Express – formerly steam train 'Olton Hall' – was used in all of the Potter



Platform 9 ¾ is one of the most iconic features of the franchise

films and was featured in the very final scene where Harry, Ron and Hermione send their children off to Hogwarts. The 78-year-

old engine will return to its production home to be displayed on a set of tracks with steam billowing out of its chimney.

The platform's glass roof, yellow brick walls and luggage racks have been designed by Oscar and BAFTA winning production designer Stuart Craig, with a team led by construction manager Paul Hayes helping to recreate the station as seen in the films.

"We can't wait to open our first expansion, Platform 9 ¾ just before the Studio Tour's third anniversary in March," said Sarah Roots, vice president of Warner Bros Studio Tour London. "The Hogwarts Express is the piece that visitors have most requested to see and we're expecting a fantastic response." *More: [http://lei.sr?a=M2p7h\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=M2p7h_A)*

## George Lucas eyes Los Angeles as backup site

George Lucas has said that his proposed legacy museum to be built on the Chicago lakefront could end up going to Los Angeles, after the project met with opposition from an open space campaign group.

"The advantage Los Angeles has is that it's on the USC campus and I don't have to go through all the rigmarole of years and years of trying to get past everything," said Lucas during a recent conference call. "That's an advantage because I do want to get [the museum] done in my lifetime." *More: [http://lei.sr?a=U4x4N\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=U4x4N_A)*

## Italy seeks 20 new directors in museum shakeup

Italy is on the hunt for 20 new directors to be installed in the country's leading museums including Rome's Galleria Borghese, Florence's Gallerie degli Uffizi and Napoli's Museo di Capodimonte, as part of a shakeup of the country's entire museum sector.

With an application deadline of 15 February, the new directors will provide strategic leadership and management for the museums.

Under the government's current system, Italy's Culture Ministry manages the country's museums and directors have little creative freedom or control. The new change in direction is designed to bring Italy's top museums in line with the likes of France's Louvre and Spain's Museo Nacional del



Gallerie degli Uffizi is one of the 20 museums

Prado. The shakeup in policy also seeks to give directors a larger influence over annual budgets and allow easier methods of raising private income in the face of drastic funding cuts. *More: [http://lei.sr?a=Z6A4w\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=Z6A4w_A)*

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**Subscriptions**

subs@leisuremedia.com

**Editor**

Liz Terry +44 (0)1462 431385

**Head of News**

Jak Phillips +44 (0)1462 471938

**AM2 News Editor**

Tom Anstey +44 (0)1462 471916

**Attractions Management**

Alice Davis +44 (0)1462 471918

**Journalist**

Helen Andrews +44 (0)1462 471902

**Architecture and Design**

Katie Buckley +44 (0)1462 471936

**AM2 Products Editor**

Jason Holland +44 (0)1462 471922

**AM2 Publisher**

Julie Badrick +44 (0)1462 471919

**Sales**

Simon Hinksman +44 (0)1462 471905

Jed Taylor +44 (0)1462 471914

Paul Thorman +44 (0)1462 471904

Chris Barnard +44 (0)1462 471907

**Design**

Ed Gallagher +44 (0)1905 20198

**Internet**

Michael Paramore +44 (0)1462 471926

Dean Fox +44 (0)1462 471900

Tim Nash +44 (0)1462 471917

Emma Harris +44 (0)1462 471921

**Financial Administrator**

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**Circulation Manager**

Michael Emmerson +44 (0)1462 471932

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## Tasmania drafts plan to open natural heritage site for tourist development

A previously off-limits natural World Heritage site has been opened up for development as Tasmania's state government moves to bring more tourists to the area.

The 1.58 million hectare (6,100sq miles) Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA) will be opened up for development under a recently-released draft management plan.

The state says the change will be limited to sensible development but conservationists have argued the plan will enable big incursions in the form of roads, visitor attractions and major hotels.

Tasmanian Aborigines would be given prominent



The TWWHA covers 1.58 million hectares of land

space, with the TWWHA also potentially renamed to be recognisable alongside other Australian natural icons such as Uluru and Kakadu. The government will also increase recognition of the area's cultural

heritage, which dates back to the ice age.

The draft will require federal government approval and will be made open for public comment in late March.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=H4W8h\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=H4W8h_A)*

## Toledo Zoo's three-year US\$25m aquarium renovation nearly complete

Toledo Zoo in Ohio is entering the final stages of a three-year, US\$25m (€21.5m, £16.4m) renovation of its aquarium, which has seen the interior of the facility completely renovated.

The aquarium, which first opened in 1939, was closed in 2012 for the renovations. The aquarium's new saltwater Pacific Reef holds 90,000 gallons of water – nearly 12 times the size of the aquarium's previous largest tank.

In addition, two touch tanks will allow visitors to interact with an array of sea creatures, including sharks and stingrays and a display of South African penguins.



The aquarium reopens its doors at the end of March

In total, the aquarium will house 32 main exhibits, plus further small tanks. San Francisco-based EHDD is the project architect.

Around 80 per cent of the project was funded by a

tax levy from Lucas County, with the remaining 20 per cent coming from private donations. The aquarium is set to have its grand reopening on 27 March.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=5y3d5\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=5y3d5_A)*



## £80m Jurassic attraction to put Dorset on map

The £80m (US\$121m, €104.4m) Jurassic dinosaur attraction proposed inside a limestone quarry in Dorset, UK, could generate £20m (US\$30.3m, €26.1m) for the local economy every year, according to the charity behind the planned attraction.

If the plans go ahead, the attraction is estimated to bring in 960,000 visitors annually. The subterranean geological park – backed and supported by Sir David Attenborough, the Eden Project's Sir Tim Smit and science writer Michael Hanlon – could be ready by 2020, creating more than 150 permanent positions.

“Jurassica has the ability to capture people’s imagination and is a powerful concept. Funders are individuals and businesses who love the idea, or who see the potential for Dorset – the county where they live and work,” said Hanlon.

“Jurassica will bring jobs and put Dorset on the global map; a real focus that will drive tourism upwards and pour more than £20m into the county’s businesses every year.”



Jurassica will house robot swimming plesiosaurs (back) among an array of prehistoric life

As part of the plans, the 40m (132ft) deep Yeolands quarry will feature a 340ft (103.6m) glass roof – with designs by Renzo Piano, whose architectural practice,

RPBW, designed London’s Shard – and will house robot swimming plesiosaurs, fossils and interactive displays.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=T3N2N\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=T3N2N_A)

## Iceland’s man-made IceCave inside Langjökull Glacier to debut in May

A new visitor attraction is set to launch later this year in Iceland in the shape of IceCave – a network of man-made tunnels and glaciers running inside the Langjökull Glacier.

Stretching back as far as 300m (984ft) into the solid ice glacier – the second-largest in Iceland – and a further 30m (98ft) below the surface, the ice cave will be one of the largest man-made structures in the world.

In the works since 2010, the US\$2.5m (€2.1m, £1.6m) development will allow visitors to see “blue ice”. Each year the ice cap is covered in roughly six metres of fresh snow, which on one



The IceCave under construction in the Langjökull Glacier

side is compacted by the weight, and on the other, is melted by the warmth from the sun. That compacted snow turns to ice, which over time becomes denser until it eventually becomes the blue

ice formed only under these specific conditions.

Starting in May, visitors will reach the glacier using a converted ex-NATO, eight wheel drive missile launcher.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=j2J9A\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=j2J9A_A)



85 cases have been linked to Disney

### Disney measles outbreak prompts health warning

An outbreak of measles in California – traced back to the state’s Disney parks – has prompted state health officials to warn local residents about exposure to international travellers at theme parks.

Since the outbreak started in December, around 68 cases of Measles have been reported in California. Of those, 48 have been linked to initial exposure at the Disneyland or Disney California Adventure Park. Overall, including seven other US states and Mexico, 85 cases have been linked to the Disney parks.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=X6u2V\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=X6u2V_A)

# Houston Museum of Fine Arts' US\$450m plan

The Museum of Fine Arts, in Houston, Texas, has officially unveiled its US\$450m (€381m, £297m) master expansion plan which will continue into 2019.

The new masterplan, by Steven Holl Architects, will see a redevelopment of the 14-acre (56,600sq m) campus to include several new buildings, gardens, water features and a top floor restaurant.

The plans include a 164,000sq ft (15,200sq m) gallery to showcase the museum's collection of 20th and 21st century art, as well as a new building to house a school of art. As part of Steven Holl's masterplan, San Antonio-based Lake/Flato Architects has designed a conservation centre to sit on top of an underground parking structure.

Work on the development is expected to start later in 2015. The campus – named the Faye S. Sarofim Campus in honour of the main financier's US\$70m (€59.3, £46.1m) donation – will be turned into an "urban oasis" which will be pedestrian-friendly. Following a US\$50m (€42.4m,



Of the US\$450m needed for the development, around US\$330m has already been raised

£33m) donation to the development, the main building will be known as the Nancy and Rich Kinder building. The two-floor building will include – in addition to

54,000sq ft (5,000sq m) of exhibition space – a 202-seat theatre, café, meeting rooms and the aforementioned rooftop restaurant.

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=k6p8X\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=k6p8X_A)*



The Sanctuary dates back to 800 BC

## Peru to open national museum on ancient site

Peru's Ministry of Culture has announced plans to construct a national museum, with the new facility to be open by May 2016.

To be built in the Pachacamac Sanctuary, the National Museum of Peru will break ground as soon as archaeological studies taking place in the area are completed.

Announcing the plans, Peru's culture minister, Diana Alvarez Calderon, said: "Finally Peru will have the museum that everybody has been waiting for."

*More: [http://lei.sr?a=N6v4t\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=N6v4t_A)*

## Taiwan Tourism Bureau planning 'sex theme park' to entice more visitors

Taiwan's Tourism Bureau has said controversial plans to build a sex-themed attraction are still only in the planning stages, following a public backlash.

The Southwest Coast National Scenic Area, a popular location for couples to take wedding photos, posted on its website its vision for "Taiwan Romantic Avenue", which among other things will include the theme park known as "Sex Paradise".

Inside the park, sex-themed sculptures, exhibits and educational videos will be exhibited, as well as a display of sex toys and interactive facilities.



The area in Kouhu is popular for newly wed photo sessions

In addition to the theme park, Romantic Avenue features salt pans popular with dating couples and a glass-furnished Crystal Church to hold weddings. The surrounding area would

be split under the plans into different areas themed around ideas such as gender characteristics, bisexual intercourse, special sex, sex toys, twilight love and married life.

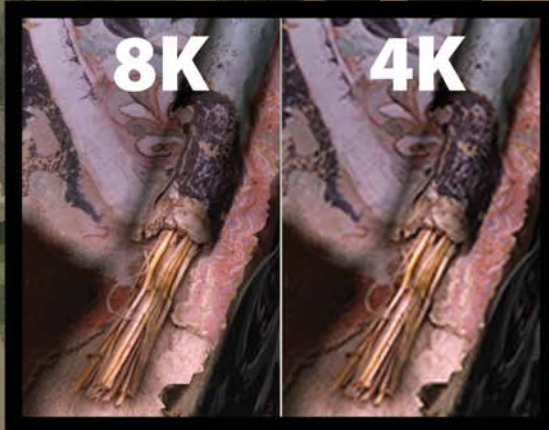
*More: [http://lei.sr?a=g8c8g\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=g8c8g_A)*



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# Plans finalised for US\$277m Park Budapest

Final plans for Europe's largest museum development have been revealed with new renderings released for the HUF75bn (US\$277m, €235m, £183m) cultural quarter known as Park Budapest in Hungary.

Following the judge's selection, which was narrowed down from more than 500 anonymous applications, the Museum of Ethnography will be built in line with plans by French architecture practice Vallet de Martinis DIID Architectes, while Japanese firm Sou Fujimoto Architects has designed the House of Hungarian Music. Hungarian firm KÖZTI Architects & Engineers marked double success with both the PhotoMuseum and Museum of Hungarian Architecture being built according to its designs.

Scheduled to be completed by 2018, plans still have to be finalised for the cultural museum quarter's Budapest National Gallery and Ludwig Museum because the committee had "not found any entry suitable for implementation based on the assessment criteria."



KÖZTI has designed both the PhotoMuseum and Museum of Hungarian Architecture

Built within the framework of Budapest's largest park, Városliget, the development will see old buildings onsite demolished, with around 65 per cent of the park's green

space retained. Work on the development is scheduled for 2016, with the first museum to debut to the public in March 2018.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=P7W7E\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=P7W7E_A)



The 4DX technology supports 200 films

## Cineworld launches UK's first 4D cinema in January

One of the UK's largest cinema chains – Cineworld – has announced the opening of Britain's first ever 4D cinema.

The Milton Keynes auditorium features high-tech motion seats, took five months to complete and can seat up to 140 people.

The theatre features special effects including wind, fog, lightning, bubbles, water, rain and various smells for both 2D and 3D formats coinciding with the on-screen action for a first-of-its-kind attraction in the UK.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=h3h4e\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=h3h4e_A)

## North Dakota's Bismarck science centre planning US\$40m expansion

The Gateway to Science Center in Bismarck, North Dakota, is planning a new US\$40m (€34m, £26.3m) facility to expand its target audience from children to people of all ages.

Overlooking the Missouri River, the new space will morph the centre from a hands-on children's facility to one that benefits visitors young and old.

Scheduled to open in Q1 of 2017, the 65,000sq ft (6,000sq m) facility will sit on a hill on the bluff of the river. Gallery space where science exhibits are displayed will grow from the 2,500sq ft (232sq m) currently available to



The expansion is scheduled to open in Q1 of 2017

27,000sq ft (2,500sq m). Other facilities in the new building will include a 200-seat theatre, a new staff and administration space, plus two classrooms for teaching and a laboratory.

A team made up of US-based HGA architects and North Dakota-based JLG architects will work on the design of the new STEM-focused facility.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=E2V4Q\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=E2V4Q_A)

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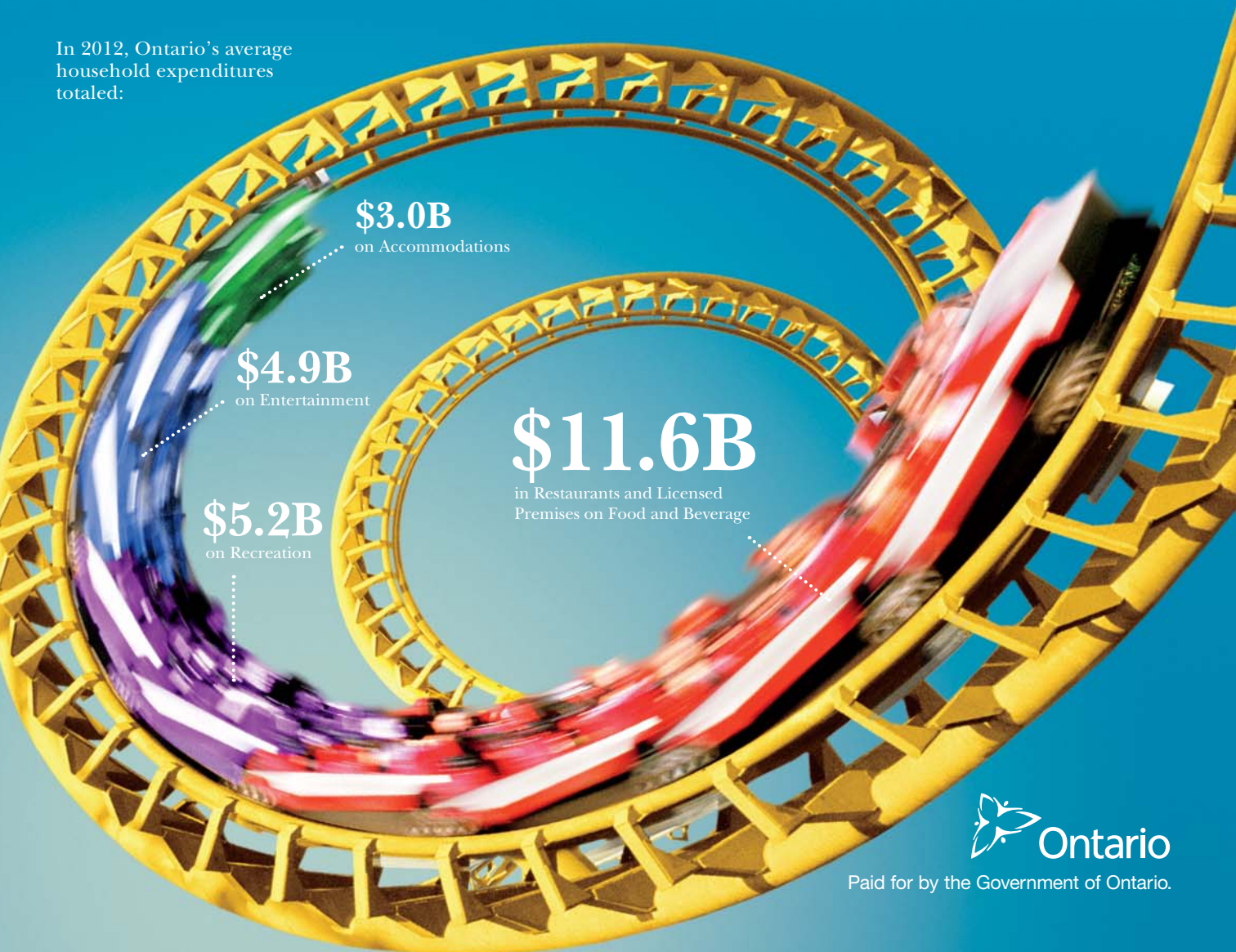


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GestureTek installations feature many interactive elements

## Industry recognition for GestureTek's technology

Video gesture recognition and control technology company GestureTek Systems has been nominated as one of the top three finalists for two different categories at a prestigious industry awards event.

The company will now win either Gold, Silver, or Bronze recognition at the Digital Signage Exhibition 2015 Apex Awards. Its 'Virtual Dinosaur

Dig' installation for the Dinosaur Exhibit at the Skylon Tower in Niagara Falls is a finalist in the Arts and Entertainment Award category. It features a 12ft wide projected surface and a range of interactive elements.

An installation at Toronto's RichTree Natural Market Restaurant is a finalist in the Food & Beverage category.



Zombi is enhanced by 4D effects and immersive theming

## Undead dark ride attraction comes to life in Turkey

Zombies are on the loose in a new interactive dark ride attraction installed by Triotech at a family entertainment centre in Turkey.

The attraction at FunLab Cevahir, 'Zombi', features four-person police-themed vehicles riding through four interactive and four other scenes.

Triotech designed and produced the animation and

gaming system for the 216ft long 3D attraction, which is enhanced with 4D effects as well as interactivity.

The ride system was provided by Italy's Gosseto.

Triotech said the installation highlighted the "scalability" of its offering – with even a family entertainment centre able to "afford to invest in an interactive dark ride".



EAG International attracted operators from many countries

## Embed meets show demand for system upgrades

Products from Helix Leisure brand Embed had a successful showing at the recent EAG International expo, held in London's ExCel.

The Embed Cashless System has recently added new features and operators from a range of countries expressed interest in the solution at the event.

While EAG 2014 saw the

launch of the Quantum Data Capture and Player Tracking system for the gaming market, Embed said the 2015 version of the show was characterised by its customer base looking to upgrade their existing hardware. Many wanted to have the full range of features to be able to use value-added packages, target marketing, and loyalty programmes.



The Ramsgate Tunnels gave shelter during WW2 air raids

## Icom's communication solution at tunnel attraction

An innovative radio system from Icom is helping volunteer guides communicate at a recently-opened underground attraction in the UK.

The Ramsgate Tunnels were dug during World War Two, creating a secret underground town offering shelter from air raids for 26,000 people.

Icom's radio system features an innovative 'leaky feeder'

that provides radio communication throughout the tunnel network, which is 60ft underneath the town of Ramsgate and extends for three and a half miles.

The attraction required two-way radio coverage in the tunnels for the guides to use and to ensure safety. Icom IC-F3002 VHF handportable radios are predominantly used.

# Saudi to give 10,000 people heritage training

Saudi Arabia's Commission for Tourism and Antiquities (SCTA) – in collaboration with colleges of excellence at the Technical and Vocational Training Corporation (TVTC) – will train 10,000 young Saudi people in architectural heritage to help professionalise the sector and boost domestic tourism.

The ambitious training programme will see the students trained over the next five years in preparation for joining engineering and contracting offices and firms in the Kingdom. In addition, the SCTA is planning to host a restoration expo in 2016, in conjunction with international companies, to build national expertise and sign partnerships to train Saudi Arabians in the fields of mud and stone architecture, repainting on wood, glass, iron doors and panels – decorative works prevalent in different regions of the Kingdom.

According to Meshari Al-Naeem, supervisor general of the National Urban Heritage Center (NUHC) – an affiliate of SCTA which also ran a 60-day heritage training course ending last September



Madain Saleh in Madinah province is Saudi Arabia's most visited heritage site

– the idea is to groom creative professionals in the areas of restoration and the preservation of urban heritage in the Kingdom to boost domestic tourism.

The Kingdom says heritage tourism has emerged in recent times as a top attraction, making it a priority for the country.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=g2T8C\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=g2T8C_A)



Jackson directed *The Hobbit* trilogy

## Peter Jackson turns eye towards WW1 project

Director Peter Jackson is now focusing his attention on his World War One museum project at New Zealand's former Dominion Museum Building in Wellington after completing *The Hobbit* movie trilogy.

"This museum will not cover the strategies of the generals," said Jackson. "But it will deal with what life was like for both the Kiwi soldiers leaving their families to fight a foreign war on the other side of the world, and for those left behind."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=J8e7Y\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=J8e7Y_A)

## California wild animal rescue zoo set to unveil newly-designed complex

Global design firm PGAV Destinations, which won accolades for Chimelong Ocean Kingdom last year, has announced a completely different type of project. Following on from the blockbuster Chinese theme park comes a change of pace, as the practice starts work on California wild animal rescue centre Big Bear Alpine Zoo.

"The primary goal is to create a highly functional space for animals with very specialised needs," said PGAV Destinations project leader Stacey Tarpley. "This is not about creating a thematic overlay or a guest-immersion environ-



Big Bear Alpine Zoo will be relocated to Big Bear Lake

ment; it's about creating the best environment that supports the best possible life for each of these animals with unique disabilities."

The brief includes the provision of exhibits, support

facilities and landscaping, as well as ticketing, retail and staff facilities. Construction on the visitor attraction-cum-specialist care facility will start in October.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=G7e7Y\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=G7e7Y_A)



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Dianne Eade, Newquay Zoo  
Head of Finance, Human Resources and Administration



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# DREAMLAND MARGATE



## Operations Manager

Salary: Very Competitive

**After a triumphant eleven-year long 'Save Dreamland' campaign by the local community, a re-imagined Dreamland, Margate is set to open in 2015. The vision is to open Dreamland as a major UK visitor attraction, providing entertainment for everyone through truly re-inventing the seaside amusement park experience.**

Hemingway Design led by Wayne Hemingway MBE, Gerardine Hemingway MBE and Jack Hemingway have been appointed to deliver the look, feel, smell, taste and sound of the visitor experience.

The new Dreamland will be a totally unique vintage-style amusement park unlike anywhere in the UK, with a collection of rides that tell the story of amusement parks through the ages, classic side shows, eateries and evocative spaces set within a landscape capable of hosting national festivals and major events

### MAIN PURPOSE OF JOB

This is a unique and exciting opportunity to join the Dreamland team. We are seeking an experienced Operations Manager to work closely with all departments for Dreamland in Margate. This is a real opportunity to make your mark and to be involved at a key time.

The successful candidate will be logical and diligent, someone who thrives in a fast moving environment, has strong organisational skills and attention to detail. You must have extensive operational knowledge and experience of working in the leisure sector,

Reporting to the Operations Director and working closely with the other departments as and when requested in the delivery of the opening of Dreamland during the pre-opening period and thereafter supporting other departments including events, catering, retail and all other operational aspects of the day to day running of the business.

**The main duties and responsibilities for this position are currently split into two areas:-**

#### Pre-Opening period

You will work closely with the Operations Director, Technical team, Rides expert employed by Dreamland and other Heads of Department, alongside this you will be expected to be heavily involved in the following:

- Ensuring operational effectiveness of the rides collection.
- Review all of the rides operating procedures.
- Review all of the Rides risk assessment.
- Review all of the emergency evacuation procedures.
- Develop a staff coordination centre (Hub) with the support of the HR manager.
- Work with the Head of Development to recruit a core team of seasonal staff for the rides operations, front of house team, security team and cleaning team
- Staffing of all rides in line with the operational requirements of the business.

- Train the rides attendants ready for opening.
- Participate in the erection of the rides on the park ready for opening including but not exhaustive: queue lanes, general H&S, ride theme working closely with our designers.
- Participating in the setup of our Arcades area.
- Participate in the organisation of the opening days for recruitment.
- Participate in the training program for all of the operation department.

#### Post opening period

- Organise daily rota working closely with the HR Staff co-ordinator.
- Insure that sufficient cover is in place to ensure smooth running of the day to day of the operations.
- Organise daily meetings with the team.
- Organise the rides daily check to ensure compliance on an operational prospective.
- Motivate, train and support your operational team.
- Arrange with the Estate management team the smooth running security of the operation.
- Arrange with the Estate management team the smooth running of the cleaning schedules for the site with all of the relevant parties.
- Comply with the waste Management program in order to minimise costs in line with recycling requirements where possible.
- Work closely with the other departmental directors as and when required including Catering, Retail, Events organisation and all other aspect of the day to day running of the business.
- Management of access to the site with all relevant parties
- Responsibility for opening and closing down of the site.
- Manage site access, including car parks where appropriate.
- Present an operations report to the Operation Director for monthly meetings.
- Be the main duty manager for the park operations.
- Ensure the business is compliant with regard to regulations i.e First Aid, Fire Regulations, H&S, Etc.

### PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Visitor attraction, Theme Park experience essential.
- Full understanding of all areas of operations.
- Experience in a B2C environment.
- An analytical and enquiring mind.
- Determination to protect the brand at all times.
- A natural flair for building relationships.
- Instinct for commercial awareness.
- Strong interpersonal skills, capable of working with management and of all levels and disciplines.
- High degree of self-motivation and capable of working under pressure when necessary with no compromise on accuracy.
- Willingness to develop within the role.

This position will require flexibility to meet the needs of the park Enhanced CRB Check

**Applications should send a Covering Letter & CV for the attention of Lindsey Anderson – HR Manager to [recruitment@dreamland.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@dreamland.co.uk) by the 23rd February 2015**



For more details on the following jobs visit [www.am2.jobs](http://www.am2.jobs) or to advertise call Julie on +44 (0)1462 471919



■ **Visitor Experience Manager**

Company: National Trust

Location: South Wales, United Kingdom

■ **Operations Manager**

Company: The Dreamland Trust

Location: Margate, United Kingdom

■ **Marketing Coordinator**

Company: Sea Life

Location: Arizona-Tempe, United States

■ **MT - Head of Operations**

Company: Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd

Location: Nevada-Las Vegas, United States

■ **Duty Manager LDC Westchester**

Company: Legoland Westchester

Location: New York-Yonkers, United Kingdom

■ **Guest Service Host**

Company: Sea Life

Location: Minnesota-Bloomington, United States

■ **Hotel Resident Manager**

Company: Gardaland Resort

Location: Castelnovo del Garda, Italy

■ **Area Wellness Centre Manager**

Company: Belmond Hotels

Location: Taormina, Italy

■ **Visitor Experience & Duty Manager**

Company: The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

Location: Edinburgh

■ **Admissions & Retail Manager**

Company: The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland

Location: Edinburgh

■ **General Site Manager**

Company: Burnbake Campsite

Location: Wareham, Dorset, United Kingdom

■ **Active Forests Coordinator**

Company: Forestry Commission

Location: Havering, Thurrock, Gravesend, Kent, UK

■ **Assistant Park Operations Manager**

Company: Paultons Park Ltd

Location: Hampshire, United Kingdom

■ **Executive - Entertainment**

Company: Legoland Malaysia

Location: Johor, Malaysia

■ **Operations Manager**

Company: Sea Life

Location: Manchester, United Kingdom

■ **Area Manager**

Company: Alton Towers Resort

Location: Staffordshire, United Kingdom

■ **Attraction Operations Host**

Company: Madame Tussaud's London

Location: London, United Kingdom

■ **Education Specialist**

Company: Sea Life

Location: Missouri-Kansas City, United States

■ **Commercial Manager**

Company: SeaQuarium

Location: RHYL, North Wales, United Kingdom

■ **General Manager**

Company: Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd

Location: North Carolina-Charlotte, United States

■ **E-Commerce Executive**

Company: Legoland Malaysia

Location: Johor, Malaysia

■ **Sales Coordinator**

Company: Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd

Location: Florida-Winter Haven, United States

■ **Marketing Manager**

Company: Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd

Location: New York, United States

■ **Duty Manager**

Company: LEGOLAND Discovery Centre Toronto

Location: Ontario-Vaughan Mills, Canada

## US\$2.4bn bankrupt casino set to be transformed into a waterpark resort

A former casino and hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey, will be transformed into a mega resort centred around a waterpark, with a high-speed ferry service linking it to Manhattan.

Florida-based real-estate developer Glenn Straub has purchased the Revel Casino for US\$94.5m (€81.5m, £62.3m), after a US Bankruptcy Court judge approved the sale.

Under the redevelopment plans, the attraction will combine family-friendly amenities with some small adult gambling areas in the form of the rebranded Revel. The waterpark will be built at a cost of US\$108m



Revel was marketed as a 'posh resort' when it opened in 2012

(€93.1m, £71.2m) and will be both inside and out for a year-round prospect.

Revel originally cost US\$2.4bn (€2bn, £1.6bn) to build and was marketed as a 'posh resort' when it first opened in April 2012.

However, the casino immediately ran into problems as it did not draw enough profit. It closed in September 2014 after declaring bankruptcy for what was a second time.

More: [http://lei.sr?a=C4C6p\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=C4C6p_A)

## Casablanca plans US\$34.8m aquarium development to entice more tourists

A massive aquarium is at the centre of plans for Casablanca, Morocco, to lure in tourists and locals with a new MAD300m (US\$34.8m, €30m, £23m) facility.

To feature a variety of aquatic life – including dolphins, sea lions, penguins and sharks – the 15,000sq m (161,500sq ft) aquarium would be built at the Casablanca Marina.

The Casablanca-based Al Manar Development Company (AMDC) is behind the plans, which have been inspired by the Oceanographic Park of the City of Arts and Sciences in Valencia, Spain – which is working in conjunction



Groupe Coutant is operating as lead designer for the project

with the new aquarium after signing of a memorandum of understanding in April 2013.

Included in the development will be a dolphinarium, shark tank and habitats for an array of sea life.

Aquarium specialist Groupe Coutant is operating as lead designer for the project.

According to AMDC, the aquarium will "enhance the area as a tourist destination."

More: [http://lei.sr?a=Q5W6E\\_A](http://lei.sr?a=Q5W6E_A)

### American Association of Museums (AAM)

T: +1 202 289 1818 W: [www.aam-us.org](http://www.aam-us.org)

### Association of American Zoos & Aquariums

T: +1 301 562 0777 W: [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org)

### Association of Art Museum Directors

T: +1 212 754 8084 W: [www.aamd.org](http://www.aamd.org)

### Association of Independent Museums (AIM)

T: +44 (0)1584 878 151 W: [www.aim-museums.co.uk](http://www.aim-museums.co.uk)

### Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (ALVA)

T: +44 (0)20 7222 1728 W: [www.alva.org.uk](http://www.alva.org.uk)

### Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC)

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### Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA)

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### Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)

T: +1 301 562 0777 W: [www.aza.org](http://www.aza.org)

### Australian Amusement Leisure & Recreation Association (AALARA)

T: +61 7 3807 35 08 W: [www.aalara.com.au](http://www.aalara.com.au)

### European Association of Amusement Suppliers Industry (EAASI)

T: +39 0522 554 176 W: [www.eaasi.org](http://www.eaasi.org)

### European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA)

T: +31 20 520 07 50 W: [www.eaza.net](http://www.eaza.net)

### European Network of Science Centres and Museums (Ecsite)

T: +32 2 649 73 83 W: [www.ecsite.eu](http://www.ecsite.eu)

### Giant Screen Cinema Association (GSCA)

T: +1 919 346 1123 W: [www.giantscreencinema.com](http://www.giantscreencinema.com)

### Historic Houses Association (HHA)

T: +44 (0)20 7259 5688 W: [www.hha.org.uk](http://www.hha.org.uk)

### Indian Association of Amusement Parks & Industries (IAAPI)

T: +91 22 6523 1643 W: [www.iaapi.org](http://www.iaapi.org)

### International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions (IAAPA)

T: +1 703 836 4800 W: [www.iaapa.org](http://www.iaapa.org)

### International Planetarium Society

T: +1 808 969 9735 W: [www.ips-planetarium.org](http://www.ips-planetarium.org)

### Irish Science Centres Awareness Network (ISCAN)

T: +353 (0)51 302 865 W: [www.iscan.ie](http://www.iscan.ie)

### Museums Australia

T: +61 2 6230 0346 W: [www.museumsaustralia.org.au](http://www.museumsaustralia.org.au)

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### NAVET

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### Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA)

T: +1 407 681 9444 W: [www.oaba.org](http://www.oaba.org)

### The Aquarium & Zoo Facilities Association (AZFA)

Email: [rlf@tnaqua.org](mailto:rlf@tnaqua.org) W: [www.azfa.org](http://www.azfa.org)

### The Canadian Museums Association

T: +1 613 567 0099 W: [www.museums.ca](http://www.museums.ca)

### The Canadian Association of Science Centres (CASC)

T: +613 566 4247 W: [www.canadiansciencecentres.ca](http://www.canadiansciencecentres.ca)

### Themed Entertainment Association (TEA)

T: +1 818 843 8497 W: [www.teaconnect.org](http://www.teaconnect.org)

### World Waterpark Association (WWA)

T: +1 913 599 0300 W: [www.waterparks.org](http://www.waterparks.org)

### Zoo & Aquarium Association

T: +61 2 9978 4797 W: [www.zooaquarium.org.au](http://www.zooaquarium.org.au)