

## HMV partners with Curzon for new cinema concept

By **Pete Hayman**

Music retailer HMV has unveiled plans to launch a new cinema concept later this year in partnership with film distributor and operator of the Curzon Cinema chain, Curzon Artificial Eye (CAE).

It is expected that the hmvcurzon concept, which will be piloted at the HMV store in Wimbledon, South London, in the autumn, will offer more than 200 seats across three screens situated on the store's unused second floor.

The cinema will feature a café-bar and a merchandise area and will be equipped with the latest digital film technology.



The hmvcurzon concept will be piloted at a London HMV store

A dedicated entrance will enable film-goers to access the cinema outside of the store's normal trading hours.

HMV hopes to be able to roll-out the hmvcurzon concept

to more locations across the country, although expansion plans will depend upon the success of the Wimbledon pilot.

Simon Fox, chief executive of the HMV Group, said: "Millions

of film fans visit HMV's high street stores each year, making them an ideal destination for this new cinema experience.

"This exciting partnership with Curzon Artificial Eye complements our recent joint venture for live music, and further demonstrates our commitment to getting our customers closer to the film and entertainment content they love."

CAE chief executive, Phillip Knatchbull, added that the company will be "interacting and reacting" to its customers' when choosing programming.

The news comes just months after HMV formed a joint venture with live music venue operator MAMA Group.

## Work starts on new Leeds dance and arts centre

£12m venue set to house Northern Ballet Theatre and Phoenix Dance Theatre

By **Pete Hayman**

Work is now underway on a new £12m centre of excellence for dance in Leeds, which will become the new home of the Northern Ballet Theatre and the Phoenix Dance Theatre.

The new six-storey venue, designed by the Strategic Design Alliance, a partnership between Leeds City Council's (LCC) in-house architectural consultancy and Jacobs Architecture, will also house Leeds Metropolitan University's new dance degree courses.



The centre is set to host new dance degree courses

Facilities at the centre, which is expected to open in summer 2010, will include seven dance studios, a 230-seat studio

theatre, a public viewing gallery and a café, as well as a costume workshop.

LCC has committed £6.7m towards the new centre, including a contribution from Yorkshire Forward, while Arts Council England, Yorkshire, has invested £3.5m. A fundraising campaign to source the remaining £1.5m has also now secured more than £1m.

The building will provide one of the largest dance spaces outside of London, and is being constructed next to the West Yorkshire Playhouse.

## New grandstand opens at Epsom

A new 11,000-capacity grandstand has been officially opened at Epsom Downs Racecourse in Surrey by the Duchess of Cornwall, marking the completion of a three-year, £38m revamp scheme.

The Duchess Stand has been designed to cater for both racing and non-racing events throughout the year, and includes the 1,123sq m (12,088sq ft) Oaks Hall, which can be used as an 800-seat conference venue.

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## NEWS FEATURE

## New report outlines legacy plans

Following the announcement of a new £30m pot to help grow grassroots sports in London, *Leisure Opportunities* investigates how the London mayor Boris Johnson plans to increase participation and create a lasting legacy from the 2012 Olympic Games

With just over three years to go until the Games start, the mayor has started announcing plans to establish the infrastructure for a lasting legacy – most recently his intention to generate match funding for the £15.5m he allocated to grassroots sports during the Beijing Olympics.

Designed to encourage a sustainable increase in sports participation, the ring-fenced £15.5m will be allocated to existing and new programmes across London – on the condition that recipients match the funding so at least £30m will be spent on implementing the plan.

As well as upgrading the capital's sporting infrastructure, the mayor hopes to combat child obesity by focusing on getting Londoners of all ages involved in some sort of physical activity. According to the plan detailing the initiative, *A Sporting Future for London*, almost half the capital's population is classified as 'inactive' (less than 30 minutes exercise a week) and one in five youngsters are obese, costing the city's economy £105m each year according to NHS London.

The mayor also promises to invest in new facilities to fund refurbishments – principally focused on small, community, park or estate-based projects. Mobile swimming pools, outdoor 'Green Gyms', free-use of tennis courts, boxing academies, street athletics in all of the 33 London boroughs are also proposed in the plan.

It is hoped that *A Sporting Future for London* will also help to create a co-ordinated approach to the activities already carried out by sporting stakeholders across London, boosting existing programmes that are designed to tackle social issues affecting inner-city areas. This is one of the aims of the new London Community Sports Board, chaired by the mayor's commissioner for sport Kate Hoey, which will comprise people from the private, public, voluntary and charitable sectors.

Once the members have been appointed at the end of May, it will then select investment partners and arrange the appointment of key delivery partners from June 2009. The partners will be tasked with delivering programmes set out in *A Sporting Future for London* and will build new networks to ensure better, more co-ordinated provision of grassroots sport. Selected partners



IMAGE: JAMES O. JENKINS

"Our objective must be to find new ways to engage people and to empower communities and clubs"

Kate Hoey

will also work with the GLA (Greater London Authority) Sports Unit to develop detailed action plans and timescales.

Johnson said: "We have a unique opportunity with the 2012 Games to set in place a lasting legacy for sport provision across the capital. The success of the Olympics must not be judged on regeneration benefits in the east of London alone.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to increase sport participation and activity, tackle social and health inequalities and bring the capital's communities together under the same vision."

Hoey added: "Our plan is supported by every key stakeholder and, for the first time that I can recall, there is a real and palpable sense that we are all pulling together in the right direction with one clear voice."

In addition to the £15.5m being made available by the mayor over the next three years, there is already £430,000 per annum ring-fenced by the LDA for distribution in small grants to grassroots initiatives. Cross-borough and London-wide panels assess applications before deciding on the awards. Johnson is also considering funding alternative sporting activities such as dance, skateboarding and BMX for those Londoners who don't enjoy traditional forms of sport.

## Fears over an Olympic Park 'wasteland'

The designs are said to need serious improvements to ensure a strong lasting legacy

By Pete Hayman

A senior government design advisor has warned that the Olympic Park could become a 'wasteland' following the London Games if legacy plans for the site are not improved.

Paul Finch, chair of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment's (CABE) London 2012 Panel, told *Building Design* that the removal of temporary venues could leave "huge gaping holes" unless Olympic organisers develop long-term proposals.

Finch's comments follow the panel's damning assessment of plans for the International Broadcast Centre (IBC) and Main Press Centre (MPC), which have been designed by RPS Group and Allies and Morrison respectively.



The planned media facilities have been likened to sheds by CABE

Speaking about the proposals for the London 2012 media facilities, Finch said: "Unless there is a fundamental rethink, then people could be forgiven for wondering why sheds have been removed from the Lower Lea Valley in the name of high quality urban regeneration,

only to be reinstated on a much larger scale."

If detailed designs for the IBC and MPC are given the green light – a decision which is expected on 9 June – CABE is urging planners to ensure that it comes with the condition that the architecture is improved.

## Jubilee Greenway to link London's Olympic sites

By Pete Hayman

A new 60km (37.3-mile) cycling and walking route, connecting each of the nine London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic venues, has been launched by the Duke of Gloucester.

The route has been devised by The Jubilee Walkway Trust (JWT), which created the original Jubilee Walkway to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977, and will make use of existing walkways and cycle paths.

A number of London's visitor attractions and iconic land-



The Duke of Gloucester kick started the JWT's project

marks are also included as part of the Jubilee Greenway, linking Buckingham Palace, Paddington station, Woolwich Foot Tunnel, Tower Bridge,

Kensington Palace and the 2012 Olympic Park.

London mayor Boris Johnson said: "Whether by foot or by pedals, people that use the route will be able to enjoy some of London's best parks and most wonderful waterways. Few capitals of the world can boast such a superb asset for walkers and cyclists."

Hugh Sumner, the Olympic Delivery Authority's transport director, added: "The Greenway is used by many of our 3,500 construction workers to get to the Olympic Park every day, as well as local residents."

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## IN BRIEF

**New dual-use centre for Horley, Surrey**

► Plans to build a new leisure centre on the site of the disused Court Lodge secondary school in Horley, Surrey, have been approved by Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. Initial plans for the facility, which are set to replace the town's outdated Horley Anderson leisure centre, include a 25m swimming pool, a four-court sports hall, a gym, and a dance studio. The council's planning committee have granted outline planning permission, although the proposals have been referred to the Government Office for the South East for consideration.

**£3.5m Alistair McCoist leisure centre to open**

► The £3.5m Alistair McCoist Complex is to open in East Kilbride later this month. Named after the former Rangers and Scotland footballer, the centre will feature eight games courts, an outdoor 3G five-a-side pitch, a community room and changing areas. The project, built on the site of St Andrew's High School, was funded by South Lanarkshire Council and built by NEL Construction.

**Revamp planned for Time Capsule centre**

► The Time Capsule leisure centre in Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire, is to undergo a refurbishment. According to the *Airdrie & Coatbridge Advertiser*, the swimming and leisure complex will receive a new health suite and water attractions, while its ice rink will also be renovated. A three-storey flume ride will be installed in the leisure pool, as well as a multi-level play area with water jets and cannons. The centre is operated by North Lanarkshire Council's leisure division, which is behind the project.

**£14m disability sports centre opens**

New facilities equipped to cater for members with sight loss and non-disabled users

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

A new £14m sports and complementary therapy centre has been opened at the Royal National College for the Blind in Hereford as part of a £23.5m campus redevelopment project.

The 5,680sq m (61,139sq ft) centre, called thePoint4, has been created to improve the education and training for people with sight loss. The new facilities feature an IFI Stage 2-accredited, Cybex-equipped gym for students training to work in the fitness industry as well as a community gym, open to students and members, boasting a total of 75 stations.

In addition, there are also two spa rooms, a fitness pool, massage facilities, conference and meeting rooms and a licensed restaurant. To cater for the visually impaired users, and as part of the college's aim to become IFI accredited, the



The gym includes 75 stations of equipment supplied by Cybex

facility offers tactile landmarks on the stairwells, floors and skirting to aid with navigation and tactile entry and wheelchair access. There will also be six information points installed to aid navigation and to help understanding of the equipment for disabled members.

Centre manager, Chris Combe, said: "We want to create a model of excellence for working with the blind and

partially sighted and other disabilities. For those who aren't confident in a gym environment, we can exercise with them in our smaller training gym initially and then, when they feel able, they can be fed into the main gym to workout alongside the other members."

Monthly memberships start at £19 for disabled users and £49 for full membership.

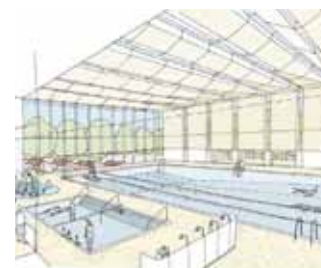
**Green light for Nottingham plans**

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans for a new £9.2m leisure centre in Nottingham have been given the go-ahead by the city council, after a feasibility study ruled that the scheme was the most cost-effective option.

The decision by Nottingham City Council's executive board now means that the historic Victoria Leisure Centre at Sneinton Market will be demolished to make way for the new facility, which could be ready to open by June 2012.

Detailed designs will now be drawn up to include a six-lane swimming pool with separate children's pool and fun splash play area, a fitness and health



The facility will replace the existing Victoria Leisure Centre

suite incorporating a sauna and gym facilities.

The site's existing clock tower will be retained as part of the proposals, which were one of three options presented to the council by consultants Levitate.

Plans to upgrade existing facilities were rejected due to cost and efficiency.

**Queens Park Leisure plans approved**

The £3.6m project includes the redevelopment of the original 118-year-old building

By **Helen Patenall**

St Helens Council has approved designs produced by architects Pozzoni for a new leisure centre in Merseyside.

The £3.6m project will see all but the existing sports hall at Queens Park Leisure Centre demolished in order to make way for a completely new facility on the same site.

The new facility will house a five-lane, 25m swimming pool with steam and sauna facilities, two-storey gym, sports courts and a changing village.

The existing sports hall, which is relatively modern compared with the Victorian baths, will be refurbished to provide new fitness studios and a multi-purpose function room,



The council has opted to build a new facility including a 25m pool

as well as a new café overlooking the swimming pool.

Following public consultations, the 13-month construction project is expected to kick off in June.

A private developer also plans to build a £1.8m soccer

centre, offering third-generation five-a-side and seven-a-side floodlit synthetic pitches, next to the new facility.

The council rejected plans for a full revamp of the 118-year-old building on the grounds that it was not as cost-effective.

**Nottingham gets a new outdoor gym for all ages**

By **Pete Hayman**

A new outdoor gym, including a traversing wall, a basketball hoop, a football goal and a dance area, has been unveiled at the Forest Recreation Ground in Nottingham.

Suitable for all ages and particularly targeted at young people, the new equipment has been funded by a £95,000 grant from NHS Nottingham City, which has been working in partnership with Nottingham



The gym is targeted at youths

City Council (NCC) on the venture. Dave Trimble, NCC councillor responsible for

sports, leisure and parks, said: "With rising obesity levels and inactivity, the outdoor gym will create a safe and inclusive environment for free exercise."

John Wilcox, health promotion co-ordinator at the NHS, added: "Outdoor areas, such as parks, are part of our strategy to help people lead more active lives to improve health and wellbeing."

NHS Nottingham City is also funding a new legacy gym at Clifton Park.

**New community gym opens in Rochdale, Manchester**

Link4Life, the trust that delivers leisure and cultural services on behalf of Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, has opened a new fitness suite at the Kirkholt Youth & Community Centre in Rochdale, Manchester.

The new gym is equipped with a range of CV and strength equipment as well as free weights

supplied by Matrix. Funding for the gym was secured from the Sport England Community Investment Fund by Rochdale Borough Wide Sport & Physical Activity Alliance in partnership with Rochdale Youth Services, Kirkholt Tenants and Residents Association and Link4Life.

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## IN BRIEF

### Questions over Olympic Village loan

► Olympics minister Tessa Jowell has been asked to disclose details of a loan application worth £225m, which has been lodged with the European Investment Bank (EIB) to help pay for the 2012 athletes' village. The shadow Olympics minister, Hugh Robertson, requested that Jowell reveal the terms of the application – which was lodged with the EIB in February and approved on 7 April – as well as the likely effect it will have on the total cost of hosting the Games in three years time.

### Sports Solutions to manage Devon project

► Sports and leisure consultants Sports Solutions GB has been appointed to project manage the development of new sports facilities in Ilfracombe, Devon. Ilfracombe Town Football Club will relocate to Killicleave Playing Fields to make way for a new full-size artificial grass pitch, changing rooms and a Youth Resource Centre. A feasibility study is underway, to be followed by site plans and designs and the completion of grant funding bids.

### Bumper year for Surrey CCC

► Surrey County Cricket Club (SCCC) has announced pre-tax profits of more than £583,000 in its annual results for 2008. The club also revealed that its annual turnover was nearly £24m, which was boosted by its conference and events business, as well as attracting a record number of members. SCCC chief executive Paul Sheldon said: "2009 will be greatly helped by both the npower Ashes series and the ICC World Twenty20, but in these times of economic uncertainty, our position cannot be taken for granted."

## Sheffield United unveils stadium plans

First phase of development proposals set to increase venue's capacity by 3,200

By **Tom Walker**

Sheffield United Football Club has submitted plans for the first phase of the redevelopment of its Bramall Lane stadium to Sheffield City Council.

Phase one of the scheme will see the extension of the Frasers Property Kop to increase its capacity by more than 3,200 seats – resulting in the overall capacity increasing to 37,000.

A planning application for phase two of the development is expected to be submitted in the near future and it is understood that the proposals will include the extension of the Valad Stand and development of the car park, ultimately taking the potential capacity to more than 40,000.



**Bramall Lane could eventually boast a capacity of above 40,000**

The plans also include the removal of columns from the Kop, a new concourse with modern kiosks and toilet facilities, new executive boxes and disabled facilities in the Evolution Corner Stand, a media/business centre between

the Valad Stand and Kop and extra community amenities.

The scheme is intended to provide the club with the flexibility to increase the capacity of the ground, given its ambition to return to the Premier League.

## £17.6m Scotstoun Stadium to open by end of year

By **Luke Tuchscherer**

The £17.6m redevelopment of Scotstoun Stadium in Glasgow is expected to be completed this autumn, and the facility will now be host to the city's only professional rugby team.

Facilities at the stadium, which will be used as a training ground for the Glasgow Warriors rugby team, include a grass training pitch, a 3G all-weather training pitch, a strength and conditioning suite,



**Facilities include a physio suite**

a 100m indoor running track, a physiotherapy suite, and a meeting/video analysis room.

Sean Lineen, the Warriors' head coach, said: "Our proposed move to Scotstoun in 2010 will provide the club with a home for its players, coaches and staff in a location where they have all the facilities they require."

"We are club on the up and to have direct access to both grass pitches and an all-weather surface here in addition to all strength, conditioning and medical facilities is a major boost to our future ambitions."

### 2012 Olympic rowing venue contractor appointed

Morrison Construction has been appointed to build enhanced rowing and canoe sprint facilities for the 2012 Olympics at the Eton College Rowing School at Dorney Lake near Windsor, Berkshire.

The UK-based company was selected by the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) to upgrade the venue in time for the Games, which currently comprise a 2,000m, eight-lane rowing lake, a return lane and associated competition facilities.

A new 50m (164ft) bridge will be installed over a widened entrance to the return lane to improve access, while a cut-through between the competition lake and return lane will be built.

## Multi-million pound windfall for Devon

Councillors approve spending plans for the development of new sporting facilities

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

Devon County Council (DCC) has approved a £10.7m cash boost to improve sports facilities across the county.

Part of the funds, generated from the £48m sale of Exeter Airport, are earmarked for the first phase of the development of a £20m dual-use centre for sporting excellence.

The centre will also be used by Teign School, which is currently without its own facilities, and is set to feature a swimming pool, a 12-court sports hall with an adjacent gymnastics centre, an indoor bowling facility, a fitness suite and a climbing zone.

Planned outdoor facilities include an athletics track, cricket pitch, BMX Track,



**Proposals for the new dual-use complex include athletics facilities**

velodrome and an artificial turf football and hockey pitch

Councillors have also set aside £2.5m for a new sports centre for Teignmouth Community College and a further £2.7m to help fund a new water sports and activity centre at Haven Banks in Exeter.

DCC's deputy leader and executive councillor for children's services, John Smith, said: "While it is about sporting excellence, it is also about achievement for all and the facilities we envisage would be open to the whole community."

### MPs in football regulation call

A cross-party group of MPs has expressed concern about the level of debt within English football.

The All Party Parliamentary Football Group has published a wide-ranging report, *English Football and Its Governance*, which outlines a total of 27 measures that it believes should be adopted in order to help ensure the long-term financial stability of clubs.

Among the report's recommendations is a reform of the Football Association's Fit and Proper Persons Test to examine the business plans of prospective owners looking to invest in English football clubs.

## Wildcats' stadium plans unveiled



**The Wildcats are looking to move away from the Belle Vue ground**

By **Pete Hayman**

Yorkcourt Properties has revealed plans for a new 12,000-capacity stadium to safeguard Wakefield Wildcats Rugby League Football Club's Super League status.

The new venue will replace the existing Belle Vue ground, which has been the club's home since 1878 but no longer meets the Super League's minimum requirements.

Plans for the new stadium also include the possibility of a local college or university establishing a sports science department at the venue.

Sir Rodney Walker, former chair of Sport England and the Rugby Football League, will head a new community trust stadium group, which has been established to help deliver the scheme and take on the ownership and operation of the venue once complete.

## IN BRIEF

### Hazlehead golf course developer pulls out

► Plans for the multi-million pound redevelopment of Hazlehead Golf Course in Aberdeen have been dealt a blow after the consortium appointed to lead the project pulled out due to a lack of financial backing. Aberdeen City Council selected The MacKenzie Club (TMC) as its preferred development partner for the scheme in September last year, but TMC has now said that it has been unable to attract enough external investment to make the scheme viable.

### IOC praises London 2012 progress

► Organisers of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games have been praised for the 'astounding' progress being made in preparation for the event, according to the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Delegates from the IOC travelled to the capital in order to assess the ongoing construction of new venues at the Olympic Park site on what was their fourth visit to London since the city was awarded the 2012 Games in 2005.

### Sony joins forces with streetfootballworld

► Electronics giant Sony Europe and streetfootballworld, a non-profit social enterprise, have joined forces in a bid to drive positive social change through football. Working alongside world governing bodies FIFA and UEFA as well as the German government, Sony will be the first commercial partner to take part in the initiative. Aimed at achieving a long-term and sustainable change in disadvantaged communities in both developed and developing countries, the Berlin-based streetfootballworld aims to use football to address social issues.



## IN BRIEF

### Plans revealed for Govanhill spa centre

► The historic Govanhill Baths on Calder Street in Glasgow may be transformed into a £12.5m wellbeing centre and spa, following its closure by the council in 2001. Designs by NORD Architecture include refurbishments of the two existing swimming pools and the retention of 12 of the original private baths. A new 120sq m (1,290sq ft) spa area will comprise a sauna and a hamman, as well as a hydrotherapy pool with a lounge. If approved, the Govanhill Wellbeing and Health Centre is expected to open on March 2011.

### Knock Castle revamp reaches second phase

► Redevelopment work on the Knock Castle hotel and spa in Crieff, Perthshire, has reached the second phase. The £1.5m revamp's second phase included the creation of a dedicated spa wing, housing treatment rooms as well as a relaxation area. The leisure area containing the swimming pool, spa pool and steamroom were also upgraded. The baronial mansion is owned by Scottish company The Henderson Group.

### Carlton Institute opens new training centres

► A number of training centres are to open as part of an expansion of the UK-based skills training provider The Carlton Institute. The company, which is under new ownership, is extending the number of training centres across the country from two to seven locations, in order to meet the rising demand. Owner of the Carlton Institute, Suki Kalirai, said: "Demand for fast-track courses that get individuals into work quickly or build their skills is growing."

## Inaugural Grayshott Studio Spa opens

The new spa is part of the offerings at the Tudor stately home hotel Fawsley Hall

By Sarah Todd

The Grayshott Spa brand has been extended with the opening of the first Grayshott Studio Spa at Fawsley Hall in Northamptonshire, UK.

The boutique facility features a handpicked selection of treatments, including pre and post pregnancy therapies, massages, facials, wraps and scrubs. All treatments use Guinot, Aromatherapy Associates, Jane Iredale and Jessica products.

The spa is situated in the newly-refurbished Coach House, in close proximity to the main hotel. It boasts six treatment rooms, a hair and pedicure studio, thermal rooms and relaxation areas.



The spa is separate from the hotel within its 200-acre grounds

There is also a juice bar, an indoor swimming pool and an outdoor hydro pool.

There is also a gym, equipped by Nautilus, on site as well as a further six ensuite spa bedrooms which have been added for guests wishing to

extend their spa experience. A private garden completes the offering. The country house hotel is set in 200-acres (81 hectares) of parkland and includes two restaurants, a cinema and 52 bedrooms. Details: [fawsleyhall.com](http://fawsleyhall.com)

## Aromatherapy Associates develops signature line

By Sarah Todd

From June 2009, a new range of signature therapies and products will be introduced to spas in many properties around the world within The Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group (MOHG).

The Mandarin Oriental Signature Spa Therapies have been created in consultation with specialists in Traditional Chinese Medicine and master aromatherapists. Each signature therapy will consist of a body



Take-home candles are offered

massage ritual that combines oriental meridian massage with custom-blended essential oils,

created specially for MOHG to then be tailored to each guest.

The signature product line has been developed by Aromatherapy Associates. Paraben-free, each product has been created according to the Oriental principles of five elements – namely, wood, fire, earth, metal and water.

Products, which include a range of candles and travel-size oils, can be purchased at Mandarin Oriental spas. Details: [mandarinoriental.com](http://mandarinoriental.com)

## ISPA releases new Global Best Practices guide

The International Spa Association (ISPA) has released a list of Global Best Practices as part of efforts to ensure that all member spas provide quality service to their guests.

The document is intended to act as a checklist for facilities and was created by a taskforce of spa industry professionals.

ISPA president Lynne McNees said: "Two years ago, we introduced the ISPA Code of Conduct, which helped open the door to developing a Global Best Practices guide.

"Consumers are very savvy on what constitutes a spa experience and we are ensuring our members are equipped to meet their needs."

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## IN BRIEF

**Five-star Heathrow hotel plans approved**

► The mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has approved plans for a new five-star hotel close to Heathrow Airport. The 13-storey hotel, designed by architects Foster + Partners and being developed by Riva Properties, will contain 577 rooms and six pavilions linked by bridges and an entrance lobby with an elevated glass deck offering views down to the restaurant level and swimming pool. Facilities will include a health suite and gym, a business centre, a 120-capacity ballroom, two auditoriums and a large conference room.

**Regent Inns set to de-list from stock market**

► Regent Inns, the pub company that runs the Walkabout chain, has announced its intention to de-list its shares from the London Stock Exchange. The firm - which reported losses of £58m last October - said it estimated that the compliance, administration and legal costs associated with its official listing were in excess of £200,000 per year, and expects that the costs will not be incurred following the de-listing. Shareholders will no longer be able to buy and sell shares through a public stock market, but shares will continue to be transferable through Crest.

**Bespoke to operate Greenwich Market site**

► Bespoke Hotels is the preferred operator of a proposed boutique hotel in Greenwich. The 100-bedroom hotel, to be built on the King William Walk, is dependent on the regeneration of Greenwich Market being approved. The project is the brainchild of naval charity Greenwich Hospital, which has appointed Christie + Co to find an operator for the hotel.

## Hotels facing dire outlook for 2009

More hotels are to struggle this year as people look for cheaper accommodation

By **Tom Walker**

UK hotels are in for a rough ride in 2009 with nearly 200 per cent more hotel companies becoming insolvent in Q1 2009 than in the same 2008 period.

According to PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), the rapid increase in failing hotels is made worse by people becoming more likely to look for alternative accommodation as the recession deepens.

A PwC consumer poll, conducted over the Easter holidays, showed a 12 per cent increase in the number of people choosing to stay at holiday parks and camping or caravan sites.

Although the results will be welcomed by camping businesses, hotel operators



Nearly 200 per cent more hotels became insolvent in Q1 2009

will be further pressured to adjust their prices and strategies as people look for more affordable options.

PWC's Stephen Broome said: "It is likely that many of those who remain in the UK over the summer will opt for self-catering, camping, holiday parks

and visiting relatives, rather than staying in hotels.

"While current exchange rates should encourage some travellers from abroad to visit, the prospect of a warm and sunny British summer is unlikely to provide much shelter from the storm for hotels."

**Easter blues for UK hotels**

A steep decline in leisure and corporate travel during the first quarter of 2009 resulted in a 9 per cent decline in RevPAR at UK hotels - a weaker than expected performance for the usually busy Easter period.

According to advisory firm Deloitte's latest report, RevPAR across regional UK hotels fell by 10.3 per cent to £41. The largest drops were at Gatwick and Heathrow Airports, down 23.5 per cent and 21.9 per cent respectively. BAA reported a 10.1 per cent drop in passengers at UK airports in the first quarter with one of the most dramatic falls at Gatwick - down 14.6 per cent.

## New tips law gets the go-ahead



BHA is fearful of the effects the costs could have on the industry

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

The hospitality industry will no longer be able to use non-cash tips to top-up staff pay to minimum wage from October 2009. The government's decision has been made despite warnings from the British Hospitality Association (BHA) that the new law could result in 45,000 job losses.

The move is intended to create a level playing field for

employers and to boost consumer confidence.

The Department for Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform believes the average annual cost to the industry will be £92.5m (0.5 per cent of the wages bill of companies affected). While the BHA, which conducted its own research, insists the cost will be nearer to £450m, and is believes it's not the right time to increase any costs to the industry.

## IN BRIEF

**Fall in Lottery revenue threatens Scottish arts**

► Promotion of the arts in Scotland could be threatened by a decline in National Lottery funding. The Department of Culture, Media and Sport has reported a fall in lottery sales from £5.23m in 1997-98 to just £4.97m in 2007-8. This has been compounded by £3m of lottery money being redirected each year to the 2012 Olympic Games. A change in UK law has also put an end to arts organisations being able to stockpile lottery money that have been earmarked for projects but not spent.

**First UK city of culture set for 2013**

► British cities will be able to bid to become a national capital of culture by 2013, according to culture secretary Andy Burnham. It is hoped that the scheme will provide an opportunity to place arts and culture at the heart of urban regeneration across the UK, and has been influenced by the success of Liverpool's status as Europe's capital of culture for 2008. Burnham told MPs that a working group, headed by the chair of Liverpool capital of culture Phil Redmond, has already been established to determine how the initiative can be best implemented.

**New £3.5m art library for national park**

► An art library has been set up at the at Oriel y Parc Landscape Gallery in St Davids, Wales. The new library was funded entirely by donations from former painting and art theory lecturer Rod Williams. Williams, who is chair of the Friends of the Graham Sutherland Collection, was also involved in the creation of the £3.5m Oriel y Parc gallery, which includes Sutherland's works in its rolling exhibitions.

## Major revamp planned for Royal Court

Council select committee backs plans for the future of historic Liverpool theatre

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans for the long-term future of the Grade II-listed Royal Court Theatre in Liverpool, which include a multi-million pound refurbishment, have gone before the city council's Regeneration Select Committee.

Talks will now be held between Liverpool City Council and trustees of the 1,250-seat venue in a bid to secure a lease agreement after the select committee admitted that it was impressed with a presentation by the Royal Court Trust outlining its vision for theatre.

Eddie Clein, chair of the committee, said: "There is a definite feeling that we want the theatre to be saved. A



Trustees selected AHMM's designs for the new-look Royal Court

theatre has stood at that spot for 100 years and it is part of the arts fabric of Liverpool.

"Clearly there are issues relating to the refurbishment of the building and its lease, but the committee's all-party view was that everything possible

should be done to help the theatre thrive."

In March, designs drawn up by architects Allford Hall Monaghan Morris (AHMM) were selected for the theatre's revamp following an international design competition.

## Shrewsbury Music Hall scheme nets HLF funding

By **Pete Hayman**

Work is set to get underway on the restoration of a historic music hall in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, after the scheme secured a £1m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Shropshire Portal scheme will include the development of a new, sustainable museum and visitor information centre at the 13th century, Grade II\*-listed Vaughan's Mansion



A new museum will be created

and the Grade II-listed Music Hall and Assembly Rooms, which dates back to 1835.

The site of the new venue, which is currently used as a theatre and concert hall, also includes Shrewsbury's 18th century prison cells and a 20th century nuclear bunker.

Architects Austin-Smith: Lord have drawn up designs for the scheme, which will be carried out by Grooms Contractors and has received match funding from Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council - now part of the new Shropshire Council unitary authority.

## New arts and music venue launched in Suffolk

Mid Suffolk District Council has unveiled a new arts, theatre and music venue at Wingfield Barns near Eye, Suffolk, after acquiring the site from Arts Council for a nominal £1 last year.

A Grade II-listed timber-framed barn, dating back to 1537, is at the heart of the site, which has been restored in order to provide a

number of workshops, a studio, artists' residential accommodation and offices.

Opened on 3 April, Wingfield Barns is now also set to play host to a major programme of events, including arts exhibitions, music, film and school visits, while also being available for hire as a conference and wedding venue.



## IN BRIEF

### Conservation work for Reigate Heath

► Reigate and Banstead Borough Council has announced that conservation work will be carried out at Reigate Heath throughout the spring and summer in a bid to improve rare wildlife habitats. Scrubland and trees will be removed from the heath, which is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Local Nature Reserve, in an effort to improve its biodiversity and to preserve the area for future generations.

### Dublin parks to join European network

► Dublin City Council in Ireland has applied to become a part of the European Garden Heritage Network in an effort to promote the city to visitors. If successful, Dublin parks will join 100 other historical green spaces around Europe, which have regional or international significance. The aim of the network is to highlight the contribution these space have on regional identity. Currently there are 16 partners from Germany, England and France working together as part of the network in a bid to improve the way their parks and landscaped gardens are promoted.

### £1m scheme for Peak District communities

► A new £1.253m pilot initiative has been launched by the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) in a bid to support rural communities over a three-year period. Working in partnership with the East Midlands Development Agency and Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership, it is hoped that the Live and Work Rural scheme will help develop the PDNPA's existing community planning work. The programme will run until 31 March 2012.

## UK landscapes in line for HLF funding

Six regeneration projects set to benefit from Landscape Partnership initiative

By **Pete Hayman**

Six rural regeneration and landscape conservation schemes across the UK are in line for a major funding boost after receiving first round passes worth £7.9m from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The funding will be made available through the HLF's Landscape Partnership initiative, which has been in operation for five years and has seen a total of £55m invested in 35 British landscapes, including Dorset's Jurassic Coast and the Orkney archipelago in Scotland.

Among the six latest areas to benefit from HLF support is the Llyn Peninsula in Gwynedd, North Wales, which has been awarded a first round pass of £753,200 to preserve its cultural and linguistic heritage.



The Llyn Peninsula is one area that is earmarked for HLF funding

A scheme to restore 250sq km (97sq miles) of the Lake District National Park at Windemere, Cumbria, has been awarded nearly £1m, while the extension and upgrade of the 'Archaeological Way' in the East Midlands has received a first round pass worth nearly £2m.

Elsewhere, £2m has been awarded to the restoration of limestone landscapes in County Durham, £904,500 for the conservation of Lincolnshire's Coastal Grazing Marshes, and £1.26m has been set aside for the restoration of habitats and the landscape of Faughan Valley in Northern Ireland.

## £70m upgrade works planned for Liverpool parks

By **Pete Hayman**

Parks and green spaces across Liverpool are set to undergo extensive refurbishments after the local authority revealed that it plans to invest £70m as part of a 25-year project to restore the city's heritage parks.

According to the *Liverpool Echo*, the investment forms part of an £800m budget to be spent by the Liverpool City Council (LCC) on a range of projects over the next few years, and also includes £1m earmarked for improvements to play areas and public spaces across the city.

Croxteth country park as well as Sefton Park and Stanley Park will undergo restoration work as part of LCC's plans, while Newsham Park in Fairfield, Springfield Park in Knotty



Newsham Park is one of the sites that will undergo improvements

Ash and Anfield Cemetery will be upgraded.

Other sectors that are set to benefit from the council's spending plans include recreation, with more than £7m set aside for the refurbishment of sports centres and leisure facilities throughout the city, while LCC also intends to invest money in the

improvement of public libraries and education provision.

LCC finance chief and deputy leader, Flo Clucas, told the newspaper: "This plan shows our vision and commitment to investing in the city and its residents, despite the recession. We are using residents' money wisely and investing in frontline services."



## SPORT AND LEISURE STATISTICS

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The Sport Industry Research Centre publishes two annual reports, *Leisure Forecasts* and *Sport Market Forecasts*. These reports provide valuable insight into future market trends.

Both publications are essential references for industry practitioners, consultants and researchers.

#### Leisure Forecasts

This publication identifies the way in which economic trends, new technologies and new consumer priorities will shape the leisure industry over the next five years. It is divided into two sectors, leisure in the home and leisure away from home, providing analysis for 24 distinct leisure markets.

#### Sport Market Forecasts

This publication is produced in conjunction with Sport England. It provides detailed economic information on consumer spending for the entire sports market. It is divided into sport goods and sport services, providing economic analysis for 10 sport markets.

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# leisure property news

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## Developing the nation's health

It's time to consider more health-orientated schemes



**DAVID KERR** is the principal of **David Kerr Associates (DKA)**. DKA is a member of the **Leisure Property Forum**

The purchase last year of the Cannons Health and Fitness business by Nuffield is the first major step towards bringing together the medical and fitness industries in the UK. As the government too is seriously addressing the issue of obesity, the property market should also respond and contribute to the cause.

The provision of primary health care alongside leisure amenities should be welcomed by a government that is bound to struggle to meet the increasing financial demands of the NHS. Health campuses that accommodate fitness while outsourcing facilities for the NHS should be given development tax incentives to stimulate land owners and developers to build such schemes. There is real scope for owners of tired leisure parks to look to a new generation of health-orientated developments.

As the NHS looks to outsource an increasing amount of its budget to the private sector – an estimated £10bn this year – a golden opportunity presents itself to the property sector.

Creative developments that blend a community benefit with a logical commercial use will prove more resilient to economic cycles and fluctuations and will leave developers, better positioned the next time the property market visits the doldrums.

## Green light for Leeds Utd scheme

Elland Road stadium to house two new hotels and basement nightclub

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans for a major new leisure-led development at the Elland Road stadium in Leeds, West Yorkshire, home to Leeds United Football Club (LUFC), have been given the green light by Leeds City Council (LCC).

The council has passed a resolution to award full planning consent for the scheme, which will be linked to the venue's existing East Stand but does not involve increasing the stadium's 40,000-seat capacity.

Designed by London-based architects KSS, the Elland Road scheme includes two new hotels and an arcade extension incorporating retail facilities, a club shop, a restaurant and conference and banqueting space. The project, which is designed to provide increased commercial opportunities for LUFC, as well as forming part of



**Leeds United is looking to increase non-matchday revenues at the stadium**

LCC's wider regeneration of the Elland Road area, also includes a basement nightclub and new offices.

Shaun Harvey, LUFC CEO, said: "The development will play a vital part in the regeneration of the area."

## Public exhibition for £250m Telford scheme



**Council plans include a new public square**

By **Pete Hayman**

A public exhibition has been held by Telford and Wrekin Council to allow local residents to view proposals for the £250m regeneration of the Southwater area of Telford's town centre.

The Southwater Core redevelopment proposals, which will form part of the wider regeneration of the Shropshire town, include new leisure facilities, a new public square, restaurants, bars and hotel accommodation.

## Council panel calls for Caversham pool rethink

Plans for the redevelopment of a Grade II-listed former swimming pool in Caversham, Berkshire, have been delayed despite receiving the approval of Reading Borough Council's (RBC) cabinet.

Askett Hawk had been selected as the preferred developer for the King's

Meadow Pool scheme at a cabinet meeting on 14 April, only for the council's Corporate Community and External Affairs Panel to request on 15 April that further work be done on the preferred bid, as well as a rival option from the King's Meadow Campaign.

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## Playing a vital role in recovery

Growing tourism is a realistic way to create new jobs now



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

Part from the projections of economic growth that seem to be based on blind optimism rather than economic principles, one of the more curious parts of this year's budget was to do with job creation.

The government has rightly realised that, with the contraction of the financial industry and the inevitable tightening of regulation, it is going to be some considerable time before this sector supports the previous level of jobs or delivers the previous level of revenue to government.

So with that prospect, the search is on to find the industries that will provide the economic growth the country desperately needs. The government believes the future lies in green technology and hi-tech businesses and is trying to help firms develop in this way. But what is needed is a two-pronged approach to job creation. One part that invests in future job creation and the second part that looks to quickly create jobs in successful existing businesses to replace the jobs being lost now.

This is where tourism could play an important role in the UK's economic recovery by leveraging off the weakness of the pound and the forthcoming Olympics to provide growth in both the inbound and domestic sectors. The jobs created aren't as sexy as those in the hi-tech sector but that are more realistic at the moment, especially if you are unemployed and want a job now rather than the promise of one in five years.

## A £19m boost for Welsh tourism

The funding will be used to maximise the economic value of heritage sites

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

The Welsh Assembly Government has earmarked £19m towards the development of heritage tourism in Wales.

Largely funded by the government and a £8.5m grant from EU Convergence Funds, the project is intended to maximize the economic value of heritage by increasing the volume, length and value of visits to Wales. The project, which will run until December 2014, has been created to make heritage sites more accessible and enjoyable to visit.

Cadw - the guardian organisation for Welsh heritage sites - plans to work with communities, heritage partners and the tourism sector to create heritage tours, trails and events packages. The organisation intends to expand the visitor experience beyond individual heritage sites, to connect with the local community and



Heritage sites will become more accessible

surrounding area as well as link in with broader interpretive stories and themes.

Howard James, Cadw's heritage tourism project co-ordinator, said: "In a five-year project like this, there is scope for new partners and service providers to come forward with proposals."

## Domestic tourists boost London's numbers



Visitors to London have risen by 2 per cent

By **Pete Hayman**

Visit London has announced that the number of people visiting London increased by 2 per cent during 2008 compared with the previous year, despite declining numbers of overseas tourists.

New figures published by the capital's tourism agency, which coincided with the launch of the 'Only in London' campaign have revealed that an 11.5 per cent increase in visitors from other parts of the UK have helped to offset a steep fall in tourists from long-haul markets.

## Swansea Bay tourism breaks £300m barrier

Figures published by the Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor (STEAM) have revealed that tourism revenue contributed more than £300m to the Swansea Bay region during 2008.

Attractions, including the National Waterfront Museum, the Gower Heritage Centre and the LC leisure complex, helped to pull in more than 4.1 million

tourists, which was reflected in a 5 per cent increase in visitor expenditure compared with the previous year.

Developed in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, STEAM is a mathematical model that has been adopted by a number of local authorities to monitor all aspects of tourism activity, including visitor numbers and expenditure



The NAS aims to ensure young people can access apprenticeships

## Apprenticeship scheme unveiled

Government initiative to invest in work-based training

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

The government has launched a scheme aimed at improving the availability of apprenticeship placements, which forms part of a strategy to increase the amount of apprenticeships being completed to 130,000 per year.

By making it easier for leisure industry employers to source prospective apprentices, the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS) is intended to support the employer and learner and streamline the application process.

The NAS will work in conjunction with an online matching service launched in January, enabling employers to advertise vacancies and prospective apprentices to apply for apprenticeships.

To date, more than 10,000 employers and almost 54,000 candidates have registered for the new service, which currently boasts more than 4,000 live vacancies.

The NAS is designed to support the efforts to ensure every qualified young person has the right to an apprenticeship by 2013.

## ZigZag launches skills academy

Interactive gym equipment supplier ZigZag, part of the PTE group, has launched a new training academy to deliver courses for adults and young people wanting to work with children in the leisure and fitness industry.

The first two courses to launch are the Certificate in Adapting Gym Instruction for Adolescents and ActivFutures.

The former qualification is a one-day course, which has

been designed to provide the skills to modify instruction for a teenage market, as well as helping to understand the physiological and psychological issues that affect their ability to exercise.

The ZigZag Academy will replace the company's ActivKids arm and will run from three regional training centres in Basingstoke, Hampshire; Bolton and Horwich, both in Lancashire.

## Do 14-19-year-olds really win from the budget?

Funding shortfall poses threat to chancellor's spending commitment for further education

The dust may be settling on the latest budget and reality bites, but I'm left wondering if education really stands to gain anything. This is particularly true of the 14-19 group, who are supposedly at the core of the present government's drive to push up standards and raise skills.

Alistair Darling announced that there would be £250m this year and £400m in 2010-11 for post-16 education. This, he stated, will create 54,000 extra places in sixth form colleges and further education (FE) colleges, with consequential provisions for the whole of the UK.

But if you're in an FE institution in England and have been hit by the farcical financial arrangements that the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) made for capital projects, you'll realise that there are unlikely to be the basic accommodation needs to house the influx of new learners.

Certain colleges are left with campuses that resemble bomb sites rather than bastions of education after the LSC declared that it didn't have the money to honour the contracts it had signed with colleges for replacement, or upgrading of buildings.

To add insult to injury, English colleges and sixth forms had been told by the LSC earlier in the month that they would not be funded in line with their predicted rises in student numbers for the coming academic year.

Across England, there was a shortfall of up to 3.7 per cent, which translates to around £200m, although Darling believes that, with the funds being made available for the next two years, he can still create the extra places announced.

If you're an FE lecturer in Wales, you may have been one of the 700 that were threatened with redundancy right up until the day before the budget, when the Wales Assembly backtracked on its proposed cut in teaching staff following efforts by lecturing staff, students and Ffforwm, the association of colleges in Wales, to get them to change their minds.

Our educators and learners have enough to do without having to battle for the existence of a provision that ministers said was at the forefront of their drive to bring the UK in line with the rest of Europe and make us truly competitive. The promise that the government made that every 16-17-year-old wanting to stay in education could do so seems some way off.



**GARETH EDWARDS**  
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Please apply in writing with CV to Nicola Morgan, Neal Training, PO Box 894, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 1ZR or Email [nicola@nealtraining.com](mailto:nicola@nealtraining.com) CLOSING DATE: 31st MAY 2009

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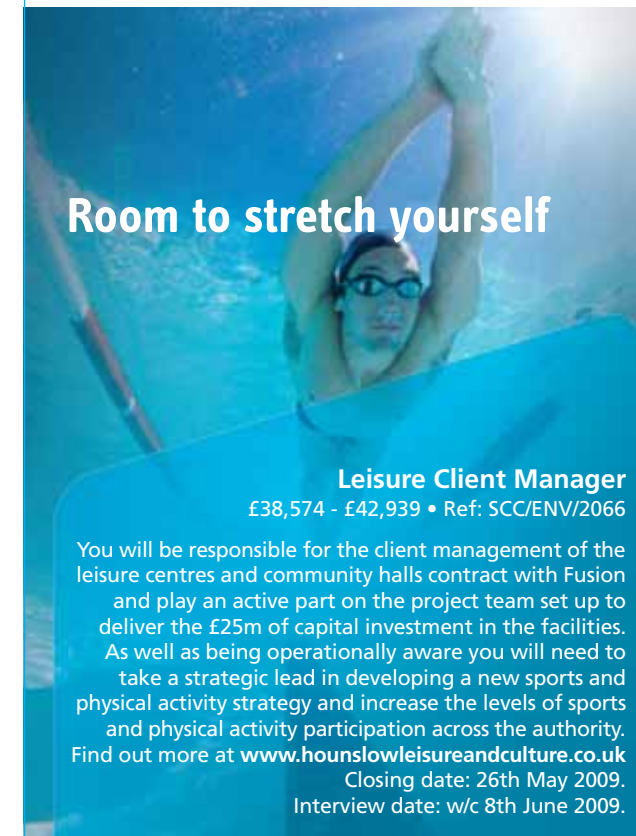
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London Borough  
of Hounslow



## Room to stretch yourself



### Leisure Client Manager

£38,574 - £42,939 • Ref: SCC/ENV/2066

You will be responsible for the client management of the leisure centres and community halls contract with Fusion and play an active part on the project team set up to deliver the £25m of capital investment in the facilities. As well as being operationally aware you will need to take a strategic lead in developing a new sports and physical activity strategy and increase the levels of sports and physical activity participation across the authority. Find out more at [www.hounslowleisureandculture.co.uk](http://www.hounslowleisureandculture.co.uk) Closing date: 26th May 2009. Interview date: w/c 8th June 2009.

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n. Enthusiastic devotion to a cause, ideal, or goal and tireless diligence in its furtherance.

## Community Programmes Manager

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### Do you have:

- The vision, skills and motivation to develop and implement innovative health-based programmes.
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- Appropriate fitness or health related qualifications.

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Salary: £30,110 per annum  
Permanent full time role

### Application pack:

Email: [greatstaff@ymca.co.uk](mailto:greatstaff@ymca.co.uk) or call

020 7343 1834 quoting ref LOCPM

Closing date: 20th May 09, 10 am

Interviews: 1st June 09

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Salary point 21 - 25 £18,937 - £21,306 pro rata  
Part Time (22 hours per week)

### RAMBLING COORDINATOR

Salary point 13 - 17 £15,291 - £16,663 pro rata  
Part Time (22 hours per week)

Subject to Job Evaluation - Pay award pending

2 Year Fixed term contract (Netball & Multi Sports Coach) 3 year fixed term contract (Rambling coordinator)

Will involve evening and weekend work

Copeland Borough Council and Partners are pleased to advertise three new posts for an exciting new project; The Copeland Sports and Physical Activity Alliance (SPAA). The Copeland SPAA has recently been successful in securing Sport England and partnership funding to contribute to increasing participation in sport and physical activity throughout the Borough. We are looking to recruit experienced and self motivated individuals to work across the Borough with partners, schools and community groups.

You will need:

- To be reliable, hardworking and have excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- To have or be working towards a level 2 National Governing Body Qualification.
- To hold a number of Level 1 coaching awards
- To have a minimum of 2 years active coaching to young people, ideally in a range of sports and environments.
- To have attended a Sports Coach UK Child Protection workshop.

There will also be opportunities for continued professional development and the willingness to enhance personal skills is key to these roles.

As this role involves direct access to young persons under the age of eighteen, within the context of the job or any subsequently related activities or responsibilities, the successful candidate will undergo a thorough screening process, which will include an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure, to ensure their suitability for the role.

Copeland Borough Council is committed to equality of opportunity and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

For an application form and further details, please contact Customer Services Department, The Copeland Centre, Catherine Street, WHITEHAVEN, Cumbria, CA28 7SJ. Tel. 0845 054 8600 or by logging onto [www.copeland.gov.uk](http://www.copeland.gov.uk)

Closing date: 25 May 2009.

Interviews week beginning: 8 June 2009



Copeland Borough Council

## Cycling Projects Requires an Operations Manager Circa £25,000

This is an exciting opportunity to join one of the country's leading cycling charities with a strong focus on disability access, health improvement and social inclusion.

You will help lead an innovative and pro-active team that concentrates on engaging the general public in activity through cycling.

We are seeking a well organised and highly motivated manager, who will report to the Director, and work with existing projects and staff to ensure efficient and effective delivery of cycling activities.

Closing Date - Friday 22nd May 2009

Interviews will be held on Wednesday 10th June 2009 (subject to confirmation)

For an application pack and further details on the position please contact Sharon Booth on 01925 234213 or email on [recruitment@cycling.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@cycling.org.uk)



KENILWORTH SCHOOL & SPORTS COLLEGE  
Leyes Lane, Kenilworth CV8 2DA Head: H.H.S. Abbott B.A.(Hons) M.Ed

### SENIOR COMPETITION MANAGER

Salary Scale PO 6 Point 38 £31,439 - Point 41 £34,207  
(2 year fixed contract ends 31 March 2011)  
Full time 37 hours per week.

Required from June/July 2009 a dynamic and committed PE/Sports professional to plan and implement a programme of inter school competition for eight School Sports Partnerships using the national competition framework for young people. You will also manage three competition managers in identified school sport partnerships across Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire.

The successful candidate will have excellent communication and management skills, ability to work independently and as part of a team. By facilitating links with key strategic partners, you will ensure that the competition programme is linked to other strands of the PESSYP Strategy and relevant national programmes.

You will be educated to degree level or equivalent. The SCM will have at least four years experience related to sport development or teaching. You will have knowledge and experience of school sports partnerships, PESSYP, sports development planning and of project/event organisation and management.

Application forms and further details are available at [www.peopleforlearning.com](http://www.peopleforlearning.com) and click on the Kenilworth School and Sports College link. For an informal discussion regarding the post, please contact Ali Knight, PDM on (01926) 513636.

Closing date: 15th May 2009. Please email your completed application and covering letter to Polly Whewell HR Officer on [ks.powh@ksn.org.uk](mailto:ks.powh@ksn.org.uk)

INTERVIEWS: 20th May 2009



LINCOLNSHIRE  
SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

### Basketball Development Officer

Location - Lincoln based

Salary (Band C) £19,400 to £21,000 per annum

(Fixed term contract three years dependent upon meeting annual targets)

Lincolnshire Sports Partnership working in partnership with England Basketball is seeking to recruit a Basketball Development Officer to work across the County of Lincolnshire. The person must be enthusiastic and motivated in order to work within a highly successful team that has contributed to an increase in sustained participation and club growth within the County.

You should have a full driving license and access to your own transport in order to travel around the County. Experience of Basketball Development would be an advantage but is not essential. The position does, however, entail anti social hours, in order to support clubs and volunteers.

The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check and reference checks.

For an application pack, please contact Trevor Jones on 01522-585580 or, alternatively, email: [office@lincolnshiresports.co.uk](mailto:office@lincolnshiresports.co.uk) or by post to: Lincolnshire Sport Partnership, Unit 9, Allenby Business Village, Crofton Road, Lincoln. LN3 4NL

Closing date for applications is, Friday, 29th May 2009 with interviews taking place Wednesday 10th June 2009.

[www.lincolnshiresports.co.uk](http://www.lincolnshiresports.co.uk)



Located in south east London, Bexley is within easy reach of central London, rural Kent and the continent. It is a diverse borough incorporating the best features of both town and country.

## Active Bexley Co-ordinator

£26,130 - £27,750, 36 hours per week

A great opportunity to work with a motivated and high performing Culture Services department and to lead the management and delivery of new physical activity projects in Bexley. We need a candidate who really understands the challenges we face in addressing adult physical inactivity and want you to bring knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm to this new role and help us reach our targets.

You will be in charge of delivering the new Well at Work and Works Out projects and will work with large and medium organisations in the borough to improve work place health and develop programmes of regular physical activity.

All appointments will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Check. An application form and information pack is available on line at [www.bexley.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.bexley.gov.uk/jobs) or apply to HR Business Centre, Room 200, Hill View, Hill View Drive, Welling, Kent DA16 3RY, telephone: 020 8836 8324 or email: [recruitment@bexley.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment@bexley.gov.uk) Please quote reference: SCS 96.

Closing date: 29th May 2009. Anticipated interview date: Week commencing 22nd June 2009.



This authority is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



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### The English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS)

is the national body responsible for developing sport for disabled people in England. We work closely with national sports organizations to develop sporting opportunities for the 11 million disabled people in England.



We have two vacancies for self motivated, dynamic individuals to support the development of EFDS' programmes. We are looking for experienced people with competent skills and the ability to meet targets.

An understanding of issues relating to participation in disability sport is preferable, but not essential.

### Training Development Manager

Salary: £ 27,573 - £35,953 Full time: 36 hours Location: Alsager

To manage the development and implementation of EFDS' training programmes working with external partners.

For an informal discussion please call Liz Milner on

Tel: 07764 291 668 or e-mail: [Lmilner@efds.co.uk](mailto:Lmilner@efds.co.uk)

### County Athlete Assessment & Development Centre (CAADC) Co-ordinator

Salary: £26,016 - £34,207 Full time: 36 hours Location: Alsager

To develop and roll-out CAADC working with national and regional partners. To work as part of a team to roll out the identification and support of disabled players and athletes who demonstrate potential to succeed in a defined number of sports.

For an informal discussion please call Colin Chaytors on

Tel: 07764 291 662 or e-mail: [cchaytors@efds.co.uk](mailto:cchaytors@efds.co.uk)

For further details and an application form, please contact:

EFDS, Manchester Met University, Alsager Campus, Hassall Road, Alsager, ST7 2HL.

Tel: 0161 247 5294. Minicom: 0161 247 5644

or e-mail: [federation@efds.co.uk](mailto:federation@efds.co.uk)

Closing date for applications 12 noon Wednesday 3rd June 2009. Interviews will be held on w/c 8th June 2009.

The English Federation of Disability Sport is an equal opportunities employer and receives funding from Sport England. Disabled applicants who meet the minimum criteria are guaranteed an interview.



## Duty Manager

£18,570 to £20,184 (Pay Award pending) including benefits  
37 hours per week

Larkfield Leisure Centre, highly commended under Quest, has health and fitness facilities and leisure and competition pools to rival any in the South East.

We are looking for a dynamic and customer-focused Duty Manager to join the management team of this busy leisure centre. You will be responsible for the day to day management of the centre and act as a key-holder working a mixture of early, late and weekend shifts.

Reporting to the Operations Manager, the Duty Manager is a key player within the team driving continuous improvement in the management and operation of the Centre. The key focus for the successful candidate will be the delivery of a high standard of service to the customer on a day to day basis. You should be quality driven, have sound operational and people skills, be flexible and prepared to deliver results.

This challenging role demands excellent communication skills and an ability to lead and motivate a team. You should have previous supervisory experience, preferably within a leisure environment.

For an application pack please contact 01732 876011 or email [personnel.services@tmbc.gov.uk](mailto:personnel.services@tmbc.gov.uk). For an informal discussion please contact Toby Kingsbury, General Manager on 01622 713200.

Closing date for applications: Friday 29 May 2009

We are an equal opportunities employer. Please note that all disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for this job (as given in the person specification) will be invited to interview.

This position is subject to disclosure from the Criminal Record Bureau.

[www.larkfieldleisure.co.uk](http://www.larkfieldleisure.co.uk)





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## £350m SnOasis development faces planning delay

Deadlock over report wording threatens to hold up plans to build new indoor winter sports complex in Suffolk

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans to create a multi-million pound indoor winter sports resort on the site of a former quarry at Great Blakenham, near Ipswich, Suffolk, could be delayed by another two years due to a planning technicality.

Developer Onslow Suffolk was finally given the green light for the new £350m SnOasis complex by communities secretary Hazel Blears in November last year, nearly three years after predecessor Ruth Kelly called in the scheme.

But the project now faces a further hold up after a clause was omitted from the planning inspectorate's report, which would enable Onslow Suffolk to start work on the complex, while drawing up applications for detailed designs over the course of the development.

As a result, the developer now faces the prospect of having to fulfil all reserved matters before work can begin on site, which it says will take two years to complete at a cost of £15m, unless the condition is waived.



The SnOasis scheme has already been seven years in the pipeline

## Merlin Entertainments reports continued growth

By **Pete Hayman**

Merlin Entertainments, owner of Legoland, Alton Towers and The London Dungeon, has reported a 37 per cent increase in revenue during 2008.

In its first set of full year results since the acquisitions of Gardaland and The Tussauds Group, the company said that visitor numbers continued to increase by 28 per cent compared with 2007, despite



Merlin's visitor numbers are up

poor weather conditions and the economic downturn.

The results also revealed that 2008 was the eighth successive

year of EBITDA growth for Merlin, which has now seen an average 130 per cent annual increase in profits over the last three years, according to PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Nick Varney, chief executive of Merlin Entertainments, said: "We are very encouraged by these results, and by the fact that a large proportion of our growth in 2008 was driven by like-for-like trading in our existing parks and attractions."

## Rileys to launch darts zones

Rileys, the troubled pool club operator, is to launch darts zones at its remaining clubs as part of efforts to revitalise the business.

Darts zones will feature at "a number" of Riley's 130 clubs, with the first one having been unveiled in Croydon, London.

The zones will include championship-quality boards and hi-tech scoring.

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